

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Friends,

To sum it up, 2023 was a year of strategic building for Great Old Broads for Wilderness. With the wisdom and guidance from our strategic planning committee, Board of Directors, and staff, we crafted a three-year strategic plan that lays the groundwork for future wins and shapes who we will be as an organization in the years to come.

In alignment with the plan's vision, we brought in three new staff members. The Grassroots Leadership Program was reshaped, and we now have three Grassroots Regional Coordinators to better serve our Broadbands.

It was also exciting to hire our first ever Grassroots Advocacy Manager, which was made possible by your donations to the comprehensive campaign's Ginger Harmon Wild Land Advocacy Fund. Thank you for your contributions to help us fill this important need!

These staff additions, combined with harnessing the strengths of our existing staff, have given us greater capacity and the expertise to expand our advocacy efforts. We are now more deeply engaged in shaping public lands management and policy at a

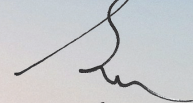
time when agency rulemaking and planning has ramped up at an aggressive pace.

We are presenting educational webinars on current public lands issues that are drawing more attendees and driving greater participation in the public commenting process than ever before!

In 2024, we will build upon this important work as we continue to advocate for national monument designations and defend environmental bedrock laws. We will develop deeper relationships with high level officials at the Department of the Interior, Council on Environmental Quality, Department of Agriculture, and more with the aim to become the "go to" organization for feedback and insight.

And we will continue to elevate our unique voice to bring positive policy change and increased protection for our country's public lands and waters.

Wildly yours,



Sara Husby, Executive Director



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

BROADS IN ACTION!

From clearing brush on a trail and monitoring water quality on a mountain stream, to writing public comments and letters to officials and agencies in support of public lands, to educational hikes and protest marches, Broadbands are tireless champions for our endangered wild places. It would take hundreds, if not thousands, of pages to report on everything these remarkable Broads do at the grassroots level—but here are a few highlights from 2023.

After years of hard work on the ground, the **Alaska Soles Broadband** and partners celebrated a pair of major victories in early 2023. First, the U.S. Department of Agriculture reversed a 2020 Trump administration decision and restored the national Roadless Rule to Tongass National Forest, restricting road construction and timber harvesting on more than 9,000,000 acres of vital coastal rainforest in southeast Alaska. Meanwhile, the Environmental Protection Agency used the Clean Water Act to pull the plug on the long-proposed Pebble gold and copper mining operation near the headwaters of Bristol Bay, which threatened nearly 100 miles of streams that support sockeye salmon populations.



Greater Wasatch Broadband (UT) co-leader Di Allison looks on as co-leader Janifer Larson signs the Clean the Darn Air petition.

In New Mexico, the **Aldo's Silver City Broadband** trekked through miles of Gila National Forest to monitor riparian areas for damage from cattle grazing. They hiked over 38 miles during seven survey trips—including an overnight trip—from September through December alone. They documented grazing damage, as well as the recovery of landscapes where cattle had been removed. Thanks to their relationship-building efforts, the Gila National Forest staff are quick to respond to their emails and reports. In addition, they are working closely with other Broadbands across the West as part of Broads' Grazing Collaborative, where they discuss experiences and compare notes on monitoring and other issues related

to livestock grazing on public lands.

In Colorado, the **Northern San Juan Broadband** and the **South San Juan Broadband** spent countless hours in the field monitoring bighorn sheep movement and proximity to domestic sheep.

They made great strides working with partners to protect bighorn habitat high in the San Juan Mountains near Silverton when an agreement was reached between the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) and the Etchart



Alaska Soles co-leaders Kathy O'Reilly-Doyle, Loren Karro, and Broadband member Laurie solve the world's problems while hiking on the Coastal Trail.



Aldo's Silver City Broads (NM) trekking toward the Beaver Creek enclosure on a grazing monitoring outing.



NW Montana Broadband members learn about a non-toxic solution to invasive weeds.



Polly Dyer Seattle (WA) Broads at the Tiger Mountain Trail Walk & Talk.

family, which held grazing permits on over 100,000 acres of fragile alpine tundra. In the deal, the NWF purchased the permits from the family, and are now working with federal agencies to retire those permits permanently to help safeguard one of the most important bighorn herds in the nation.

In **Washington, regional Broads** came together to host a Broadwalk event at the Camp Delany Retreat Center in Dry Falls State Park for four days of advocacy, stewardship, hiking, and fun! The participants helped clear a trail and took on other stewardship work at the retreat center. Evening presentations included a look at the highlights of the Lower Snake River Dam campaign—including a viewing of the film “Dammed to Extinction.” In addition, participants wrote over 150 postcards to legislators and federal agency officials to advocate for healthy public lands and waters.

Following years of effort, the **Cascade Volcanoes Broadband** (WA-OR) celebrated after successfully stopping a land transfer that would have allowed logging along the popular Hantwick Trail in south-central Washington. Thanks to their advocacy efforts, that 80-acre parcel of land was instead transferred by the state in a land swap to Clark County (WA) to be turned into a new park!

The **Nor’easter Broadband**—which covers the New England states—continues to shine in the sheer volume of meaningful public comments and letters they produce each year. For example, in the course of five and a half hours over three days in September, October, and November of 2023, Nor’easter Broads wrote 68 letters and emails on topics from protecting the Connecticut River and supporting a ban on Styrofoam in Massachusetts to supporting the Montana Headwaters Legacy Act and protecting Chaco Canyon from oil and gas drilling.



Willamette Valley Broadband (OR) members Nancy and Pat monitor beaver activity on the South Santiam River.

Broads everywhere marked Earth Day (one of the biggest days of the year on the Broads calendar) with public outreach, stewardship work, and fun activities! For example, the **Sonoran Broadband** (AZ) participated at the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community’s Earth Day event with Mexican gray wolf-related activities for kids, while across the country in Minnesota, the **Wild Waters Broadband** joined with partners from Friends of the Mississippi for their annual River Gorge Cleanup—a day of stewardship work along the Mississippi River in Minneapolis.



Grateful Thanks!

BROADBAND LEADERS

Alaska Soles Broadband (AK)

Kathy O'Reilly-Doyle
Loren Karro

Northern Arizona Wild (AZ)

Cuyler Boughner

Sonoran Broadband (AZ)

Emily Matyas
Roz Switzer

Tucson Broadband (AZ)

Fran Krackow
Su Libby
Andrea Hoerr

Yavapai/Prescott Broadband (AZ)

Jenny Cobb

Inland Empire Broadband (CA)

Margaret Meyncke

Crest to Coast Broadband (CA)

Maureen Forney

Eastern Sierra Broadband (CA)

Kristine Green

Redwood Broadband (CA)

Beth Lamb

Wild LA Broadband (CA)

Helen Sklar

Northwest Colorado Broadband (CO)

Barbara Vasquez
Cristina Harmon
Diane Miller

South San Juan Broadband (CO)

Chara Ragland
Louise van Vonno

Northern Front Range Broadband (CO)

Della Garelle
Jan Moraczewski
Anne Dal Vera

Wild Watershed Broads (CO)

Fran Silva-Blayney
Patience Paisley

Four Corners Broadband (CO)

Jennifer Singer

Roaring Fork Broadband (CO)

Karen Ryman

Middle Park Broads (CO)

Sarah Bransom

Georgia GRITS (GA)

Jean Millkey
Anne Heikkila

Northern Idaho (ID)

Pam Duquette

Palouse Broadband (ID)

Anne McLaughlin
Debbie Trent

Teton Valley WHALES (ID/WY)

Liz McCane
Janna Rankin

Driftless Broadband (IA)

Kata McCarville

Nor'easter Broads

Nancy Frost (MA)
Linda Graham (NH)

Minnesota Wild Waters Broadband

Jan Bourdon
Mo Monroe

Northwest Montana Broadband

Donna Pridmore
Jennifer Watson
Mary Alexine
Rosemary McKinnon
Chris Frisbee

Nebraska Broads (NE)

Kathleen Emry-Mefferd

Aldo's Silver City Broadband (NM)

Denise Smith
Marcia Stout

Rio Grande Valley Broadband (NM)

Irene Ortiz
Susan Ostlie

Blue Diamond Broadband (NV)

Laura Glismann

Rogue Valley Broadband (OR)

Bucky Dennerlein
Susie Schmidt
Linda Pace

Willamette Valley Broadband (OR)

Chandra LeGue
Cyndi Anderson

Central & Eastern Oregon Broadband

Mary Fleischmann

Greater Wasatch Broadband (UT)

Barbara McConvill
Di Allison
Janifer Larson

Southwest Utah Broadband

Jane Stewart
Katy Peterson

Cascade Volcanoes Broadband (WA)

Laurie Kerr (WA)

Methow Broadband (WA)

Terry Karro

Polly Dyer Seattle (WA)

Penelope Peterson
Barbara Muirhead
Genia Moncada

North Olympic Peninsula (WA)

Krestine Reed

South Sound Broads (WA)

Taylor Goforth

Wisconsin Broadband (WI)

Jo Bailey

Mobile Broadband (WI)

Dana Garden

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEMBERS

Crest to Coast Broadband (CA)

Ana Bertero
Carol Kuelper
Elaine Gorman

Middle Park Broads (CO)

Melanie Zwick

Northern San Juan Broads (CO)

Carrie Krickbaum
Christiane Frischmuth
Judith Lopez
Linda McNeill
Peggy Lyon
Robyn Cascade
Sallie Thoreson

Grand Junction (CO)

Chris Jauhola
Elizabeth Arendt Delgado
Lisa Eckert
Sherry Schenk
Su Joffiron

South San Juan Broadband (CO)

Carole McWilliams
Susan Hicks

Nor'easter Broads

Theo Pratt (ME)

Minnesota Wild Waters Broadband

Cecily Harris
Louise Morgan
Valoree Dowell

Aldo's Silver City Broadband (NM)

Joanie Connors

Rio Grande Valley Broadband (NM)

Linda Starr

Central Oregon Bitterbrush Broads (OR)

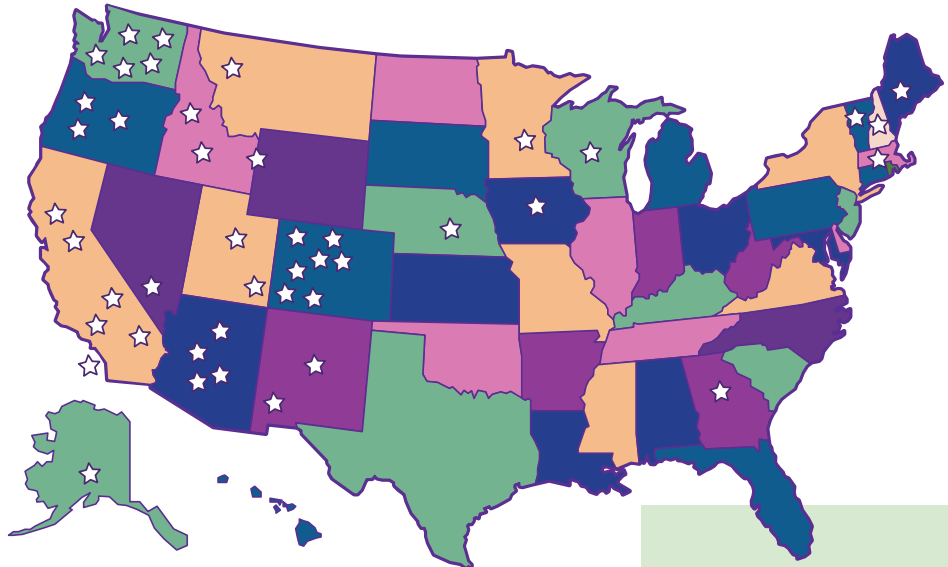
Joanne Richter
Mathieu Federspiel
Rynda Clark

Southwest Utah Broadband (UT)

Debi Turner
Sharon Richardson

Cascade Volcanoes Broadband (WA)

Barb Fox-Kilgore
Linda Buckley



2024
BROADBAND
ACTIVITIES

19
BROADBAND
LEADERS
TRAINED

9
NEW
BROADBANDS

220
LEADERS
TRAINED TO DATE

1,417
BROADBAND
ADVOCACY
ACTIONS
CALLS/LETTERS
EMAILS/COMMENTS

NOTE: If we forgot anyone, please forgive us. We LOVE you!

ENGAGEMENT & EDUCATION

Nine new Broadbands launched in 2023 including four in California: **Redwoods, Eastern Sierra, San Diego Wild Spaces, and Wild L.A.** Other chapters include the **GRITS Broadband** in north Georgia, **Northern Arizona Broadband, Driftless Broadband (IA), Northern Front Range Broadband (CO),** and the **Mobile Broadband (US),** which represents our long distance hikers.

Proposed **Bureau of Land Management Public Lands Rule** changes sparked a great deal of interest from members across the country. Broads hosted three webinars on the rule including a general overview, and another on the rule’s impact on livestock grazing. These webinars drew more than 317 participants. We also partnered with Third Act to look at how the rule would mitigate activities contributing to climate change, which drew several hundred attendees.

The success of these and other webinars in 2023 helped drive increased participation in advocacy efforts. Thanks to a grant last summer, Broads was able to enroll in VoterVoice, a web-based advocacy messaging and tracking system. VoterVoice allowed us to create more effective advocacy outreach campaigns (Action Alerts), and—most importantly—track their efficacy.

For instance, the Action Alert that followed the “BLM’s Public Lands Rule” webinar generated well **over 400** comments to the BLM on their proposed Public Lands Rule—a **substantial increase in engagement from our previous outreach tools.**

The Action Alert we issued (followed by an educational webinar) on a U.S. Forest Service proposal related to mature and old-growth forests and nationwide forest plans resulted in **437 comments** by individuals—as well as substantive comments submitted by Broadbands specific to their regional forest type.

We are delighted to have this valuable tool to document the level of engagement and the impact our members and supporters in the protection of wilderness and wild lands. If you have not seen this tool in action, be sure to check it out on our website under **“Take Action”.**



Elaine and Janna of the Teton Valley WHALES (ID/WY) present trail cameras to their local Wilderness Ranger.



Cascade Volcano elves created holiday messages to save old-growth and mature trees.

MORE...

CAMPAIGNS INVOLVED

>74

MILLION ACRES
OF PUBLIC LANDS

39,557
VOLUNTEER
HOURS

WOW!

872
TREES + PLANTS

PLANTED
TO RESTORE
RIPARIAN
& RECREATION
AREAS

5,400
HOURS

STEWARDSHIP
MONITORING
WILDLIFE, SOLITUDE,
TRAIL USAGE,
GRAZING IMPACTS,
TIMBER SALES,
& WATER QUALITY
+
TRAIL MAINTENANCE
&
INVASIVE PLANT
REMOVAL

NATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

The hard work of permanently protecting our nation’s remaining wild public lands and waters for future generations will never be complete. And thanks to the commitment of our members to this work, several Broads’ advocacy campaigns saw wins in 2023.

MINNESOTA

In northern Minnesota, Broads—led by the **Minnesota Wild Waters Broadband**—and our partners celebrated years of hard advocacy work as the U.S. Department of Interior withdrew over 225,000 acres of Superior National Forest from mineral and geothermal leasing for 20 years, protecting the greater Boundary Waters Canoe Area



Wilderness watershed from potential catastrophe from proposed copper mining operations. The 1.1-million-acre Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness is home to

countless species of trees, fish, and wildlife, and is one of the most-visited wilderness areas in the U.S.

UTAH

In Utah, Broads and our coalition of partners successfully fought off a challenge to the Antiquities Act in federal court that aimed to undo President Biden’s restoration of **Bears Ears National Monument** and **Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument** to their original boundaries. The two monuments had been drastically reduced in size by the Trump administration in 2017, then restored by the Biden administration shortly after taking office. The State of Utah then sued the federal



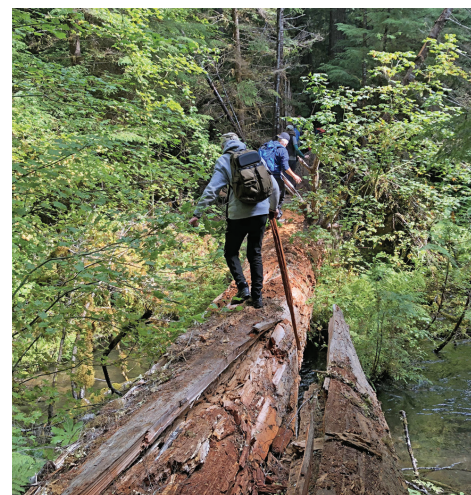
government, claiming that the White House had overstepped its authority in restoring the monuments to their original size.

But Broads and our partners

fought back, noting that over a century of court rulings made it clear that the President had the authority under the Antiquities Act to protect cultural, scientific, and ecological resources on public lands. And U.S. District Judge David Nuffer agreed, writing in his decision, “President Biden’s judgment in drafting and issuing the Proclamations as he sees fit is not an action reviewable by a district court.” The boundaries of Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments are once again safe—but the fight to protect these landscapes (and the Antiquities Act itself) continues.

OREGON

In Oregon, Broads and our coalition partners won an important—and hopefully precedent-setting—victory for the **Oregon spotted frog** when the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) fell short of its obligations under the Endangered Species Act when it allowed cattle grazing within the tiny amphibian’s habitat on Jack Creek in the Fremont-Winema National Forest.



In its ruling, the court faulted the FWS for not considering the impacts of climate change, and whether “the small frog population could sustain grazing-related impacts on top of potential climate change impacts.” The agency was found to have failed to consider that climate change will exacerbate low-water conditions, and relied on vague or inadequate mitigation measures to address the threat that low water conditions pose to the species. This victory highlights the rapidly growing need for federal land management agencies to take the impacts of climate change seriously when considering uses for public lands.

WASHINGTON AND OREGON

Broads (led locally by the **Central & Eastern Oregon Bitterbrush Broadband**) and partners won a vital federal court case when a federal judge ruled that the U.S. Forest Service violated several bedrock environmental and conservation laws in 2021 when it dropped decades-old protections for nearly 7 million acres of mature and old-growth trees in six national forests (known as the “Eastside Screens”) in Oregon and Washington. The Trump-era rule change had opened up previously-protected trees 21 inches in diameter and larger to harvesting, and placed an emphasis on protecting species based on their fire resistance. These rules were made without public or Tribal input in the decision-making process, and put millions of acres of mature and old-growth forests at risk.

The lawsuit filed by Broads and our partners asserted that the government’s

environmental assessment didn’t adequately address scientific uncertainty surrounding the effectiveness of forest thinning, especially of large trees, for reducing fire risk. And U.S. District Judge Andrew Hallman agreed, writing, “The highly uncertain effects of this project, when considered in light of its massive scope and setting, raise substantial questions about whether this project will have a significant effect on the environment.”



Much like all of our work, the fight for our remaining old-growth and mature forests continues. But at least for now, the Eastside Screens are safe.

NATIONWIDE

Broads is a proud member of the America the Beautiful for All Coalition, which aims to move forward the White House’s “30x30” initiative to protect 30% of the nation’s public lands and waters by 2030. Executive Director Sara Husby represents Broads and serves on the coalition’s Public Lands Working Group, where she helped develop the policy document outlining priority landscapes for national monument designation. In 2023, the coalition scored tangible major victories, as several landscapes and

historic locations identified by the coalition as priorities were given permanent protection as national monuments.

These priority landscapes and places include:

- **Avi Kwa Ame National Monument**—a rugged and biodiverse 506,000-acre mountain desert landscape in southwest Nevada sacred to 12 tribes.
- **Castner Range National Monument**—6,672-acres in far western Texas that is a former weapons-testing range managed by the U.S. Army.
- **Emmett Till and Mamie Till-Mobley National Monument**—includes Roberts Temple Church of God in Christ in Bronzeville, Illinois where 100,000 people attended the open-casket funeral service for 14-year-old Emmett Till, who was abducted, tortured, and lynched in 1955.
- **Baaj Nwaavjo I’tah Kukveni-Grand Canyon National Monument**—nearly 1-million-acres stretching across the greater Grand Canyon landscape in northern Arizona.

In addition to these new national monuments, the advocacy work by Broads national office and our **California Broadbands**—in conjunction with several coalitions—to expand both **Northern California’s Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument** and Southern California’s **San Gabriel Mountains National Monument** gained momentum in 2023 with increased congressional support and media attention.

These coalition-led efforts included a successful public listening session in Woodland, California, for Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument expansion with federal

officials that drew more than 200 advocates and unanimous support for expanding the existing monument



to include Molok Luyuk (“Condor Ridge” in the Patwin language), as well as a successful public listening session with federal officials in Azusa, California, where Broads staff and members of California Broadbands spoke out in support of expanding San Gabriel Mountains National Monument by 109,000 acres drew more than 500 attendees.



2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

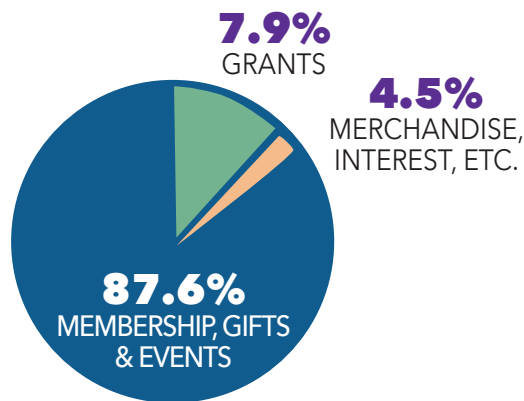
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- LD Delano, AZ
Co-Chair
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- Laura Hodge, MT
- Corina Lopez, CA
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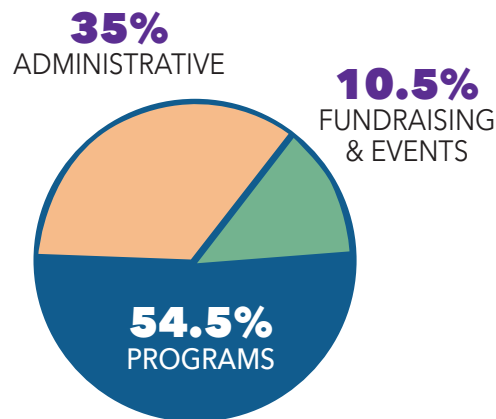
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- Bill Meadows
- Caroline Kirksey Munger
- Marcey Olajos
- Tim Peterson
- Carl Rountree
- Lois Snedden
- Blake Spalding
- Liz Thomas

FUNDS & FINANCE

INCOME: \$910,305



EXPENSE: \$874,010



BROAD QUOTES

...from Broadband Activity Reports

“It was so worth doing! We got 42 multi-age protestors and some fabulous signs. Great local TV coverage.”

– Rogue Valley Broadband (OR) Co-Leader Linda Pace after participating in a public timber sale protest.

“I enjoyed being there and felt confident and capable. I’ve turned a corner! Bring it on!”

– Inland Empire Broadband (CA) Leader Margaret Meynecke after a lobby meeting with Sen. Alex Padilla’s office staff.

“One voice adds to many voices in the pursuit of change.”

– Barb Fox-Kilgore, Leadership Team Member, Cascade Volcanoes Broadband (WA)