

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



Great Old Broads for Wilderness (Broads) is a national grassroots organization, led by women, that engages and inspires activism to preserve and protect wilderness and wild lands.

With great pride and commitment, we are growing our women-led movement to protect public lands and waters and the climate that sustains us. Thank you for your support and participation in this important work.

In 2021, Great Old Broads for Wilderness continued the fight to defend wilderness and bedrock environmental protection laws. We challenged resource extraction and worked to reverse damage enacted by the previous presidential administration.

We dedicated ourselves to achieving long-term protection for vulnerable wild lands and completed over thirty thousand volunteer hours to document, advocate, educate, restore, and lobby. We wrote substantive comments on topics as varied as logging, dam removal, grazing, and fossil fuel extraction.

We saw wins on long-term campaigns, made progress on others, and experienced losses that inspired deeper resolve. The journey of conservation calls for grit, persistence, and a sense of humor—all traits Broads are known for.

Our deep gratitude extends to each of you, for we could not carry out this work without your membership and contributions.

Through your generosity, the Women for the Wild campaign has raised \$2.6 million towards a \$3.1 million goal, a goal we expect to reach in 2022.

Read on to explore a sampling of our activities and achievements over the past year.

Shelley Silbert
Executive Director

education • advoc

OUR MANTRA

Education, advocacy, and stewardship are the common thread tying together all we do. These activities drive our mission to engage and inspire advocates.

Advocacy Wins



Rio Grande Valley Broadband (NM) successfully convinced the Albuquerque City Council to protect part of the Rio Grande Bosque from development, preserving the land and oxbow that provides vital habitat for many wildlife species and migratory birds.



Middle Park Colorado Broads stopped a land exchange between the U.S. Forest Service and a private developer, which would have had detrimental effects on Rollins Pass. The developer dropped the land exchange just one day after the Forest Service received the Broads' letter objecting to the exchange.



In 2020, Aldo's Silver City Broadband (NM) leaders wrote substantive comments objecting to an Air Force proposal to conduct F-16 training over the Gila and Aldo Leopold Wilderness Areas, Gila National Forest, and surrounding rural communities. Thanks to their efforts, in early 2021 the Air Force dropped the proposal! This is the second time Broadbands have successfully challenged the Air Force.



Aldo's Silver City Broadband efforts to support legislation to prohibit any more spending on the Gila River diversion also included writing letters to public officials. The river struggles to survive after being overallocated. The bill passed, and effectively killed plans to divert the Gila River into reservoirs.



Greater Wasatch Broadband (UT) leaders helped halt a proposed helibase from being constructed next to their adopted Winter's Grove Trail. They participated in a public meeting and wrote a letter to the Forest Service—and the proposal was withdrawn!



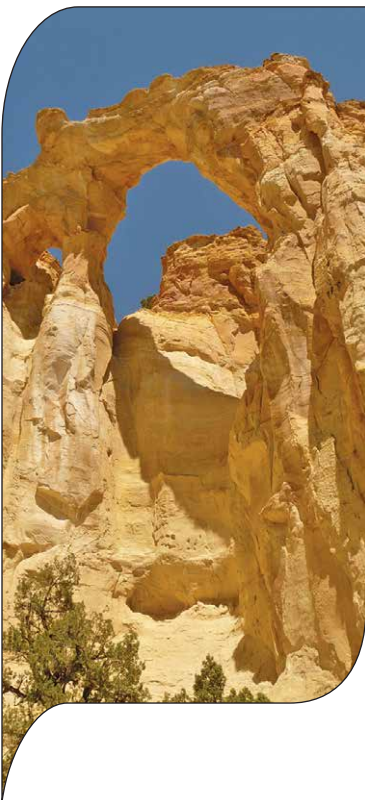
In August, 473.7 acres of land was officially transferred into public ownership as Natural Open Space thanks to Yavapai-Prescott Broadband (AZ) leaders who faithfully attended Save the Dells meetings, conducted place-based education, testified at public meetings, and wrote letters for several years.

acy • stewardship



Restored, Blocked, Overturned, and Withdrawn!

Many of our long-term advocacy campaigns saw major progress in 2021 after years of effort.



★ RESTORED

Protections to Bears Ears, Grand Staircase-Escalante, and Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monuments.

★ BLOCKED

Attempts to mine gold near Alaska's Bristol Bay, home to the world's largest sockeye salmon run.

★ RESTORED

Rules to regulate the release of climate-warming methane and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

★ OVERTURNED

Approval of the Jordan Cove liquid natural gas export terminal on the Oregon coast.

★ CANCELED

Mineral leases for sulfide-ore copper mining near the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in Minnesota.



2021 BROADBAND
CAMPAIGNS
INVOLVE

>62

MILLION ACRES
OF FEDERAL
PUBLIC LANDS



33,262
VOLUNTEER
HOURS



5,226
PARTICIPANTS

A Return to ‘Walks and ‘Works

After a year without in-person events due to Covid, Broads and Bros were thrilled to gather once again. Our national Broadwalks and Broadworks spotlight key advocacy priorities. They connect participants to threatened land and waters—and to each other—as a path to becoming grassroots advocates.



Broadwalks in Washington and Maine focused on the impact of climate change on oceans and coastal ecosystems, as well as legislation to protect these fragile ecosystems and increase protections for endangered species such as wild salmon and the North Atlantic right whale. We explored, we learned, and we had fun in beautiful locations!



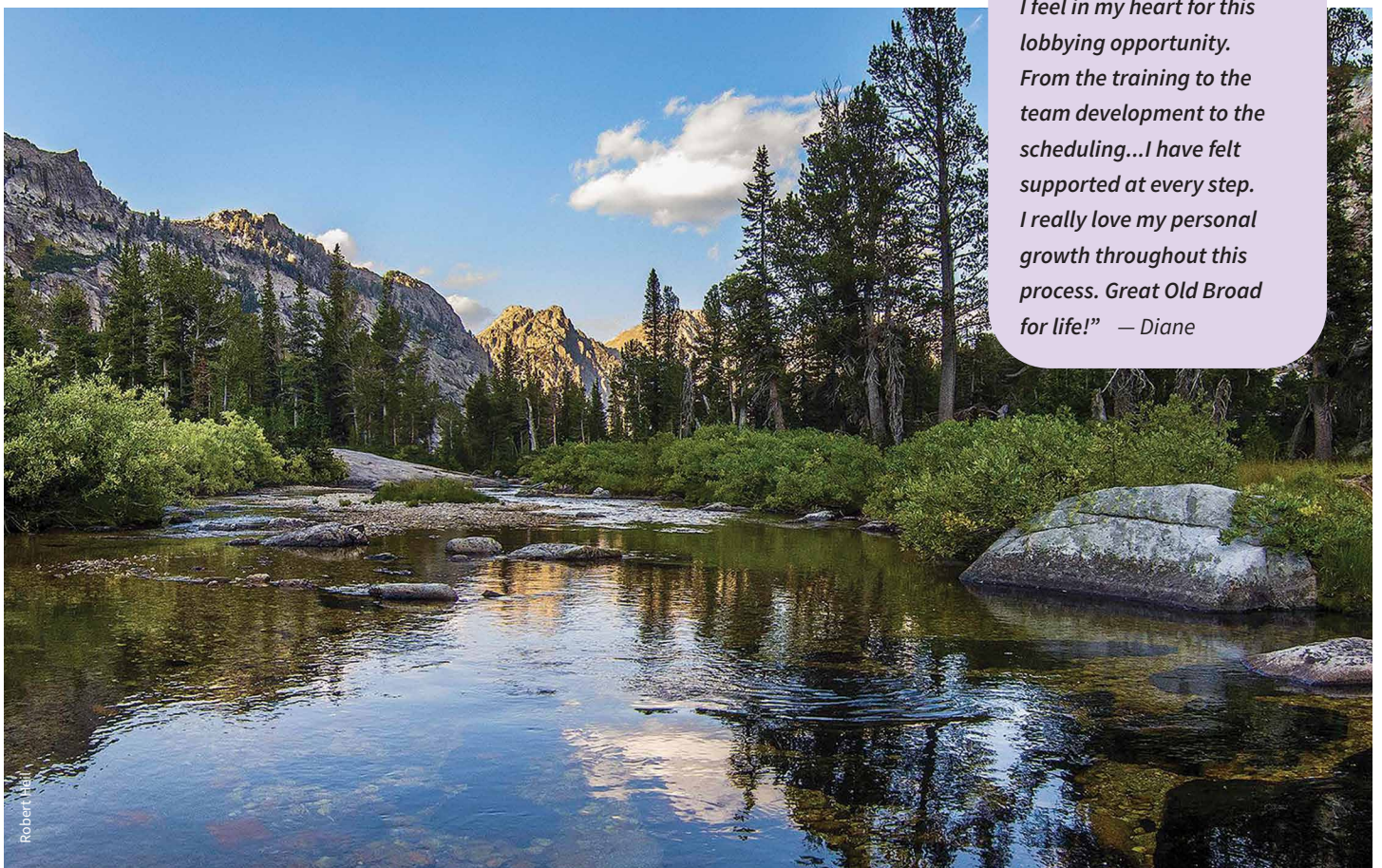
Participants at the Bears Ears National Monument Broadwork completed the last 250 feet of fence protecting the Dark Canyon Wilderness from grazing. The group met with members of Utah Diné Bikéyah and Women of Bears Ears, who shared stories about tribal connections to these sacred lands.



The DC Lobbying Broadwork trained 23 volunteers, who conducted 53 meetings online with legislators to lobby for wilderness protections. It was gratifying to see these women grow their skills and confidence as grassroots advocates.



“Just a short note to let you know of the gratitude I feel in my heart for this lobbying opportunity. From the training to the team development to the scheduling...I have felt supported at every step. I really love my personal growth throughout this process. Great Old Broad for life!” — Diane





Robert Heil

Non-Stop Virtual Learning & Action

This year saw an expansion of online events that explored conservation issues and strengthened members' grassroots skills.

- ★ The national office offered ten webinars to the public on topics such as the National Environmental Policy Act, media interaction, and taking action to protect 30% of U.S. wildlands and waters by 2030.
- ★ Broadbands hosted 17 virtual events (659 attendees!) to activate involvement on endangered species, wildfires, forest protection, mining proposals, climate change, and more.

Four virtual advocacy nights coached 189 participants on how to write effective comments regarding:



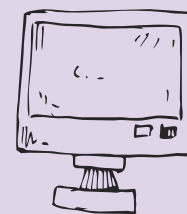
The negative impact of border wall construction on fragile desert ecosystems and wildlife migration.



Ending Bureau of Land Management oil and gas lease permits for extraction on public lands.



Preventing copper-sulfide mining adjacent to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.



31

ONLINE EDUCATION & ADVOCACY EVENTS LED BY NAT'L OFFICE & BROADBANDS



1,070

PARTICIPANTS



22

VOLUNTEER BROADBAND LEADERS TRAINED



184

TRAINED TO DATE

love our volunteers!



Broadband Stewardship & Monitoring

Broads' members are the eyes and ears on the ground, gathering important data and working to restore the land.



PLANTED
250
TREES +
1200
PLANTS TO RESTORE
RIPARIAN AREAS.

5000 HOURS
MONITORING WILDLIFE,
SOLITUDE,
TRAIL USAGE,
GRAZING IMPACTS,
TIMBER SALES,
WATER QUALITY, AND MORE.

THE CENTRAL OREGON
BITTERBRUSH BROADBAND
SURVEYED MORE THAN
130 ROADS
DOCUMENTING THAT
60%
OF "CLOSED" ROADS HAD
UNAUTHORIZED VEHICULAR USE.

28 MILES
OF TRAILS
CLEARED OF 115
DOWNED TREES,
BRUSH, AND
INVASIVE PLANTS.



Equity & Justice

Great Old Broads for Wilderness is committed to building a diverse, inclusive, and broader conservation community.

- ✦ **CONNECTION**—Broads work across the country to build relationships with indigenous nations, tribes, and organizations, and to ensure Native American representation and consultation is part of land management agency planning processes.
- ✦ **EDUCATION**—Three webinars for Broadband leaders discussed methods to cultivate relationships with diverse constituents and the importance of working on environmental justice issues.
- ✦ **COMMITMENT**—Board and staff held trainings and developed an organizational plan to incorporate equity- and justice-based practices in every aspect of our work. An Equity and Justice Committee of staff, board members, and broadband leaders meets monthly to discuss and implement approaches to ensure that racial, economic, and environmental justice values guide the strategic direction of our organization.

THE RED ROAD TO D.C.

The House of Tears Carvers of the Lummi (Lhaq'temish) Nation transported a 25-foot totem pole from Washington state to Washington D.C., stopping for ceremony and live-streamed events to bring attention to sacred places under threat from resource extraction and industrial development.

Four Broadbands and the national office hosted seven events. Broads also supported national stops at the Bears Ears and in D.C., where the totem pole was welcomed by Secretary of the Interior Haaland prior to its display at the National Museum of the American Indian. Stops included the Lower Snake River (OR), Bears Ears National Monument (UT), and Chaco Canyon (NM)— places where Broads have advocated for protections.



funds & finance



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Step up and Mother Earth!

The Women for the Wild Comprehensive Campaign gained a lot of ground last year, and with your support, we raised over \$1 million in 2021, taking us to just over **\$2.6 million—or 85% of our \$3.1 million goal!** More than 2,000 members have given to the campaign and we expect to reach our goal in the summer of 2022.

Your support on this important campaign builds a strong foundation to take us into the next generation of Broads' advocacy. It will help us train more women to be effective grassroots leaders and activists, support our climate action, and ensure we retain a strong and talented staff.

Have you given yet? Every dollar counts!

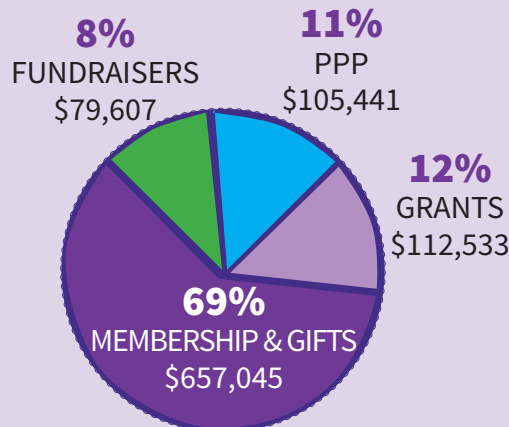
Our First Endowment

Broads' litigation to fight the use of chainsaws in two Colorado Wilderness areas inspired the Pope family to contribute **\$100,000 to establish an endowment—the Wilderness Defense Fund.** Proceeds from this investment will support our capacity to initiate legal actions, arbitration, or mediation to protect the integrity of Wilderness. We're wildly grateful for the opportunity to expand our effectiveness as wilderness defenders for years to come.

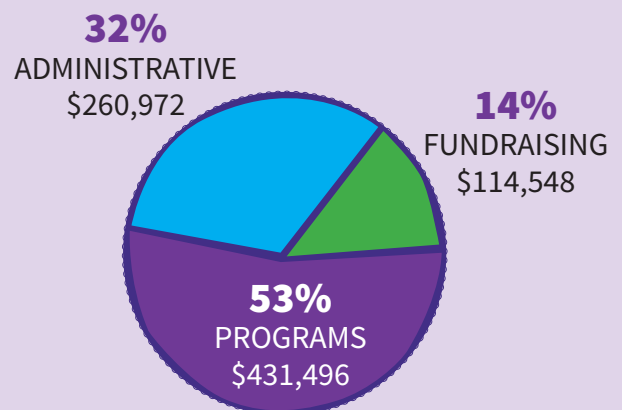
In 2022, we'll train members how to recognize wilderness violations, communicate concerns to agencies, document violations, and take steps to ensure better management for designated wilderness areas.

Finances

INCOME: \$954,626



EXPENSE: \$807,016



Income exceeded expenses due to the Women for the Wild Campaign, including the \$100,000 gift to establish the Wilderness Defense Fund Endowment.