A logo with mountains and sun

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**Northern San Juan Broadband August E-blast**

Greetings Wild Broads and Bros –

While drinking from a fire hose to keep up with federal changes, one aspect that sets the Broads apart from other public land advocacy organizations is we are relative purists when it comes to conservation. While our laced-and-booted (and Jeeped! Horse-packed!) stewardship activities are in full steam, we also cherish education to celebrate and remember our wild lands and how they connect us to each other. We also work collaboratively with our government public lands agencies, and Broad leaders have individual relationships with our local rangers to keep tabs on management issues and needs. Robyn Cascade, Peggy Lyon, and Heather Scott met with Chad Stewart and Chris Ham of the Forest Service this past week. Thank you all for your membership, attention, and camaraderie while here on our human streets.

**We would love to see you soon!**

**Our monthly meetings are the second Monday of the month from 1:00-3:00,**

**at the Ridgway Library unless otherwise noted.**

Highlight of last month: NJSBB leader and botanist Peggy Lyon’s plant walk-talk at Ridgway State Park. What an infinite world of no end! We missed those of you who couldn’t make it.

A person sitting on a tree branch

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**UPCOMING *IN-PERSON* EVENTS**

*A close up of a bug

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Barber Pole grasshopper, dactylotum bicolor

Who needs Broncos when we got bugs?!

**Monday 9-8-25 1:00-3:00** Membership meeting and special event: *Bugs are beautiful!*   If you think a talk about entomology sounds boring, you have yet to meet *Tristan Kubick of the Colorado Natural Heritage Program!*He is not only knowledgeable and entertaining but has done field work right here and has a lot to share about the insects that inhabit our area (some new discoveries!).  **Ridgway Library.** *Everyone invited!*



**Thursday 9-11-25** **7:00** **Public Lands History and Future** A free event at Ute Indian Museum in Montrose, hosted by our friends, the Black Canyon Audubon Society. Presentation by Walt Dabney, member of the Coalition of National Park Rangers, retired Canyonlands National Park Superintendent, and former Texas State Park Director. [blackcanyonaudubon.org](http://blackcanyonaudubon.org/)



**\*Saturday, 10-4-25\*** Sign up NOW for this deeply meaningful, powerful experience. This year’s **White Mesa Spiritual Walk and Protest** will take place beginning at 11:00 am at the White Mesa Community Center, **just south of Blanding, Utah**. Great Old Broads for Wilderness has proudly supported this event for years, and we’re aiming to bring a strong and joyful presence again this year.  Sally Sharp, Broads Regional Coordinator, will be camping at Sand Island Campground for a full weekend of connection and reflection.

A five-mile journey with incredible people united in purpose and spirit, this is a chance to connect deeply in real conversation and stand in solidarity with the White Mesa community in their efforts to protect their land, water, and culture from the harmful impacts of the nearby uranium mill. **Coordinate with Carrie Krickbaum** [carrie.krickbaum@gmail.com](mailto:carrie.krickbaum@gmail.com) if you would like to join us for the day or camp with us. Background information: [[White Mesa Uranium Mill | Grand Canyon Trust](https://www.grandcanyontrust.org/white-mesa-uranium-mill/)](https://www.grandcanyontrust.org/white-mesa-uranium-mill/)

**Bighorn Sheep Monitoring Day hikes/ walks**: Email Heather Scott at [northernsanjuan@greatoldbroads.org](mailto:northernsanjuan@greatoldbroads.org) if interested. She will either join or help coordinate trips to Last Dollar Road or other areas CPW recommends that are easy for our members to access by foot/ car.

**National Public Lands Day Saturday, 9-27-25**. While known as a fee-free day for national parks, it also is the largest single-day volunteer effort in the country for public lands, which need our help now more than ever. Stay tuned for stewardship ideas and opportunities!

**November National BroadsWalk 11-10-25 to 11-14-25 Oke to Ocean** If you are a traveler or likely to be in the East, you are invited to join our hosts, the GRITS (GA) and Nor’easter (MA, NH, VT, & ME) Broadbands, for the unique and exciting Okefenokee to Ocean National Broadwalk! Sign in to your membership and [view the event here](https://www.greatoldbroads.org/events/november-10-14-oke-to-ocean-broadwalk/)

**CALL, EMAIL, SHOW UP: selected ADVOCACY ITEMS for COLORADO**

Oppose any attempt to defund **wolf re-introduction** in fiscal year 25-26: “Defunding reintroductions is a direct attack on democracy because it would overturn the will of voters who made clear their support for gray wolf reintroduction and restoration. Halting reintroductions, even for a year, undermines the restoration of a self-sustaining population by reducing population size and genetic diversity, which are key to population viability.” -Barbara Vasquez, Jackson County.

State Rep *Larry Suckla*: 303-866-2955, 970-759-3940, larry.suckla.house@coleg.gov

Ouray County senate: *Sen Cleave Simpson* 303-866-4852 cleave.simpson.senate@coleg.gov

Montrose County senate: *Marc Catlin* 303-866-5292 [marc.catlin.senate@coleg.gov](mailto:marc.catlin.senate@coleg.gov)

**Roadless Rule** on a national level needs our help, even while Colorado does not face any threats in the near future given our own state level rule. Broads is committed to our "[Roads and Vehicular Use](https://www.greatoldbroads.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/PS-Roads-Vehicle-Use-March-2025.pdf)" position statement. Some Broads leadership began a "Save Roadless Forests" coalition in July, now meeting every two weeks. The [U.S. Forest Service states rescinding this legislation](https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/planning/roadless) "will require preparation of environmental analysis, compliance with the Endangered Species Act, tribal consultation and coordination with affected states. The rulemaking process is a three-stage effort including the advanced notice of proposed rulemaking, notice of proposed rulemaking, and the final rule." So, this is likely going to be a long fight with various stages. We're in it together! The *comment period opened today and ends 9-19-25*. Enter yours [here for the Federal Register](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/08/29/2025-16581/special-areas-roadless-area-conservation-national-forest-system-lands)

***Speaking of roads…***

**Wildlife Crossings Across America** [This newsletter](https://www.coloradowta.com/home/) informs about Highway wildlife crossings (overpasses and underpasses) designed to minimize the habitat fragmentation for wildlife in Colorado. You can sign up to receive the newsletter. This alliance was born out of cooperative committees of CDOT, CPW and members of interested NGOs that created reports identifying hotspots of wildlife collisions on highways first on the west slope, then on the east slope.

**WEBINARS (all times MTN)**

**Wednesday 9-3-25 10:00-11:00**: Sponsored by our National Broads: *"Preserving Wild, Roadless Public Lands in the Pacific Northwest and Beyond"—*where we will learn about the history and purpose of the Roadless Rule. More info and [registration here](https://www.greatoldbroads.org/events/september-3-webinar-preserving-wild-roadless-public-lands-in-the-pacific-northwest-and-beyond/)

**Thursday 9-11-25 5:30-6:30** The Wilderness Society Wilderness Workshop. In this webinar, we will provide a briefing on the OBBBA changes to oil and gas policy, how this will impact Colorado, and discuss where we go from here in the oil and gas policy space and how elected officials in Colorado can make an impact moving forward. [RSVP here](https://wilderness.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_iqBjZ0rrTwys9PYDmon6SQ#/registration)

**Thursday, 9-18-25 at 5:30pm** or **Saturday, 9-20-25 at 10:00am**: Defenders of Wildlife, the Center for Human Carnivore Coexistence, and CSU Extension are running our last two virtual community events on the Colorado wolverine reintroduction. RSVP at [bit.ly/Wolverine-RSVP](https://bit.ly/Wolverine-RSVP) .

**STEWARDSHIP SNAPSHOT**

A group of people hiking in the mountains

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From our 8-27-25 jeep trip to monitor high-country bighorn sheep. It had been rainy but we witnessed beautifully textured skies, fair weather, and sunny slopes. We were delighted to be joined by one of our Grand Junction Broad leaders!