

REDROCK

W I L D E R N E S S

The Newsletter of the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance
Volume 23, Number 2 • Summer 2006

Protecting Utah's Zion-Mojave Wilderness

Cover Photo: *The Beaver Dam Mountains in southwest Utah's Zion-Mojave region is one of many wild areas endangered by a new legislative proposal for Washington County (see page 5). Copyright Scott T. Smith.*



The mission of the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (SUWA) is the preservation of the outstanding wilderness at the heart of the Colorado Plateau, and the management of these lands in their natural state for the benefit of all Americans.

SUWA promotes local and national recognition of the region's unique character through research and public education; supports both administrative and legislative initiatives to permanently protect Colorado Plateau wild places within the National Park and National Wilderness Preservation Systems or by other protective designations where appropriate; builds support for such initiatives on both the local and national level; and provides leadership within the conservation movement through uncompromising advocacy for wilderness preservation.

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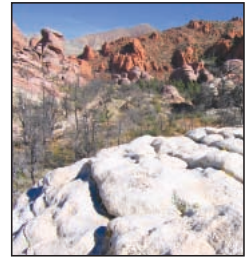
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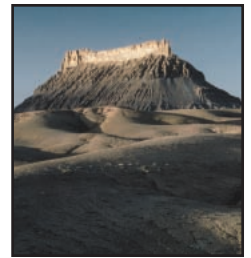
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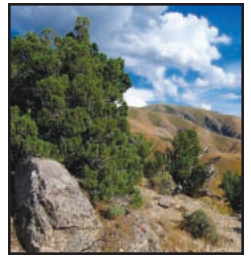
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This issue of *Redrock Wilderness* was written by the following staff and outside contributors: Justin Allegro, Jerry Dixon, Steve Bloch, Ray Bloxham, Jeremy Christensen, Peter Downing, Kate Gallen, Scott Groene, Lindsey Oswald, Bill Raleigh, Franklin Seal, Liz Thomas, and Giles Wallace. It was edited by Darrell Knuffke and laid out by Matt Crawley.

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Contributions of photographs (especially of areas within the citizens’ proposal for Utah wilderness) and original art (such as pen-and-ink sketches) are greatly appreciated! Please send with SASE to Editor, SUWA, 425 East 100 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84111.

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wilderness notes

Utah Deserves Better

This issue's lead article takes a look at the bizarre—and dangerous—legislative proposal that the Washington County Commissioners have cooked up for southwestern Utah and the country around booming St. George. Utah's U.S. Senator Robert Bennett (R) and Rep. Jim Matheson (D) formally announced the proposal in late March.

The pair says it's just a draft at this point and subject to change. Let us pray...

Like a poorly told joke, the proposal's name gives away the punch line: "The Washington County Growth and Conservation Act of 2006." Word order here is significant. The measure has a good deal more to do with growth than with conservation and it desperately needs changing.

As written by the Washington County Commissioners and the developers for whom they stand, the proposal would leave two-thirds of deserving Zion-Mojave wilderness on the chopping block. And it would sell off up to 40 square miles of public land. Those sales would generate millions, maybe billions. And 10 percent of the proceeds would end up in the hands of the very local politicians who wrote and are now feverishly pushing the proposal. The county would share the plunder with local water developers. They, in turn, would spend it on pipelines and dams for water to fuel even greater sprawl in what's already the fifth fastest-growing county in the nation. There's other pork in the pie for the water developers: they'd get free public land for dam sites and pipelines.

But this isn't just about Washington County. One of the county's lobbyists has offered his expert services to others, including Millard, Juab and Iron Counties, in case they'd like to draft similar legislation to sell the public estate into private development and simultaneously shortchange wilderness. (They would.)

This could be legislation worth passing if it genuinely planned for growth in Washington County—managing it rather than merely guaranteeing it—and at the same time truly protected the unique Zion-Mojave wilderness. We're now meeting with the Utah congressional delegation in an effort to transform it into just that.



Ray Bloxham

The vibrant green leaves of a Joshua Tree lend color and contrast to the starkly beautiful Beaver Dam Wash proposed wilderness.

It's been three years since we've had to beat back bad Utah wilderness legislation. We spent much of that peaceful time working with the Utah congressional delegation, particularly Rep. Rob Bishop (R), to enact good wilderness legislation for the Cedar Mountains. We continue to hope that any Washington County bill does as good a job of protecting wilderness as the Cedar Mountains bill did. If it does, we'll support it. But without drastic changes to the current execrable proposal, we'll fight it, just as we fought several past attempts to undermine the Redrock. Then, as before, we won't succeed without your help.

For the Redrock,
Scott Groene
Executive Director

features

Proposal Takes Aim at the Zion-Mojave

When the late Rep. Wayne Owens (D-UT) wrote the foreword to *Wilderness at the Edge* in 1990, he observed that, "If we do not deliberately protect our remaining wilderness in Utah, I fear it will eventually disappear." He warned of the risk of losing Utah's wildest places through "gradual attrition." This is the first publication of Redrock Wilderness since Sen. Robert Bennett (R-UT) proposed wide-ranging legislation for the public lands in Washington County in southwestern Utah. In the face of that proposal and of our efforts to protect the stunning Zion-Mojave proposed wilderness, Wayne Owens's counsel is profoundly relevant.

The Bennett package bears the formal title, "The Washington County Growth and Conservation Act of 2006." In the interests of both brevity and accuracy, we will simply call it "the County Commissioners' proposal." The commissioners wrote it and they wrote it specifically to benefit real estate developers whose goals they share: to ensure that metastatic growth in Washington County is not slowed by either a lack of land or a lack of water. They wrote it, too, to reflect their abiding antipathy to wilderness.

Little wilderness, no end to sprawl

Simply stated, the County Commissioners' bill would leave unprotected and at serious risk much of the region's deserving wilderness. Simultaneously, it would turn over tens of thousand of acres of public land for private development, road building, and pipelines. Washington County scarcely needs incentives for development. A decade of explosive population growth has turned a once rural desert community into the nation's fifth fastest-growing urban area, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The tentacles of sprawl reach for miles in all directions from the City of St. George. Traffic jams now snarl roads that were only recently sparsely traveled. Just 30 years ago, the county housed just 14,000 residents; 125,000 people live there now and their numbers are expected to reach 600,000 30 years hence.

But the enterprising county commissioner doesn't leave a bonanza like that to chance. He takes steps. The first one is to engineer a process that leaves no doubt as to its outcome.



Ray Bloxham

Below the wilderness of Scarecrow Peak, a sweeping desert vista unfolds.

The process

In their frantic defense of the growth proposal, the County Commissioners, associated water developers and others, boast of the benign process from which Bennett's proposal emerged. That is an effort to give the lopsided scheme a phony veneer of balance and broad support. The process began in 2004 when Olene Walker, then governor of Utah, convened a group of what we must invariably -call "stakeholders" to discuss public lands issues facing Washington County. SUWA and other conservation representatives were invited and we attended.

After only a handful of meetings in the county the so-called "stakeholder" meetings ended abruptly in December 2004. Meetings continued, of course, but outside the public eye and without conservationists there to represent the very stakeholders whose public lands were being bargained for. All that remained were a select group of self-interested locals.

With irksome conservationists out of the way, the County Commissioners got down to the serious business of carving up the American people's public estate for purely local gain. The public didn't see the County Commissioners' proposal until Bennett released it to the media on March 22. Foul processes

features

rarely produce fair results. This one is as bad as you would expect it to be.

Wilderness as window dressing

“Conservation” takes second billing to “growth” in the proposal’s title and it is evident why. The proposal claims to designate over 220,000 acres of wilderness. At first blush, the acreage doesn’t seem terribly askew, considering that America’s Red Rock Wilderness Act proposes wilderness protection for just over 300,000 acres of the Zion-Mojave lands within Washington County. But this is a numbers game and meant to deceive. “Figures don’t lie...” is only half of the old maxim.

If you take a closer look (and the County Commissioners desperately hope you won’t) you will see that 120,000 of the 220,000 acres proposed for wilderness are lands within Zion National Park. To be sure, those lands are magnificent and fully deserving of wilderness designation. But they already enjoy a certain level of protection by virtue of their being in a national park and they are already off-limits to developers. Park lands are included in the Commissioners’ proposal purely to inflate the total, to make it seem fair, balanced and responsible and to divert attention from what is not included in the proposal.

By the latter analysis, the only fair one, what is not in the bill is fully two-thirds of the Zion-Mojave proposed wilderness. In fact, none of the Mojave Desert itself would gain any protection in the county’s proposal. By this reckoning, the bill is flatly atrocious.



Ray Bloxham

A rippled rock formation in the Square Top proposed wilderness.

The wretched rest of the story

It takes very little time to describe the wilderness portion of the County Commissioners proposal because there is so tragically little of it. The heart of the scheme, and the legislation’s real intent, is found in the section entitled “Land Disposal.” Under the county’s proposal, as much as 25,000 acres of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land in Washington County would be sold off to the highest bidder. More simply: land that is now public and meant to be managed for the benefit of all of us, would be sold at the request of local politicians and for the financial gain of the developers they so slavishly represent. More simply still: your land is their land.

Which lands will go to the auction block? We do not know. We only know that the County Commissioners have the power to select them. The proposal also calls for Washington County government and water developers to take a 10 percent slice of the take from the sale of our lands. The total would surely run into the millions, perhaps billions—impossible to say without knowing which lands the county would choose.

After local greed is satiated, the remaining funds would help offset government expenditures and local projects in the county. The consequence of enacting a plan like this is to create a dangerous incentive to sell our public lands to provide for immediate budget needs. It’s not a new idea. Rep. Richard Pombo (R-CA) has proposed it and so has President Bush in his plan to sell off public lands to offset a gargantuan budget deficit. Congress rose up in opposition to those resoundingly bad ideas. The Washington County Commissioners’ proposal threatens to achieve the same end but under the radar, by cynically advertising it as a wilderness package.

Sell the best, scar the rest

While the land disposal plan calls for the dismantling of our public lands parcel by parcel, other sections propose actions that will leave lasting scars across long reaches of public land. The County Commissioners call for miles and miles of corridors across public lands for roads, pipelines and other utilities. Arranged across a map, the proposed utility corridors resemble a pile of pickup-sticks jutting every which way. It’s impossible to tell from maps now available which corridors would be new, which already exist.

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Washington County Fact vs. Fiction

The Washington County Water Conservancy District (WCWCD) played a central role in the development of the language for the Washington County Growth and Conservation Act of 2006. Predictably, the conservancy district stands to receive a substantial amount of land and a large chunk of the proceeds from the sale of public lands if the bill is passed in its current form.

With such riches so nearly within its grasp, it is no surprise that the district praises the legislation in a slideshow on its website. Let's take a look at some of the claims this slideshow makes.

Fiction: The Washington County Growth bill promotes conservation.

Fact: Sure, and road-rage promotes traffic safety. What the bill promotes is Washington County growth: that's its name; that's its purpose. The bill decreases the amount of open space in the county by selling off 40 square miles of undeveloped public lands. And it actually rolls back protection for some land now managed as wilderness and threatens thousands more acres that ought to be managed as wilderness.

Fiction: Only 15 percent of the funds from the sale of public lands goes towards local purposes, whereas fully 85 percent of the proceeds are directed toward federal projects.

Fact: Fifteen percent is only a down payment. Of the money for "local purposes," the district gets the largest chunk and stands to make millions. The bill could potentially funnel up to a half billion dollars to the WCWCD to fund growth projects for Washington County, including a pipeline from Lake Powell to water more growth. Further, the County Commissioners' bill includes 48 separate directives for spending federal proceeds from the land sales on local Washington County projects beyond the 15 percent the locals take off the top.

Fiction: Some lands proposed as wilderness by "special interest" groups are not included in this bill, but they could be made wilderness sometime in the future.

Fact: If this isn't just a subterfuge, why not designate those lands now? The bill leaves unprotected over 70 percent of the most threatened wilderness-quality lands in the county. These lands will remain at the mercy of two real special interests: the County Commissioners and the water district, both addicted to sprawl and its payoff. The bill gives the county the option of choosing some of the undesignated wilderness lands for the auction block. It specifies utility and pipeline corridors that could damage the wilderness qualities of other lands and directs the Bureau of Land Management to develop an off-road vehicle trail system that could destroy even more. More than half of the lands the bill would designate as wilderness in this bill our already protected lands in Zion National Park; a large percentage of the remaining new wilderness is already managed as wilderness.

Fiction: Public lands will be sold and developed under strict standards, guided by a county-wide planning process.

Fact: Not very strict and not very public! The bill specifically bypasses strict federal standards for land sale which serve to protect environmental resources and ensure public participation. The bill grants the county the right to choose which lands are sold, effectively silencing any public voice in decisions about which lands to protect, which to peddle. A county-wide growth planning process is just getting underway, and will likely take years to produce a strategic plan. The water district wants this legislation passed long before that.

Fiction: If the bill becomes law, supporters of wilderness would lose nothing.

Fact: We stand to lose everything that deserves to be protected as wilderness but is left out of this bill. If it becomes law, this bill will be a massive steroid injection for Washington County growth. That will severely threaten hundreds of thousands of acres of land left unprotected and most susceptible.

—Justin Allegro

features

Not surprisingly, the proposal also elevates off-road vehicles (ORVs) to exalted status. It would direct the BLM to create an off-road vehicle trail system throughout the county. No other form of recreation is given such deference in the proposal: there is no requirement to plan recreational opportunities for hikers, equestrians, backpackers, hunters or anglers. The Commissioners demand that the BLM move ahead on this, even though the agency is already seven years behind in its planned schedule for managing the ORV use that is already occurring in the county.

Another vision for the Zion-Mojave

Even with all the development that has already occurred in southwestern Utah, visitors and residents alike can still find solitude and natural beauty. In the wild, open areas of Washington County, redrock formations and Joshua trees are a constant reminder that this corner of Utah is blessed with wild places that deserve protection. Desert tortoises still plod along the Mojave Desert's dry lowlands. Peregrine falcons, bald and golden eagles still soar above the deep canyons of Zion National Park.

The vision for protecting those treasures is best articulated in America's Red Rock Wilderness Act, sponsored in the House of Representatives by Rep. Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) as H.R. 1774, and in the Senate by Sen. Dick Durbin (D-IL) as S. 882. The magnificent proposed wilderness lands in southwestern Utah, collectively known as the Zion-Mojave proposed wilderness, are a critical part of the Red Rock Wilderness Act's 9.5-million-acre whole.

Wayne Owens was among the best friends redrock wilderness ever had, and certainly the pre-eminent home-grown one. It is impossible to overstate the gulf between Owens's vision for his state and what the Washington County Commissioners seem so hungry to achieve. This is a perfect time to remember the serious warning Owens gave us: If we do not deliberately protect our wildest places, we will gradually, but surely, lose them. It's a good time, too, to recall the hope embedded in his message. He reminded us that, as citizens, we have the wisdom to choose to preserve the solitude and natural beauty of Utah and the power to make it happen. And that will make all the difference.

—Pete Downing

County Residents Speak Out about Bennett's Land Proposal

The following statements are excerpted from letters to the editor of the *St. George Spectrum*.

"If you have traveled to Washington County recently, you know that the place we knew and loved from a few years ago is no more. The area is hardly distinguishable from the urban sprawl of the L.A. Basin or Las Vegas. How does it benefit the public to expedite this growth by offering development inducements from any source, let alone proceeds from sale of public land?"

Catherine Smith
Kaysville, Utah

"The proposed Washington County Growth and Conservation Act of 2006 appears to me to just cover growth at the expense of conservation. Conservation is mentioned, but it appears to be more in word than in deed."

Ray Urbaniak
Hurricane, Utah

"I'm afraid the current draft is skewed toward developers and would fuel growth and fail to adequately protect the wilderness and wildlife. Because of its importance and far-reaching effects, it only seems reasonable that more public input should be sought before the bill is finalized."

G. Scott Hansen
St. George, Utah

"Perhaps, at last, the sleeping giant of Washington County residents who have concerns about how the commissioners are handling our public lands are becoming involved in making their voices heard."

Nina Fitzgerald
LaVerkin, Utah

DC news

Colorado River Land Exchange Gets Hearing in Senate

A constant threat to America's Red Rock Wilderness Act is the development of state-owned lands interspersed throughout federal public lands in Utah. SUWA continues to look for ways to prevent that development.

One alternative is exchanging these state lands for federal lands elsewhere. Sen. Robert Bennett (R-UT) and Rep. Chris Cannon (R-UT) have offered legislation that would advance this goal for lands around Moab, Utah, along the Colorado River corridor: the Utah Recreational Land Exchange Act (S. 2788). The bill was well-received in a May 24 hearing before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. The equivalent panel in the House, the Resources Committee, heard the bill last year.

The legislation would authorize a land trade between the state, in the form of the School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA), and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The public would get 40,000 acres of key conservation and recreation lands along the Colorado River, much of it within areas proposed for wilderness. SITLA would get a roughly equal amount of BLM land in nearby Grand and Uintah Counties, land with little conservation value but with potential for commercial development.

Bennett spoke to the Senate committee on behalf of his bill. Also testifying were representatives of the BLM and SITLA and a spokesperson for a conservation organization. SUWA submitted written testimony to the Committee calling for strong protections of the deserving wilderness lands affected by the legislation.

SUWA supports federal acquisition of state land within the units proposed for wilderness in America's Red Rock Wilderness Act (H.R. 1774/S. 882), but would like to see clarification of some important issues in this exchange. Among other things, there is still no map of lands to be exchanged. In its testimony, SUWA also encouraged stronger

provisions in the bill to protect public lands from the damaging impacts of oil and gas leasing and development.

The Utah Recreational Land Exchange act still has a way to go before passage. The next step will likely come this summer in the form of a mark-up of the bill in the House Resources Committee. Action in the full House of Representatives would follow.

—Justin Allegro, Kate Gallen

Kempthorne's In: A New Face, but Will It Be a New Day?

Dirk Kempthorne's chief task as the new secretary of the interior is to resurrect his department's long tradition of responsible stewardship of the public lands. That guiding philosophy has been seriously breached only twice, during the dismal Reagan years and again during the tenure of Gale Norton, the person Mr. Kempthorne succeeds.

—New York Times editorial, June 13, 2006

It's difficult to consider the new Interior Secretary without referring to his immediate predecessor. Perhaps SUWA literature over the last 6 years has mentioned no single person as much as it has Gale Norton. As Interior Secretary, she was the Bush administration's unobtrusive instrument for the reckless push to develop energy on public lands. She was the author of policies to limit the designation and management of wilderness and to legitimize dirt tracks as highway rights-of-ways across western public lands.

Understandably, in her wake we have serious concerns about the man President Bush chose to replace her, former U.S. Senator and Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne. The Senate confirmed him in late May with little controversy.

Although he has pledged "to be a responsible steward of the land and the natural resources with which our nation has been blessed," his environmental record and his ties to industry inspire little hope. The League of Conservation Voters gave

D C news

Kempthorne an environmental rating of 1 percent as an Idaho Senator from 1992 to 1998. (No one's perfect, apparently, not even perfectly awful.)

He sought to weaken the original Endangered Species Act in 1997 when he sponsored the Endangered Species Recovery Act (ESRA), which exempted from judicial review Recovery Implementation Plans for various threatened animals. He served for a time as executive vice-president of the Idaho Home Builders' Association, an organization that never saw a clear-cut it wasn't crazy about. Then as governor, Kempthorne was instrumental in implementing the deadly Healthy Forest Initiative in Idaho.

Still, during his confirmation hearings, Kempthorne openly criticized President Bush's proposal to sell public lands to pay down the national debt, asserting that he was against selling off lands if the profit "is specifically and strictly for deficit reduction." While this is a welcome, if somewhat conditional, pledge, the proof of his commitment is yet to come. About one thing, though, we can be relatively and depressingly sure: Kempthorne will not interrupt the disastrous drive to lease more and more treasured public land to the oil and gas industry. In his every utterance, he has made it clear that he places the highest priority on increasing domestic oil production. In this administration, that can only mean more leasing of sensitive areas and more handouts to the energy industry.

The *New York Times* editorial spoke to that issue:

Conservationists do not dispute the need to look for oil and gas. The question is where... At issue, really, are scraps of land, places the Wilderness Society once called "too wild to drill." What's being asked for is a measured approach honoring the claims of nature generally and of these rare landscapes in particular.

That captures SUWA's view. We can't know how Kempthorne will manage the nation's rich patrimony of wilderness-quality lands. But we can be sure that his actions will have a lasting affect on our natural heritage, for good or ill.

—Justin Allegro, Kate Gallen

America's Redrock Wilderness Act Needs Your Help

The current battle to protect the Zion-Mojave wilderness of southwestern Utah highlights the importance of our ongoing campaign to build congressional support for America's Red Rock Wilderness Act. To date in the 109th Congress, 160 U.S. representatives and 14 U.S. senators have endorsed this visionary proposal to protect more than 9 million acres of BLM wilderness throughout the state of Utah.

Wilderness advocates play an absolutely essential role in the advancement of this important legislation by contacting their Senators and Representatives in support of its passage. You can help, too, by urging your legislators to cosponsor America's Red Rock Wilderness Act today, or by thanking them if they already have (see opposite page for a list of current cosponsors).

Help Us Build Congressional Support for America's Red Rock Wilderness Act!

Write Your Legislators at:

The Honorable [Representative's name]
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable [Senator's name]
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

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To find out who your Members of Congress are go to www.congress.org

**H.R. 1774, Sponsored by
Rep. Maurice Hinchey
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160 House Cosponsors**

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(as of June 26, 2006)

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Frank LoBiondo, R-02

New Mexico

Tom Udall, D-03

New York

Timothy H. Bishop, D-01
Steve Israel, D-02
Carolyn McCarthy, D-04
Gary L. Ackerman, D-05
Gregory W. Meeks, D-06
Joseph Crowley, D-07
Jerrold Nadler, D-08
Anthony D. Weiner, D-09
Edolphus Towns, D-10
Major R. Owens, D-11
Nydia M. Velazquez, D-12
Carolyn B. Maloney, D-14
Charles B. Rangel, D-15
Jose E. Serrano, D-16
Eliot L. Engel, D-17
Nita M. Lowey, D-18
Sue Kelley, R-19
Michael R. McNulty, D-21
Brian Higgins, D-27
Louise McIntosh Slaughter, D-28

North Carolina

G.K. Butterfield, D-01
David Price, D-04
Brad Miller, D-13

Ohio

Ted Strickland, D-06
Marcy Kaptur, D-09
Dennis J. Kucinich, D-10
Stephanie Tubbs Jones, D-11
Sherrod Brown, D-13
Timothy J. Ryan, D-17

Oregon

David Wu, D-01
Earl Blumenauer, D-03
Pete DeFazio, D-04
Darlene Hooley, D-05

Pennsylvania

Robert Brady, D-01
Chaka Fattah, D-02
Tim Holden, D-17

Rhode Island

Patrick Kennedy, D-01
James Langevin, D-02

South Carolina

John Spratt, D-05
James E. Clyburn, D-06

Tennessee

Jim Cooper, D-05
Bart Gordon, D-06
Harold Ford Jr., D-09

Texas

Al Green, D-9
Silvestre Reyes, D-16
Sheila Jackson-Lee, D-18
Charles A. Gonzalez, D-20
Lloyd Doggett, D-25
Gene Green, D-29
Eddie Bernice Johnson, D-30

Virginia

James Moran, D-08
Rick Boucher, D-09

Virgin Islands

Donna Christensen, D-VI

Washington

Jay Inslee, D-01
Rick Larsen, D-02
Brian Baird, D-03
Norman D. Dicks, D-06
Jim McDermott, D-07
Adam Smith, D-09

Wisconsin

Tammy Baldwin, D-02
Gwen Moore, D-04

**S. 882, Sponsored by
Sen. Richard Durbin (D-IL)
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To find out who
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www.congress.org

canyon country updates

Factory Butte Working Group Disbands

For nearly a decade, SUWA has been arguing for sensible management of off-road vehicles (ORVs) in the Factory Butte area and has been directly involved with the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Richfield personnel in that effort.

We've urged the BLM to do nothing more exotic than to follow its own management plan. That plan recognized that motorized use around this southern Utah landmark contributed to resource damage and went on to pledge that the agency would start managing ORVs to rectify the situation.

Among other things, the management plan committed the BLM to begin monitoring the area's visual, vegetation and soil resources, as well as the cross-country vehicle use that had begun to increase around Factory Butte and its surrounding landscape. Plan or no plan, the agency began no reliable or detailed monitoring of the area until nearly two decades after the fact.

If that is surprising, this is astonishing: previous BLM managers even told a federal judge that agency staff monitored ORV use and the state of the area's resources as they drove between Hanksville and Richfield along Highway 24 (at 65 mph, if you please!). Despite this highly sophisticated wind-shield monitoring, the BLM's Richfield office has

dragged its feet, refusing to undertake any of the ORV management actions this remarkable badland complex so urgently needs.

After inaction, collaboration

Last year, the BLM initiated a collaborative working group through the Utah State Resource Advisory Council (RAC) and gave it the engaging name, "Factory Butte RAC Subgroup." SUWA was an active participant in this subgroup, too, along with the Friends of Factory Butte, commissioners from Wayne and Sevier Counties, and representatives from the Utah RAC and some ORV groups and others.

The subgroup met every three weeks over a nine-month period, often on the ground at Factory Butte, all to understand the issues and resources associated with Factory Butte and the badlands. Emotions flared from time to time, and SUWA's representative had to endure the kinds of negative comments the organization earns by doing its job very well. But in the main, the meetings were cordial. Participants were able to work through all the necessary background information.

If collaboration means anything, it means the coming together of disparate interests, ideally with some shared goals (the integrity of a natural resource, for example) to consider the same set of facts and, through civil give-and-take, look for mutually acceptable solutions to a problem. That's the ideal. The reality for the Factory Butte subgroup was a very different thing. Towards the end of the series of meetings, when it was time to find workable solutions for off-road vehicle management in the Factory Butte area, some participants—notably the county commissioners and the ORV representatives—wouldn't budge. They refused to accept the notion of ANY management of ORVs, never mind any limits on them. They offered no solutions, retreating again and again to the position they brought to the process: "It's all got to be open." They adamantly refused even to consider some locations where motorized use would be limited to designated roads and trails. If anything, they backtracked from their opening positions and began to demand that even more sensitive locations be opened to cross-country travel.



©Ray Wheeler

The iconic Factory Butte: still a battleground in the access vs. excess debate over off-road vehicles.

canyon country updates

Sad, but sadly predictable

The avowed purpose of the working group was to determine whether cross-country vehicle use should continue in the Factory Butte area and, if so, where could it occur without adverse impacts on resources. Yet not everyone at the table was there in search of reasonable solutions

We can fairly say that SUWA made a good-faith effort to remain open to discussion and to alternatives. In fact, SUWA proposed allowing a sizeable, well-defined area near Highway 24 to be managed as an open ORV area. This “open” area would take in the location of the majority of the current motorized use in the area. The alternative would preserve the remaining Factory Butte landscape for its aesthetics and other unique resources. We found no takers.

SUWA attended every Factory Butte RAC Subgroup meeting. Certainly, we never backed away from our insistence on protecting the area’s resources. But we were also willing to discuss a range of management options. The motorized community and the local elected officials quite simply were not. We wonder why they came to meeting after meeting when they had no intention of saying anything but “open it all,” though other participants were pursuing solutions in good faith?

The final step in the process is for the Utah State RAC to give its final recommendations, which are still being written, to the Richfield BLM office. We will continue to meet and work with BLM managers in the hope that we will finally achieve some badly needed management of off-road vehicle use in the Factory Butte area.

—Ray Bloxham

While SUWA was not entirely pleased with the plan, we decided to support the BLM’s efforts to manage ORVs in the San Rafael Swell and so intervened on behalf of the agency to defend the plan. The plan was finally about 11 years overdue: The agency was required to complete it in 1992 but didn’t actually finish it until 2003. It designated over 600 miles of trails as open to motorized vehicle use and closed around 460 miles to such use.

The IBLA issued its lengthy opinion in April 2006, definitively rejecting all the appellants’ claims, including specific complaints about the BLM’s decision to close several individual routes (including June’s Bottom, Muddy Creek, and Segers Hole) and more general complaints that BLM staff were biased against ORV interests.

We’re not entirely out of the woods on the legality of the San Rafael Plan. Many of the same people who filed the IBLA appeal have also brought a case in federal district court challenging the plan. SUWA, The Wilderness Society, and the Sierra Club have intervened on behalf of the BLM in the federal court case as well.

—Steve Bloch

Good News!

Land Appeals Board Upholds San Rafael Route Designation Plan

The Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA) has upheld the Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM) San Rafael Route Designation Plan, denying an appeal that several off-road-vehicle users and one ORV group filed against it.



Ray Bloxham

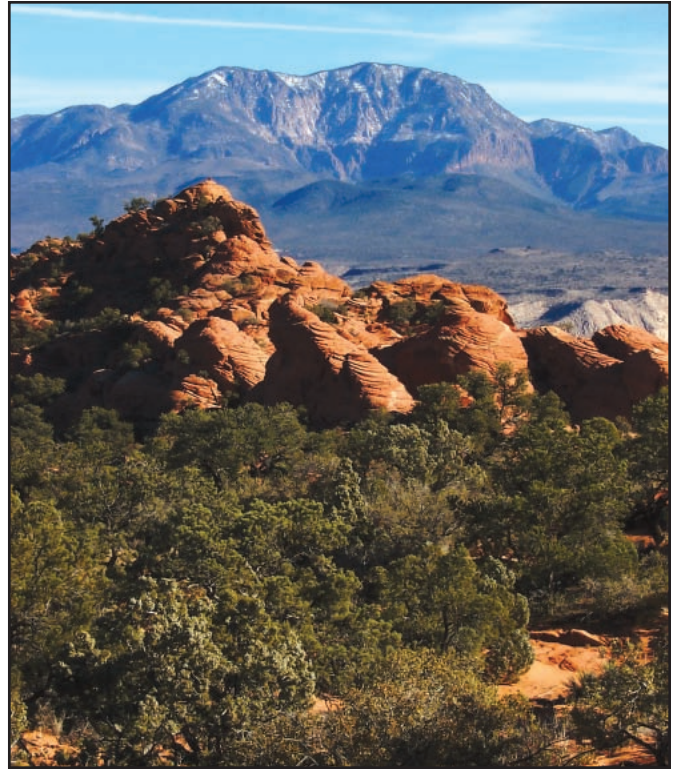
The BLM’s decision to protect Segers Hole (pictured above) and other areas from ORV damage was recently upheld by the Interior Board of Land Appeals.

Utah's Zion-Mojave Wilderness . . .



Canaan Mountain proposed wilderness.

©Lin Alder



Red Mountain proposed wilderness (foreground).

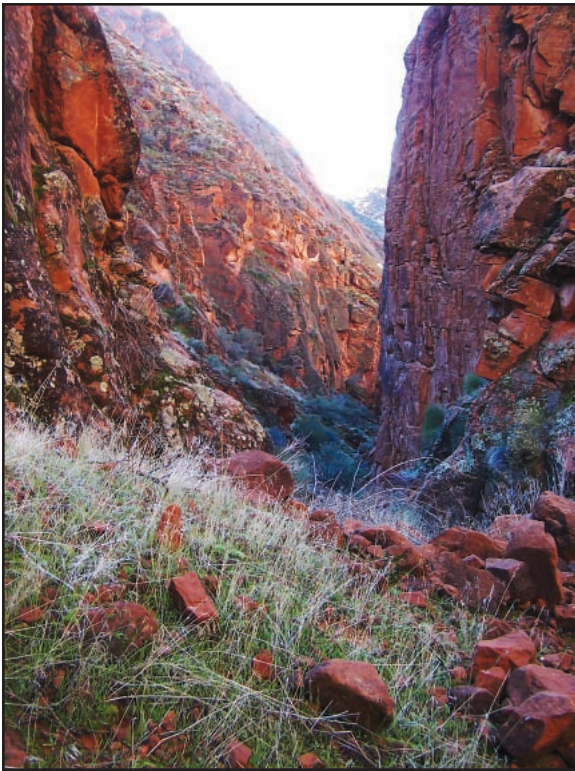
Jen Jackson



Square Top proposed wilderness.

Ray Bloxham

... A Treasure Worth Protecting.



Cottonwood Canyon proposed wilderness. ©Jeremy Franchow



Beaver Dam Wash proposed wilderness.

Ray Bloxham



Square Top proposed wilderness.

©Jared Anderson



Canaan Mountain proposed wilderness.

©Lin Alder



Dry Creek proposed wilderness.

Ray Bloxham

canyon country updates

BLM Holds Largest Lease Sale in Utah History

In May 2006, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) held the largest oil and gas lease sale in Utah history, whether measured by acres or by the total number of parcels up for sale. The BLM offered many parcels that the agency had previously deferred because of environmental conflicts, notably those near Nine Mile Canyon and along the Labyrinth Canyon stretch of the Green River.

Other significant places on the auction block at this sale were 18 leases near Capitol Reef National Park's world-renowned Cathedral Valley (including two leases that adjoin the park's boundary) and two leases along the San Juan River just east of the town of Bluff. In addition, BLM offered 110 leases in proposed "areas of critical environmental concern" (ACECs) and 76 leases in areas that BLM itself acknowledges have, or are likely to have, wilderness character. In short, the scope of this lease sale was truly breathtaking, and, in case anyone had any doubts, an unmistakable indication of just how far the BLM will go to further this administration's industry-driven policies.

The agency received protests from a SUWA-led

coalition of conservation groups (SUWA, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, The Wilderness Society, and Natural Resources Defense Council). In addition, a number of outfitters who lead trips on the Green and San Juan Rivers protested the BLM's decision to sell several leases along those routes.

In what must count as an act of courage in the current climate, the superintendent of Capitol Reef National Park specifically asked the BLM to take several steps to protect park resources from the impacts of oil and gas development, including no-surface occupancy stipulations for the two parcels immediately adjacent to the park.

The BLM did not include the requested stipulations, opting to rely on unenforceable "lease notices" to answer the Park Service's concerns.

Once the BLM officially denies our protest, we'll review that denial and assess the options for other challenges to the lease sale.

—Steve Bloch

To view related documents and for more information on SUWA's oil and gas campaign, visit our website at www.suwa.org.



Ray Bloxham

Labyrinth Canyon on the Green River: still on the BLM's auction block for oil and gas leasing.

canyon country updates

Interior Distorts Troubling Court Decision into New Roads Policy

Gone she may be, but Gale Norton's 6-year stint as Interior Secretary will linger in a long and destructive half-life. During her tenure, Norton toiled tirelessly to slice, dice and eviscerate our wild public lands. One of her favorite tools was the outdated law known as RS 2477. She interpreted that ancient law to mean that every cow trail and two-track in the American West deserved—to be destined!—to be a highway. In her last action as secretary, Norton issued a new policy directive that makes that result far easier to achieve for eager local road builders greedily eyeing sensitive public lands.

The Norton policy manifesto deliberately misinterprets a Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals decision from last fall. Claiming the courts made her do it, Norton directed federal agencies to assume that a claim to an RS 2477 right-of-way may be valid even if it has not been proven in court. This means that federal agencies are more likely to turn an even blinder eye to unauthorized road building, and they weren't exactly diligent in confronting those intrusions in the first place. Further, should an agency actually muster the spine to challenge an RS 2477 right-of-way claim, the new Norton policy offers the claimant a much lower burden of proof than a court would demand.

What concerns us most about Norton's new policy is that it casually scuttles an agreement she reached with former Utah Gov. Mike Leavitt. There was little to love in that bargain, but it did prevent the state from pursuing RS 2477 claims in Wilderness Study Areas, Wilderness, National Parks, or National Wildlife Refuges. The new policy dumps these sensitive lands squarely back into the path of the bulldozers and leaves them, once again, at the mercy of rural counties' fevered dreams: a world without wild country, safe for dirt bikes and development.

In our last newsletter, we tried to lay out what the Tenth Circuit decision does and does not do, says and does not say (Straight Talk on RS 2477, Spring 2006). The *Salt Lake Tribune* agreed with our analysis in a recent editorial lambasting Norton's disingenuous claim that the circuit court decision required Interior

Department action. No, it didn't, the *Tribune* editorial correctly stated: "...the court ruling did not require any change in Interior policy and clearly stated that federal courts should decide road claims."

Six Senate Democrats, led by Dianne Feinstein of California, wrote in mid-April to then acting-Interior Secretary Lynn Scarlett and nominee Dirk Kempthorne, now in place as secretary, asking that the policy order be reconsidered. Like many editorial boards throughout the West, the senators disputed both the premise—that the circuit court called for a new policy—and the content of the directive Ms. Norton imposed before she scurried out the door.

SUWA will continue to fight fraudulent right-of-way claims across our most sensitive public lands. The Norton policy was designed to make our job even more difficult and it surely will.

—Justin Allegro



Angela Harper

Under current Interior Department policy, even lands within our national parks, monuments, and wildlife refuges—including sections of this popular hiking trail in Utah's Bryce Canyon National Park—aren't safe from spurious RS 2477 claims.

wilderness spotlight

Exploring Utah's Cedar Mountains Wilderness

As I hike up a slope dotted with juniper trees, the ridges of the Cedar Mountains Wilderness flow to the horizon. Ravens, magpies, and hawks fly overhead. The sun touches the crests of the mountains, which have a trace of snow. There is a stunning view of the Stansbury Mountains to the east, clouds pass over and snow paints the far horizon.

I am alone on the ridge and haven't seen another human since leaving the paved road. It is March and I've brought my skis, hoping to put tracks on the ridges. But with only a trace of snow, the skis are left behind and instead I spend the afternoon hiking the ridges. On a quiet peak, I stop and do T'ai Chi Chuan as the sun peaks out from the clouds skimming across the mountain tops. The views are breathtaking. I am entranced by the wildness and wonder of the Stansbury Range, which I first explored 45 years ago with my father.

Utahns should celebrate this wonderful addition to the National Wilderness Preservation System. SUWA and the other organizations of the Utah Wilderness Coalition that worked for this deserve much credit; the remaining Utah lands identified as having wilderness character should be permanently protected,

too. My home state of Alaska has 100 million acres of wilderness. We can protect all the wilderness that's left, and it still wouldn't be enough.

I'm no stranger to wild places. In 1996, I circumnavigated the Salt Lake Valley, following the ridgeline of the surrounding peaks and traversing the Wasatch Range to Heber City. Just five days ago, I accompanied two friends on a first ski traverse of two mountain ridges in Idaho. Five days from now, I'll be in a super cub, flying to a remote location in Interior Alaska. I have skied 700 miles from my home at Seward on the Pacific to the Yukon River. I will travel by ski to the Bering Sea. And yet, I find myself surprised by the wildness, beauty, and solitude of the Cedar Mountains Range.

As I am leaving the Cedar Mountains, I see three wild Mustangs: a black stallion, a white mare, and a black colt with a white diamond on its forehead. Though I've grown up riding horses in Utah and Wyoming, this is the first group of wild horses I've encountered. They are stunning as they race across the wide plain, manes flying. I come across four more wild horses before reaching the paved road.

Driving back to Salt Lake on busy I-80, I think about the growing metropolitan area of the Wasatch Front. There are now one million residents in the Salt Lake Valley. Yet, just two mountain ranges away is a wonderful wilderness that seems as wild and remote as places I've been in Alaska and beyond—Utah's Cedar Mountains.

—By **Jerry S. Dixon**,
SUWA Member

Jerry S. Dixon is a biologist and fifth generation Utahn. His first career was jumping from DC-3s across the wildlands of the West. He was a teacher for 30 years. Now he writes and traverses mountain ranges.

Editor's Note: This column provides a venue for readers to share stories about their own experiences in Utah's proposed wilderness areas. If you have a story to share (no more than 700 words please), send it to Newsletter Editor, SUWA, 425 East 100 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84111, and be sure to include your name and contact information.



Ray Bloxham

In January 2006, President Bush signed legislation designating 100,000 acres of wilderness in Utah's Cedar Mountains.

grassroots network

Field Organizers Extend SUWA's Grassroots Reach

This spring, SUWA has been fortunate to enlist the services of two dynamic field organizers, Clayton Daughenbaugh of Berwyn, IL, and Eileen Crawford of Seattle, WA.

Clayton has been working in his home state and in neighboring Wisconsin to build state networks on behalf of Utah wilderness, educate new groups about the issue, and expand an already-impressive roster of congressional supporters. He is a founder of the Illinois Utah Wilderness Task Force, and a former public lands field organizer for the Sierra Club. You can contact Clayton at claytonhd@ecoisp.com if you'd like to get involved.

Eileen was so motivated by her experience as a Wilderness Week volunteer in March that she jumped at the opportunity to work part-time in Washington State on behalf of Utah wilderness. Like Clayton, she's been hard at work organizing SUWA members and activists in the state, educating the public about threats to Utah wilderness, and enlisting support from outdoor-oriented organizations, church groups and others. Contact Eileen at eileen_crawford@msn.com

Many thanks to Clayton and Eileen!

Activists Highlight the Zion-Mojave

For three days last March, Washington, D.C., seemed to be awash with citizen lobbyists sporting bright yellow "Protect Wild Utah" buttons and carrying copies of a colorful booklet detailing the wilderness treasures of the Zion-Mojave region.

These 38 volunteers were part of the Utah Wilderness Coalition's annual Wilderness Week, which combined intensive training, three days of lobby visits to members of Congress and their staffs, a Congressional reception in one of the Senate's ornate conference rooms, as several other events—all on behalf of Utah's wilderness.

This year SUWA members and other activists from 12 states visited over 185 Congressional offices to



Utah wilderness activists at the Utah Wilderness Coalition's March 2006 Wilderness Week event in Washington, DC.

advocate for protection of the Zion-Mojave as part of America's Redrock Wilderness. They returned home to spread the word in their communities and to follow-up their lobby visits with calls and emails to their new contacts on the Hill.

Citizen lobbying is what makes the Utah wilderness movement strong, because it combines the credibility of informed activists with the passion of motivated constituents. As one Wilderness Week volunteer, Dan Endreson from Minneapolis, said, "This is hard work, but it's a blast!"

If you'd like to get involved in a future Wilderness Week, contact the Utah Wilderness Coalition at wildutah@xmission.com.

Join SUWA's Email Alert List

The best way to stay informed on breaking issues affecting Utah wilderness is to add your name to SUWA's electronic listserv.

If you have an email address and would like to be part of our "first responder" activist network, go to www.suwa.org/alertlist and fill out the online subscription form.

inside SUWA

Thank You SUWA Law Clerks

SUWA would like to thank our two law clerks, Tim Bywater and Rob Dubuc, for their work in helping our legal team push back against the Bush administration's seemingly inexorable drive to drill every acre of public land and allow motorized vehicles to churn through every wash bottom and single track trail in the state.

Tim volunteered for SUWA throughout the 2005-06 school year while he was third year student at the University of Utah College of Law. He came to us through the college's "pro bono initiative." Rob volunteered for SUWA over the summer of 2006 between his first and second year at the University of Utah College of Law.

SUWA will begin accepting applications in October 2006 for one or two summer 2007 law clerks. If you are interested, please send a cover letter, resume, writing sample, and two references to Steve Bloch, Staff Attorney, Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, 425 East 100 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111.



Rob Dubuc and his wife enjoying autumn in the Teton Mountains.

Savor the Success: A Cedar Mountains Wilderness Victory Celebration!

6:30 pm, Wednesday, August 23
Brewvies Cinema Pub
677 South 200 West, Salt Lake City

To celebrate Utah's new 100,000-acre Cedar Mountains Wilderness area, SUWA will host a "Savor the Success" party on Wednesday, August 23 at Brewvies Cinema Pub in Salt Lake City. This wonderful bi-partisan victory has almost quadrupled the amount of BLM wilderness in the state and marks the first designation of Utah wilderness in 22 years!

Come join fellow members, activists, and SUWA board and staff to mark this 22-years-in-the-making event with cold beverages, appetizers, and a special Utah wilderness presentation.

We will have a drawing for prizes and will offer a special SUWA membership discount to non-member attendees. Admittance is free but donations will be gratefully accepted.

Reception starts at 6:30 pm, followed by the presentation at 7 pm.
 Brewvies Cinema Pub is a tavern and attendees must be 21 years or older.

inside SUWA

A Fond Farewell to Slideshow Bob

Bob Brister represents a breed of activist that is hard to come by these days. He began organizing for peace in high school during the early 1970s and hasn't slowed down since (as Bob puts it, he's been an organizer "since time immemorial."). Bob has rallied citizen activists on peace, social justice, and environmental issues through the Carter, Reagan, Bush Sr., Clinton, and Bush, Jr. administrations. He is also the only wilderness activist persistent enough to have pulled off an official Wild Utah slideshow tour to Hawaii!

For the past 5 years, fueled mostly by potato chips and homemade chocolate chip cookies, Bob's been a tireless force for protecting Utah wilderness. The roughly 300 slideshow presentations Bob delivered during his tenure at SUWA—and the estimated 7,500 people he spoke to at those events—were instrumental in making BLM Wilderness in Utah a national issue. It is this same vision of a better world that now moves Bob to run for public office as the Green Party candidate for Utah's second congressional district.

It is rare in this country to meet someone who will sit in 100-degree heat for days on end to educate national park visitors about Utah wilderness, or drive through a Midwestern snowstorm to bring our *Wild Utah* slideshow to America's Heartland. But it's even rarer to meet someone who truly understands the power of bringing together a diverse group of people who share a common goal for the common good.

It is with deep gratitude and fond memories that we wish Bob Brister farewell. We all miss him (especially our office dog, Moxie, whom he lovingly spoiled). But we take comfort in the knowledge that his travels will never take him far from the redrock canyons of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, the sheer-walled escarpment of the Book Cliffs, or the wide open valleys of the West Desert—all places better known and loved because of his work.

On the road again

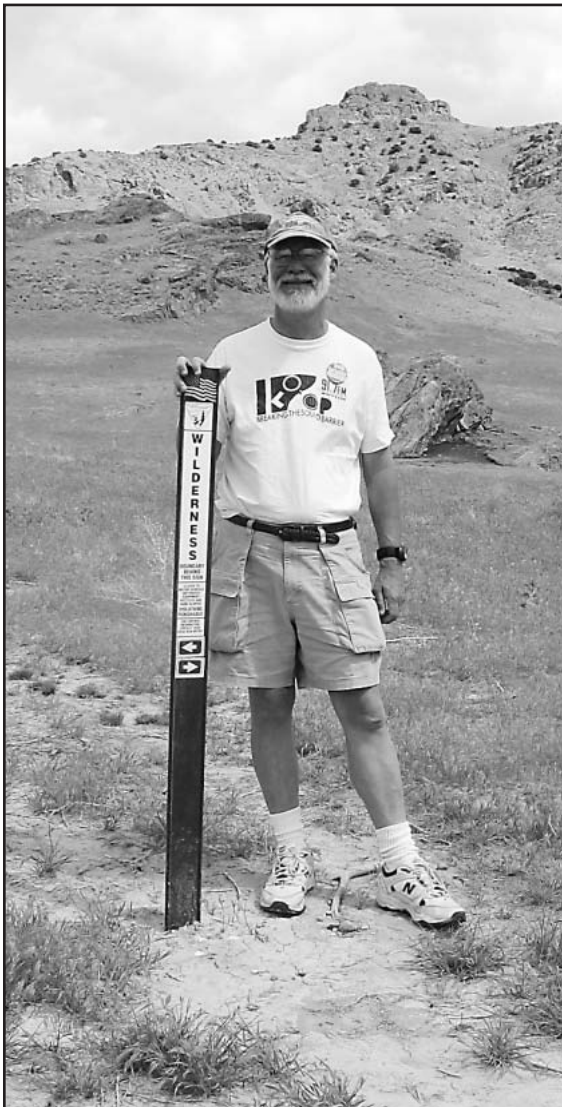
Going places that I've never been

Seeing things that I may never see again

And I can't wait to get on the road again.

—Willie Nelson

We'll see you around, partner!



Bob Brister stands at the boundary of Utah's newly designated Cedar Mountains Wilderness.

Get Paid to Protect Redrock Wilderness

SUWA is now hiring for multiple positions. For information on current job opportunities, please visit www.suwa.org and click on *About SUWA*.

inside SUWA**Join or Donate Today and Make a Difference!**

If you are already a member of SUWA, we thank you for your support! If you are not yet a member, please join today. Annual dues are just \$30, and, of course, additional donations are welcome and appreciated! SUWA is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization—so all contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

As a member of SUWA, you can rest assured that someone is always staying on top of the issues and doing whatever it takes to protect the wilderness lands that you love. At the same time, we make every effort to keep our members up-to-date on the latest threats—through our website, email alerts, action bulletins, phone banking, and our newsletter—so that you can stay informed and involved.

Ways to Give**Monthly Giving Program**

If you're looking for a convenient, hassle-free way to help SUWA, our monthly giving program is for you. Monthly giving is easy and secure, and provides SUWA with reliable, year-round funding to fight current and future attacks on Utah wilderness. All you need to do is commit to contributing \$10 or more per month, provide us with a credit or debit card or a cancelled check, and we'll do the rest. Best of all, you're off the hook for annual membership renewals! Use the enclosed envelope to sign up, or call us at (801) 486-3161 for more information.

Gifts of Cash

The most common way to support SUWA's efforts is simply to send us a check or donate with a credit card.

There are three ways to give:

- **Online:** donate with a credit card (VISA, MasterCard, or AMEX) through our secure website at www.suwa.org.
- **By Mail:** return the envelope included in this newsletter with check or credit card information to: SUWA, 425 East 100 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111.
- **By Phone:** call us at (801) 486-3161 with any questions or to make a credit card donation.

Some employers will match your donation to SUWA, doubling the amount of support you give to Utah wilderness. If your company or firm has a matching gift program, simply enclose the form along with your donation.

Gifts of Stock

You can give a meaningful gift to SUWA and gain a substantial tax advantage for yourself by giving stocks or mutual fund shares that have appreciated in value. For information on how to transfer stocks or mutual funds to SUWA's account, please contact Giles Wallace at giles@suwa.org or (801) 428-3971. In addition, please let us know the details of your transfer (your name and contact information, intended date of transfer, type of stock, and number of shares), so that we may promptly process and acknowledge your generous gift.

Gift Memberships and Honorary/Memorial Donations

Get your friends and family involved in the fight to protect Utah wilderness by giving them a gift membership or renewal. Or, honor a friend or loved one by donating to SUWA in their name. Keep us in mind for special occasions: birthdays, weddings, Christmas, and other holidays—there's no better gift than the gift of wilderness! Simply send us your name and address, along with the name and address of the recipient of the gift membership or honorary donation. Call us at (801) 486-3161 for more information.

Thank you for your support of SUWA and Utah wilderness!

Planned Giving: A Legacy of Support

SUWA has always valued the strength and commitment of our greatest asset: our members. Fully 80 percent of our funding comes from individual supporters, many of whom have been with us since SUWA was founded in 1983. Year after year, SUWA members—people like you—have continued to put their hearts and financial resources into the effort to permanently protect America’s redrock wilderness.

A number of our supporters have made an even greater commitment to SUWA, one that will leave a lasting legacy to Utah’s wild places, by including SUWA in their estate plans. This type of commitment, known as “planned giving,” refers to the designation of assets given upon death to a charitable organization of one’s choice.

Planned giving is an extremely important part of SUWA’s long-term financial picture. Legacy gifts from our members help to ensure sound financial footing and stability as our work moves forward from one generation to the next. Securing permanent protection for all of Utah’s remaining wilderness will take time and resources. A legacy gift through planned giving assures that we will have the time and the resources on our side.

For more information on planned giving, please visit www.suwa.org and click on Join or Give, then select Planned Giving. Planned gifts can be a great vehicle to gain tax advantages for your estate and heirs. We recommend that you meet with your estate attorney or financial advisor to decide which plan is best for you and your family.

If you are interested in making a planned gift to SUWA or have already included SUWA in your will or named our organization as a beneficiary of your trust, retirement plan, life insurance policy, or other estate gift, please contact Giles Wallace at giles@suwa.org or (801) 428-3971. We would love to recognize your deep commitment by welcoming you to our Redrock Society as a legacy donor.

Give Two Gift Memberships and Save \$10!

If you share a love of the outdoors with your friends, why not share your activism too? Gift memberships make wonderful gifts for birthdays and holidays. Simply mail in this order form with **\$50 for two memberships** (a \$10 savings) or **\$30 for one membership** and get your pals involved in the wilderness cause!

Gift Membership #1

From: _____
(your name)

To: _____
Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Gift Membership #2

From: _____
(your name)

To: _____
Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please make your check payable to SUWA or include credit card information below (VISA, MC, or AMEX):

Credit Card #: _____

Exp. date: _____ Amount: \$ _____

Mail form with payment in enclosed envelope to:

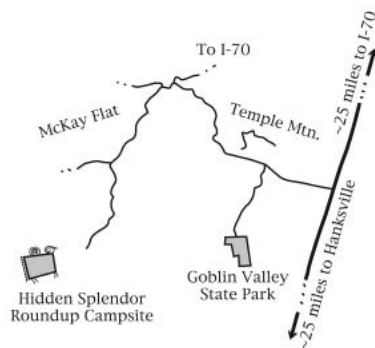
**SUWA, 425 E. 100 S.
Salt Lake City, UT 84111**

Join Us for the Fall 2006 SUWA Roundup

Fall is just around the corner, and so is SUWA's 2006 membership gathering at Hidden Splendor. Please join us from Friday, Oct. 6, to Sunday, Oct. 8, for another relaxing and rejuvenating weekend in Utah's canyon country.

Held in the heart of the San Rafael Swell, the SUWA Roundup offers our members and SUWA staff the opportunity to meet one another and to enjoy the beautiful Indian summer of redrock country with fellow desert rats from Utah and other states. Activities include a discussion of Utah wilderness issues with SUWA staff and board members, a potluck dinner, evening music around the campfire, and—best of all—guided day-hikes in our Muddy Creek proposed wilderness area. Sunday morning you'll awake to freshly brewed coffee followed by a hearty breakfast the SUWA staff will prepare in thanks for all your support and dedication.

If you plan to attend this year's Roundup, here's what you should bring: a potluck dish serving five people for Saturday evening (if you plan to eat with the group), your own food for Friday evening and Saturday breakfast and lunch, camping gear, plenty of drinking water (none is available on site), utensils, folding chairs, and, if you have them, lanterns and tables to share with the crowd. Feel free to bring your own musical instruments and favorite libations, too. For more information or to RSVP, contact Jeremy Christensen at (801) 428-3991 or jeremy@suwa.org.



Driving instructions to Hidden Splendor: From I-70, take Highway 24 about 25 miles south to the Goblin Valley exit. Turn west and follow the paved road past a spur road that goes south to Goblin Valley. The pavement ends in 1.3 miles. Continue west on the main road for 9.4 miles to a signed junction to I-70 and turn left. In 2.7 miles turn left again at the sign for Reds Canyon and McKay Flat. In 0.8 miles turn left at the McKay Flat sign. Follow the main road for 9 miles to the signed Hidden Splendor road. Proceed down this road for 9.8 miles to the old airstrip (our camp spot) above Muddy Creek.

Order a Copy of *America's Redrock Wilderness*

America's Redrock Wilderness: Protecting a National Treasure features stunning full-color photographs of Utah's threatened BLM wilderness lands and includes a black-and-white insert on the key issues affecting Utah's BLM lands today. Available only from SUWA and a few selected bookstores.

Please send me ____ copies of *America's Redrock Wilderness* at \$18 per copy (includes shipping).

Name: _____

Address: _____

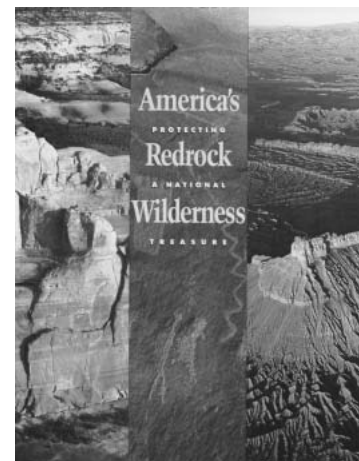
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please make check payable to SUWA, or include credit card information (VISA, MC or AMEX):

CC#: _____ Exp. date: _____

Amount: \$ _____

Mail form with payment in enclosed envelope to:
SUWA, 425 E. 100 S., Salt Lake City, UT 84111



America's Redrock Wilderness: 104 pages (56 pages color, 48 pages B/W); 9"x12," soft cover.

SUWA T-Shirts and Hats For Sale!

T-shirts are 100% organic cotton “Beneficial Ts” from Patagonia. Choose from several colors and styles, including a special women’s cut. Strikethrough indicates sizes that are currently out of stock. **NOTE:** White short sleeve Ts run very large. **Hats** include a baseball cap with SUWA logo (in two colors), plus a floppy hat and sun visor printed with the slogan “Protect Wild Utah.”

SUWA T-Shirts

Circle Choice(s)

Short Sleeve White, \$15	S M L XL	Qty _____
Short Sleeve Black, \$15	S M L XL	Qty _____
Women’s Cut White, \$15	S M L	Qty _____
Long Sleeve White, \$20	S M L XL	Qty _____
Long Sleeve Black, \$20	S M L XL	Qty _____

SUWA Hats

Circle Choice(s)

Baseball Cap, \$25	Sage or Chamois	Qty _____
Floppy Hat, \$20	Bright Yellow	Qty _____
Sun Visor, \$15	Bright Yellow	Qty _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please make check payable to SUWA or include credit card information (VISA, MC, AMEX). Prices include shipping & handling.

Credit Card #: _____

Exp. date: _____ Amount: \$ _____

Mail form with payment in enclosed envelope to:
SUWA, 425 E. 100 S., Salt Lake City, UT 84111



southern utah wilderness alliance

Artwork on back of short sleeve and long sleeve T-shirts. “SUWA” is printed in small lettering on front.



Organic cotton t-shirts are available in long sleeve, short sleeve, and women’s cut (with a smaller image on the front instead of back).



Floppy hats are available only in Yellow.



Baseball caps are available in Sage and Chamois (light beige).



Sun visors are available only in Yellow.

Thank You SUWA Business Members!

Listed here are businesses that support SUWA and Utah wilderness through our business member program. We encourage SUWA members around the country to reward these businesses with their patronage. For business member contact information, visit our website at www.suwa.org. If you own a business and care deeply about protecting Utah's remaining wilderness lands, please consider joining our business member program. For more information, contact Giles Wallace at (801) 428-3971 or giles@suwa.org.

SUWA Business Members in Utah...

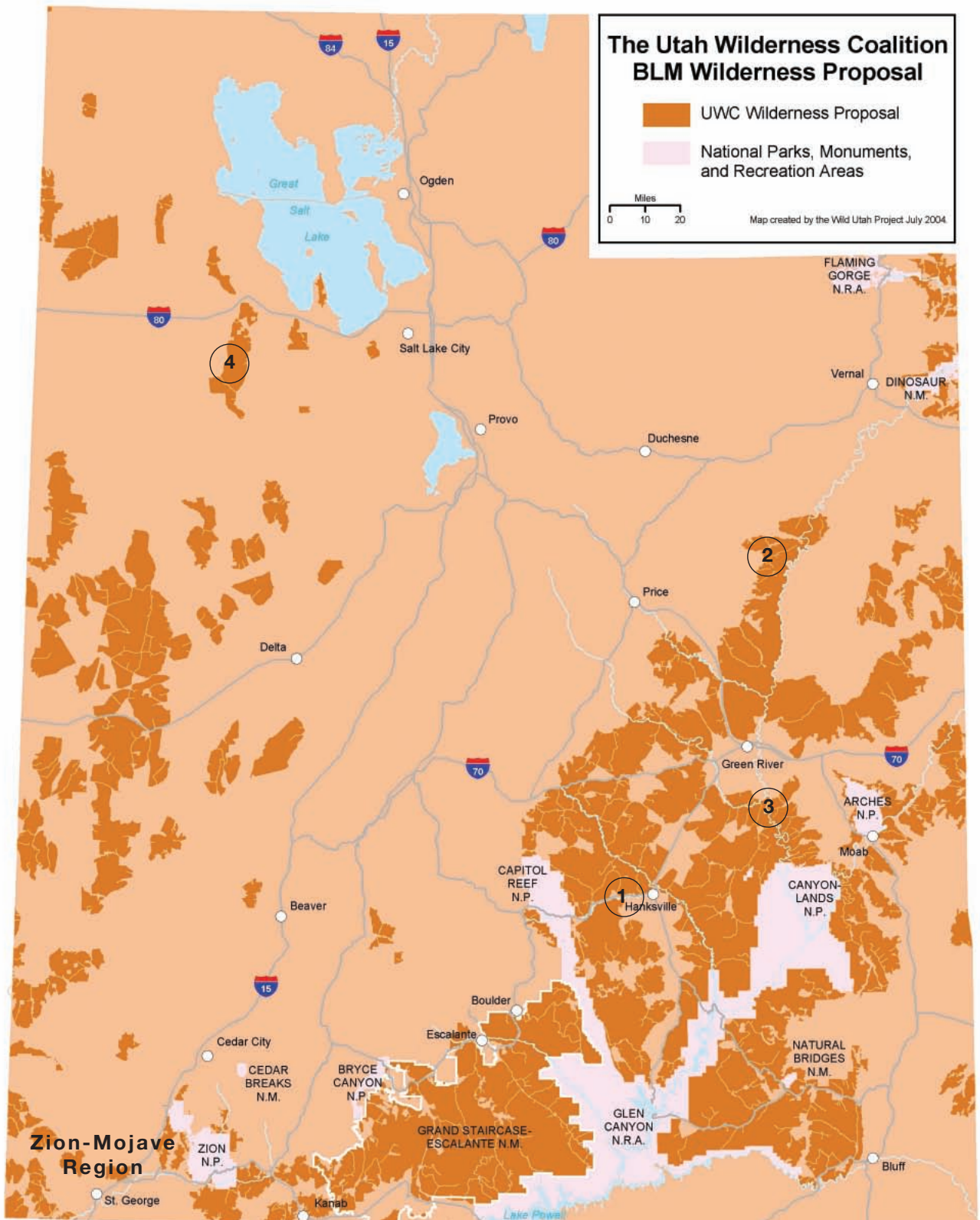
Avalanche Properties, Park City
Benstog Construction Corporation, Ogden
Black Diamond Equipment, S.L.C.
Boulder Mountain Lodge, Boulder
Brad M King Associates, Inc, Snowbird
Brennan and Shultz Painting LC, Park City
Bruce Hucko Photography, Moab
Calf Canyon Bed & Breakfast, Bluff
Canyon Voyages Adventure Company, Moab
Capitol Reef Inn & Cafe, Torrey
Carpathia Financial, LC, S.L.C.
Chris Noble Photography, S.L.C.
Cow Canyon Trading Post, Bluff
Dabney & Dabney PC, Saint George
Dammeron Corporation, Dammeron Valley
Deanna L. Rosen LCSW, S.L.C.
Desert Glass, Moab
Desert Highlights, Moab
Escalante Canyon Outfitters, Boulder
Faceplant, Heber City
Far Out Expeditions, Bluff
Fiddlesticks Celtic Folk Band, Orem
Floorshows, Inc, S.L.C.
Gigaplex, Oakley
Heindselmans Knit & Weaving, Provo
Horseshoe Mountain Pottery, Spring City
John O. Johnson CFP, S.L.C.
Lazy Lizard International Hostel, Moab
Lucky Dog Communications, S.L.C.
Manny Padro, Draper
Mazza, S.L.C.
Nichols Expeditions, Moab
Page Speiser LCSW PC, Provo
Parson Pottery, Eden
Passage to Utah, S.L.C.
Phil Triolo & Associates, S.L.C.
Rob Wathan Mortgage Specialist, S.L.C.
Salt Lake Roasting Company, S.L.C.
Sam Dunham, S.L.C.
Schneider Auto Karosserie, Inc, S.L.C.
Scott Smith Photographer, Logan
Spring Lake Publishing, Payson
Stephen Trimble Writer/Photographer, S.L.C.
Streamline Bodyworks, LLC, S.L.C.
Suzanne Storer Ceramic Forms, Ogden
Tesch Law Offices PC, Park City
Tom Till Gallery, Moab
Treasure Mountain Inn, Park City
Underwood Environmental, Inc, Park City
Utah Women's Digestive Health Center, S.L.C.
Valley of the Gods B&B, Mexican Hat
Walkabout Travel Gear LLC, Moab
Wasatch Touring, S.L.C.

Waterwise Design & Landscapes, LC, S.L.C.
With Gaia Design, Moab

...And Across the Country

Acupuncture Works, Boulder, CO
Advanced Media Strategies, Issaquah, WA
Andrew Donahue, Norwalk, CT
Argosy West Inc, Prescott, AZ
Aspen Grove Associates, Warsaw, NY
Baked In Telluride, Telluride, CO
Brown Bag Farms, Petaluma, CA
Capitola Book Cafe, Santa Cruz, CA
Cedar Mesa Music, West Hollywood, CA
Centerline Alfa Romeo, Boulder, CO
Chaco Sandals, Paonia, CO
Charles Cramer Photography, Santa Clara, CA
Classic Homeworks, Denver, CO
Community Builders Cooperative, Somerville, MA
Compact Disc Service, Glendale, CA
David Gibans Law Offices, Denver, CO
Deborah Perry, Chicago, IL
Deer Hill Expeditions, Durango, CO
Dennis Chavez Development Corp, Albuquerque, NM
Dr. Michael E. Gerner, Flagstaff, AZ
Edward Riggs Investment Counsel, Albion, ME
Farmers Insurance, Mesquite, NV
Fuller Therapeutics, Inc, Boulder, CO
Githens Properties, LLC, Carbondale, CO
Glenn Randall, Writer/Photographer, Boulder, CO
Gospel Flat Farm, Bolinas, CA
Haymaker Construction, El Cajon, CA
High Country Appraisal, Carbondale, CO
HonkyTonkHomeSlice.com, Lafayette, CA
Horsethief Ranch, Aspen, CO
Hyperspod Sports, Moscow, ID
ID Interiors, Aspen, CO
Image Counts, Durango, CO
Image Trader, Flagstaff, AZ
Injoy Productions, Boulder, CO
Institution of Taoist Education and Acupuncture, Inc,
Boulder, CO
J Groene Construction Inc, Lawrence, KS
J. Edward Hansford DDS, Buena Vista, CO
Jack Dykinga Photography, Oro Valley, AZ
Johnson String Instrument, Newton Center, MA
Law Office Of Don Lipmanson, Ukiah, CA
Law Office of Robert L. Miller, Flagstaff, AZ
Matheson Design, Portland, OR
Maui Mountain Environmentally Friendly Coffee,
Makawao, HI
Michael Gordon Photography, Long Beach, CA
Michael Kutten DMD, Saint Louis, MO
Michael Paoli & Associates, Fresno, CA
Mountain Chalet, Colorado Springs, CO

Mountain Gear, Inc, Spokane, WA
Muench Photography, Inc, Corrales, NM
Nature's Own, Nederland, CO
Neiman Wealth Management, LLC, Merrick, NY
Ody Brook Enterprises, Cedar Springs, MI
Osprey Packs, Inc, Cortez, CO
Otterness Repair, Northfield, MN
Ottertrack Productions, Joseph, OR
Pack Rat Outdoor Center, Fayetteville, AR
Pemba Serves, Madison, WI
Pinnacle Peak Eye Care, Scottsdale, AZ
Purdy Associates, Inc, Seattle, WA
Purple Dragon Ventures, Greendale, IN
Pursuit of Beauty, Seattle, WA
Rainbow Expeditions II, Wheat Ridge, CO
Resources for Change, Inc, Santa Fe, NM
Richard Farrell CPA, Fort Collins, CO
Richard Lane, Prescott, AZ
Ritter Associates, Sunnyvale, CA
Robert Cheyne Photography, Farmington Hills, MI
Robert Trimble, Architect, Trumbull, CT
Rupestrian Cyber Services, Flagstaff, AZ
Select Stone, Inc, Bozeman, MT
SJM Biological Consultants, San Diego, CA
Southwest Emergency Physicians, Durango, CO
Southwest Planning & Marketing, Santa Fe, NM
Steve Gilsdorf CPA, Tucson, AZ
Steven Lamb, Attorney at Law, Central City, KY
Stockbridge Animal Clinic, Stockbridge, MI
The Agave, Henderson, NV
Tsakurshovi, Second Mesa, AZ
White Water Dental Seminars, Ketchum, ID
Wild Resiliency Institute, Santa Fe, NM
William Stone Photography, Albuquerque, NM
Williams Tree Farm, Meridian, ID
Willis Greiner Photography, Conifer, CO
Wilson's Eastside Sports, Bishop, CA
Yakima Products, Inc, Beaverton, OR
ZAK Construction, Manzanita, OR



Reference Map for Articles in this Issue

- ① Factory Butte (see pp. 12-13)
- ③ Labyrinth Canyon (see p. 16)
- ② Nine Mile Canyon (see p. 16)
- ④ Cedar Mountains (see p. 18)


“Love is a powerful tool, and maybe, just maybe, before the last little town is corrupted and the last of the unroaded and undeveloped wildness is given over to dreams of profit, maybe it will be love, finally, love for the land for its own sake and for what it holds of beauty and joy and spiritual redemption, that will make the redrock country of southern Utah not a battlefield but a revelation.”

- *T.H. Watkins,*
Redrock Chronicles: Saving Wild Utah



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A shady slot canyon provides a cool haven in the Square Top proposed wilderness.

 Printed on recycled paper using soy-based ink.



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