

# REDROCK

## W I L D E R N E S S

The Newsletter of the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance  
Volume 27, Number 2 • Summer 2010

A full-page photograph of a person rappelling down a rope in a canyon. The person is wearing a dark tank top, shorts, and a white hat, and has a large backpack. They are standing on a muddy ledge at the bottom of the frame, holding a rope that extends upwards. The canyon walls are made of layered rock, and the lighting is dramatic, with a bright light source from above creating strong highlights and deep shadows. The overall scene is one of wilderness and adventure.

Secretary Salazar and the  
Fate of Utah Wilderness



**Cover Photo:** A canyoneer explores the White Canyon proposed wilderness, an elaborate maze of sculpted canyons adjacent to Natural Bridges National Monument in Utah's San Juan County. Copyright James Kay ([www.jameskay.com](http://www.jameskay.com)).



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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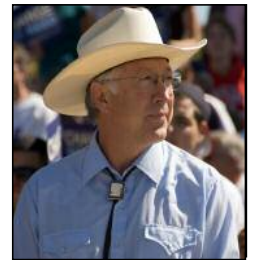
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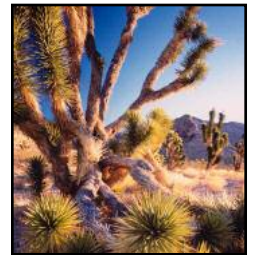
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## Redrock Wilderness • Volume 27, Number 2 • Summer 2010

This issue of *Redrock Wilderness* was written by the following staff and outside contributors: Tiffany Bartz, Steve Bloch, Scott Braden, Clayton Daughenbaugh, Jackie Feinberg, David Garbett, Scott Groene, Terri Martin, Heidi McIntosh, Richard Peterson-Cremer, Deeda Seed, Hannah Smith, Liz Thomas, Anne Williams, Brooke Williams, and Terry Tempest Williams. It was edited by Darrell Knuffke and laid out by Diane Kelly.

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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**

## Political Life Is Short, Unpredictable; the Redrock Movement Endures

A political flashflood ripped through Utah in early May and swept away U.S. Sen. Robert Bennett. He faced no scandal and remained popular with the general public, yet he ran third at the Utah Republican Convention, ending his candidacy for a fourth term.

Bennett sponsored the Washington County wilderness legislation that passed in 2009 and had initiated a similar process for San Juan County, so his political demise raises questions about the future of the regional wilderness approach he championed. A factor in divining that future, though, is this: Utah's rural county commissioners are themselves seeking regional wilderness bills. That is likely to continue, regardless of the names of our senators.

There has been a seismic shift in how county politicians view the wilderness issue. Commissioners who represent rural counties—and they are the merest handful—have historically been the major obstacle to BLM wilderness protection in Utah. These small-town politicians view nearby public land as theirs, claiming that the dastards in DC unfairly snatched it from them. But that, they pronounce, is only temporary: they mean to have it back.

An old political adage asserts that if people think you are powerful, you are. That has played out here. A succession of Utah congressional delegations and governors has bowed to the county commissioners, never daring to challenge them and accepting as given that the counties are the rightful owners of the state's federal public lands. Accordingly, they have bent to commissioners' relentless efforts to block wilderness and most other reasonable public land management.



*"The River's Edge," watercolor of the Dirty Devil River by Bessann Swanson (bessannswansonart@hotmail.com)*

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**wilderness notes**

To their credit, some counties—like Emery and Grand—have decided the fight is stupid, and that they could better serve their constituents by working with the federal agencies.

Other counties—Kane is one of them—continue their quixotic, often illegal actions, including bulldozing routes into wilderness and tearing federal signs both up and down. We've publicized these actions. That unflattering light has diminished the counties' credibility with many Utahns and certainly with most Americans. (It is an attribute of madness that ridicule is no deterrent.)

But Gov. Jon Huntsman broke with that deferential tradition. When he took office in 2004, he clearly signaled that he would not support the rural counties in whatever harebrained litigation schemes commissioners might cook up. (Current Gov. Gary Herbert has yet to show such leadership.)

The real breaking point was the Washington County wilderness and public lands legislation. As drafted, the legislation was loaded with largesse to appease county commissioners. But when Sen. Bennett couldn't get his flawed legislation past Sen. Jeff Bingaman, Senate Energy Committee Chairman, Bennett split with the county commissioners and amended the bill to Bingaman's satisfaction. As it was finally signed into law, the measure was a plus for wilderness. That was the first time Utah commissioners had to accept wilderness legislation they didn't like that was introduced by a Utah senator.

Some commissioners recognize they are losing the wilderness fight. They've spent millions fighting us on RS 2477 and have yet to gain a single right-of-way. Since 1994, there have been 13 congressional fights involving Utah wilderness. We have won and they have lost every last one.

They recognize SUWA's ability to defend our wilderness proposal and the steady progress we've made in gaining protection. The prospect that the Obama administration might proclaim national monuments in Utah—despite Interior Secretary Ken Salazar's soothing assurances to the contrary—scares the daylights out of them. So does congressional movement on America's Red Rock Wilderness Act (see page 9).

Their unease prompts many county commissioners to look for ways to resolve the wilderness issue, once and for all. But if the commissioners want to do that, and also want to resolve SUWA's continuing litigation over the Bush resource management plans, prevent potential national monuments, and stop us from marching forward with the redrock bill, then they must negotiate with us. Many balk at that.

Will this dynamic result in legislation that truly protects the redrock? That's unclear. It should, certainly, but we've seen ample evidence that county commissioners would sometimes rather propound their strange ideology than to act sensibly for the citizens they claim to represent.

This much we can say: the movement we've built to protect the redrock, nationally and in Utah, is larger than any single politician. And some counties recognize it.

For the Redrock,



Scott Groene  
Executive Director



## features

### The Man With the White Hat

by Terry Tempest Williams



© Topher Simon photography ([www.tophersimon.com](http://www.tophersimon.com))

On April 16, 2010, the White House Conference on the Great Outdoors convened at the Department of Interior in Washington, D.C. Close to 500 individuals from the conservation community across the United States attended. It was a diverse crowd for an environmental gathering: Joe Shirley, Jr., president of the Navajo Nation, was there; Karin Sheldon from Western Resource Advocates in Colorado; Cory Booker, mayor of Newark, New Jersey; Bill Hedden from the Grand Canyon Trust (and a SUWA board member) was present alongside ranchers, city planners, and bureaucrats.

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar stood before the audience and said, “102 years ago, Teddy Roosevelt held the first conference on conservation in 1908. 102 years later, we are hosting the first conference on conservation in the 21st century. . . . 50 million people are represented here today: hunters, ranchers, farmers, anglers, local, state, and tribal governments, cultural preservationists, the National Rifle Association, Ducks Unlimited, Natural Resources Defense Council, the Sierra Club. . . . We have called you all here to find a unity agenda for conservation.”

The language throughout the event was soft, bland, and designed to offend no one. Frustrated by the

lack of specifics and phrases like “open spaces” replacing “wilderness,” which would be too inflammatory, I turned to one of the organizers saying, “I think third graders would be offended by the dumbing down of this rhetoric.” Her response, “It polls well.”

At lunch, I met Secretary Salazar. He is a thoughtful man. And I believe his intention to create a broad, inclusive constituency for conservation is sincere. I thanked him for withdrawing 77 leases in Utah from the oil and gas sales set in place by the Bush-Cheney administration in October, 2008. Most of these leases set to be auctioned to oil and gas companies were parcels of land adjacent to Arches and Canyonlands National Parks, with other parcels located near Desolation Canyon, Dinosaur National Monument, and wilderness study areas inside Nine Mile Canyon, where miles of galleries of ancient rock art appear on canyon walls. It was a crucial gesture to protect hundreds of thousands of acres of wild lands with wilderness character against development.

“You mean I have a friend in Utah?” he said, smiling. Salazar’s office has been bombarded with calls from rural county commissioners and state legislators, as well as Sen. Robert Bennett and Gov. Gary Herbert, who are not pleased by these actions and the threat of new national monuments.

But actions speak louder than the soft, pleasant rhetoric that celebrates “unity in community.” And it is here that I will enlist my loyal opposition.

On Monday, April 26, 10 days after ‘The White House Conference on the Great Outdoors,’ Secretary Ken Salazar, sans his white cowboy hat, came to Utah, making Salt Lake City the first stop on his national listening tour. The first question to be asked is who is the Secretary listening to? He met with Gov. Herbert and his Balanced Resource Council at the state capitol building. It could be argued that this council is anything but balanced with no environmentalist sitting at the table. The Secretary announced that he is listening to Utahns’ complaints and “eager to work out compromises on

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**features**

roads, national monuments, endangered species” and other controversial and contentious issues.

While refusing to reverse the “No Wild Settlement” policy set in motion by former Utah Gov. Michael Leavitt and former Secretary Gale Norton in 2003, behind closed doors, Salazar now supports undercutting the authority of the Interior Department to reassess and reinventory those wildlands with wilderness character to be placed under interim protection until a wilderness designation can be made.

As Chip Ward wrote in 2004, “In a single moment Norton rewrote federal law, ignored fifteen years of agency practice, and pronounced illegal her depart-

The irony here is that Gov. Herbert just signed legislation declaring that Utah, under eminent domain, can take control of federal lands now under the Interior Department’s jurisdiction. It is craziness. These are public lands, America’s commons, now given over to the right fringe, the loud-mouth tea partiers who have managed to intimidate a man who wears a white cowboy hat and with an ear open toward unity.

And that’s not all. The Obama administration, under the leadership of Ken Salazar, has defended and implemented the atrocious Bush land management plans affecting 11 million acres that opened vast portions of southern Utah to off-road vehicles

**I want to support Secretary Salazar. I want to believe in his intentions to create a broad based constituency for America’s Treasured Landscapes. But listening to only the radical right and compromising the core values inherent in public lands is not a sign of strength but weakness when it comes to visionary leadership.**

ment’s most popular and important mission. . . . Under this settlement, America’s rarest and most robust lands can now be managed to allow for oil drilling, off-road vehicle abuse, resort development, and mining. In fact, every use is on the table except management for preserving wilderness.”

Secretary Salazar had the opportunity to change this anti-wilderness policy. He has chosen to let it stand.

Secondly, Salazar stated to Gov. Herbert that President Obama would not use his authority under the Antiquities Act to establish any national monuments without local permission (which means there will not be any). Two wild areas void of protection in Utah are under consideration: the San Rafael Swell National Monument and the Cedar Mesa National Monument. This means that basically, Salazar gave Utah’s governor veto power over the President’s discretion to create new national monuments, which almost every president has done since its inception. Nobody looking back through the lens of history has ever said making a national monument was a bad idea including those who organized a cattle run through Grand Teton National Monument should it be expanded to a national park. Former Gov. Cliff Hansen of Wyoming who led the brigade admitted years later that he had been wrong,

and energy development. They have denied legal authority to establish and protect new wilderness study areas, authority that had been recognized and utilized by Republican and Democratic administrations until George Bush and Dick Cheney’s regime.

Lastly, on day one of his national listening tour to create “The Great Outdoors Initiative,” Secretary Salazar disavowed America’s Red Rock Wilderness Act that would protect over 9 million acres of Utah’s wildlands. This act is now before Congress. It has over 160 sponsors in both the House and the Senate, led by Rep. Maurice Hinchey and Sen. Richard Durbin. Secretary Salazar said, “I do not plan on making any wilderness or monument without local support. . . . America’s Red Rock Wilderness Act is the wrong way to go. . . . I prefer the county by county approach.”

In a few short hours in Salt Lake City, Utah, Secretary Salazar blew new life into the Sagebrush Rebellion of the 1970’s. Why now would county commissioners even come to the table to talk to conservationists about a collaborative approach to wilderness? The power has just been given over to them. Without local control, there will be no wilderness or any monument designation. Secretary Salazar may have forgotten that while local support

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**features**

is important, these are not just Utah's lands, these are America's lands.

One of the environmental activists at the gathering with Secretary Salazar said, "I was spoken at, not spoken to. So much for a listening tour."

This saddens me. I want to support Secretary Salazar. I want to believe in his intentions to create a broad based constituency for America's Treasured Landscapes. But listening to only the radical right and compromising the core values inherent in public lands is not a sign of strength but weakness when it comes to visionary leadership. It is a short-term hand-off to a vocal few at the expense of both the land and its rightful stewards, all American citizens for whom wilderness is a deeply held value, as we heard at the first conservation gathering at the White House in the 21st century.

There is much talk in the American West about "the radical center." And this is where I saw Secretary Salazar taking his stand. In theory, it sounds good, but how it plays out on the land is another story. How sad that what the conservation community in

this country managed to fight off, bad public lands policies initiated within George W. Bush's administration, Secretary Salazar gave away all by himself. If this is the kind of public lands policy that is being established by our own "progressive" administration, friendly to environmental concerns, we are in trouble. If I was a grizzly bear or coyote or a Utah prairie dog, I would take cover. The only unity I see in Salazar's vision of community is retreat from protection of our public lands.

And now, the man with the white hat is up to his knees in Louisiana trying to clean up the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, as brown pelicans drenched in black crude are unable to fly.

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***Terry Tempest Williams** is a writer living in Castle Valley, Utah, and is on the SUWA Board of Directors. Her most recent book is "Finding Beauty in a Broken World." This article appears in an abridged form, originally published in *The Progressive*, June, 2010. Reprinted with permission from the author.*

Even though the Bush Administration left Washington over a year ago, one of its most destructive public lands policies remains on the books: the tactic of opening wilderness-quality lands to mining, drilling, and off-road vehicles.

Because this policy lives on, spectacular Western landscapes like Utah's redrock canyon country and Colorado's Vermillion Basin could be despoiled for the benefit of a few private companies.

. . . We could be the generation that decides to protect places like the Valley of the Gods in Utah. Locals call it a quieter Monument Valley because you can enjoy its equally beautiful redrock monoliths far from the crowds and tour buses. But with the "No New Wilderness" policy still in effect, loud generators or noisy natural gas compressor stations could move in and shatter that stillness.

To protect places like the Valley of the Gods, we must return to the more balanced approach that guided previous administrations.

This doesn't mean companies will be locked out of public lands. On the contrary, the vast majority of our lands remain open to oil and gas drilling. But none of the development should occur in wilderness-quality lands.

Join me in asking Interior Secretary Salazar to issue a Secretarial Order to preserve wilderness-quality lands while they are being considered for permanent preservation.

—Excerpted from a guest column by Robert Redford on *DenverPost.com*, May 26, 2010.



## DC news

### Richard Durbin Is Senate's Leading Redrock Champion

Sen. Richard Durbin (D-IL) first brought the protection of Utah wilderness to the floor of the United States Senate in May of 1997, when he introduced America's Red Rock Wilderness Act. He has been the Senate's most stalwart supporter of this national treasure ever since.

Sen. Durbin did not undertake this commitment lightly. From the beginning, he was clear that success would require a long-term investment. Like the many thousands of Utah wilderness advocates across the country, he has remained true to his word.

In the early days, Sen. Durbin engaged with Illinoisans who have redrock in their hearts. Thousands asked him to step forward and a half dozen meetings with the senator provided opportunities for conversation. Organizations such as the Illinois Task Force for Utah Wilderness and the Sierra Club's Illinois Chapter have been and remain actively engaged. After a week visiting the land, talking with Bureau of Land Management staff, and meeting with Utahns who asked that he lead the way, Sen. Durbin became convinced that protecting these special places was in America's interest.

This year, 13 years since Sen. Durbin first introduced it, America's Red Rock Wilderness Act has attracted 22 Senate cosponsors—a record. Sen. Durbin's leadership has not only drawn his colleagues to support the bill, it has brought wilderness opponents to the table. He was instrumental in reshaping the Washington County Growth and Conservation Act by insisting that the measure properly reflect the nation's conservation values. His intervention made the bill one we could celebrate. And he is ready to do so again, if necessary. His close relationship with President Obama will remain vital to the job of undoing the damaging policies of President Bush.

Americans in Utah, Illinois, and across the land are grateful to Sen. Durbin for embracing the redrock. We count on his leadership for years to come. And we thank him sincerely!

—Clayton Daughenbaugh



*Sen. Richard Durbin (far left) stands with SUWA organizer Clayton Daughenbaugh, Utah wilderness activist Joshua Houdek, and then-Senator Barack Obama during Wilderness Week 2007 in Washington, DC.*

### Congressional Support for ARRW Continues to Grow

Nine members of the House of Representatives have cosponsored America's Red Rock Wilderness Act this spring, bringing the total of House cosponsors to 165—just 3 shy of another record—showing that support for redrock wilderness continues to grow in Congress. (See [www.suwa.org/ARRWA](http://www.suwa.org/ARRWA).)

Reps Judy Chu (D-CA), Doris Matsui (D-CA), John Garamendi (D-CA), Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX.), Edolphus Towns (D-NY), Joe Crowley (D-NY), Tim Bishop (D-NY), Ted Deutch (D-FL) and Alan Grayson (D-FL) have all cosponsored the bill that would protect 9.5 million acres of deserving Bureau of Land Management lands in Utah as wilderness. Reps. Towns, Matsui, Bishop, Crowley and Jackson Lee have supported the bill in the past. Reps. Grayson, Garamendi, Deutch and Chu are all first-time cosponsors.

If you live in any of these representatives' districts, please write to thank your House member for cosponsoring America's Red Rock Wilderness Act. Their support is critical to the work ahead.

—Hannah Smith, DC Intern

**DC news**

## No Change at BLM on Climate, Yet

This spring, President Obama's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) announced that it would draft new regulations addressing how federal agencies should address climate change in their decision making. That's good news. But the CEQ indicated that the new regulations would not address land use planning on public lands. That's bad news, because the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) certainly needs a serious nudge in the right direction.

In 2001, then-Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt issued Secretarial Order 3226 which required land managers to "consider and analyze potential climate change impacts when undertaking long-range planning exercises." The Bush administration didn't revoke the order, but didn't follow it either. None of the six Utah land use plans the BLM issued at the end of the Bush administration had an analysis of climate change, its impacts on public lands, or sensitive management responses.

A year and a half into the Obama administration, with its oft-stated commitment to addressing climate change, not a lot has changed. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar reaffirmed the Babbitt secretarial order and issued his own last September. But the BLM land use plans remain unchanged, the agency's head deep in the sand on the issue

even as it continues to approve oil and gas drilling, off-road vehicle events and other activities.

As we wrote to the CEQ, "BLM's neglect of the climate issue in its [plans] is confounding given that the affects of climate change on the Colorado Plateau are expected to be sweeping and significant. They include shrinking water resources; drought; dust-covered snowpack causing earlier, faster snowmelt; invasion of more flammable non-native plant species; insect outbreaks; soil erosion; loss of wildlife habitat; and larger, hotter wildfires." The BLM needs to understand and address the issue. That's obvious. But it repeatedly fails to do the work.

This all leads us to conclude that a bigger hammer is called for. The CEQ should clearly include land use planning and other significant decisions by the BLM when it releases its new regulations. Please write Council Chair Nancy Sutley and tell her so.

—Heidi McIntosh

**Write to:**

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Council on Environmental Quality  
722 Jackson Place, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20503

**Email:** [chair@ceq.eop.gov](mailto:chair@ceq.eop.gov)

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

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United States House of Representatives  
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You can also call your legislators at (202) 224-3121 (ask to be connected to the appropriate office) or send an email from our website at: [www.suwa.org/SponsorARRWA](http://www.suwa.org/SponsorARRWA)

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**Ohio**

Marcy Kaptur, D-09  
Dennis Kucinich, D-10  
Betty Sutton, D-13  
Tim Ryan, D-17

**Oregon**

David Wu, D-01  
Earl Blumenauer, D-03  
Peter DeFazio, D-04

**Pennsylvania**

Robert Brady, D-01  
Chaka Fattah, D-02  
Joe Sestak, D-07  
Patrick Murphy, D-08

Allyson Schwartz, D-13  
Mike Doyle, D-14

**Puerto Rico**

Pedro Pierluisi, D-PR

**Rhode Island**

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

**South Carolina**

John Spratt, D-05

**Tennessee**

Steve Cohen, D-09

**Texas**

Al Green, D-09  
Sheila Jackson-Lee, D-18  
Charlie Gonzalez, D-20  
Lloyd Doggett, D-25  
Eddie Bernice Johnson, D-30

**Vermont**

Peter Welch, D-VT

**Virginia**

Jim Moran, D-08  
Gerry Connolly, D-11

**Virgin Islands**

Donna Christensen, D-VI

**Washington**

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

**Wisconsin**

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

**S. 799, Sponsored by  
Sen. Richard Durbin  
22 Senate Cosponsors**

Barbara Boxer, D-CA  
Mark Udall, D-CO  
Michael Bennet, D-CO  
Joseph Lieberman, D-CT  
Ted Kaufman, D-DE  
Richard Durbin, D-IL  
Roland Burris, D-IL  
Tom Harkin, D-IA  
Benjamin Cardin, D-MD  
Edward Kennedy, D-MA  
John Kerry, D-MA  
Deborah Stabenow, D-MI  
Frank Lautenberg, D-NJ  
Robert Menendez, D-NJ  
Kristen Gillibrand, D-NY  
Chuck Schumer, D-NY  
Jeff Merkley, D-OR  
Jack Reed, D-RI  
Sheldon Whitehouse, D-RI  
Patrick Leahy, D-VT  
Bernie Sanders, D-VT  
Maria Cantwell, D-WA  
Russell Feingold, D-WI



## canyon country updates

### County-by-County Wilderness Efforts Hit Tough Sledding

The passage of wilderness legislation for the Zion-Mojave region of Washington County sparked interest among a number of county leaders across Utah to develop their own land bills to, as they invariably put it, “resolve the wilderness issue” in their counties.

SUWA will never ignore an opportunity to protect wilderness, so we enthusiastically engaged in wilderness processes in Emery, San Juan, Beaver and Piute counties. We were optimistic, if guardedly so, that perhaps one or two would result in legislation that increases protections for the redrock country.

#### Beaver and Piute Counties

The first of these country-driven processes to emerge was in adjacent Beaver and Piute counties. These counties span the West Desert’s basin and range country from the Nevada border eastward for 200 miles. Wilderness in the two counties is not just the BLM land SUWA usually works to protect, but includes some of the most scenic unprotected Forest Service lands in the state, among them the Tushar and Monroe Mountains.

We had productive meetings over the past year with county commissioners, Utah congressional delegation staff, and our partners in the Utah conservation community. Field trips into this unusual and somewhat lesser-known wilderness landscape taught us all a good deal.

We made some progress. But the county avoided direct negotiations with the Utah Wilderness Coalition (of which SUWA is a part) over any designations. We believe that was a mistake. Without negotiations and agreement with conservationists, none of these county or regional bills has any hope of resolving the wilderness issue as counties so eagerly seek to do. The Washington County wilderness bill ought to have taught us all that much. That legislation reflected no such agreement with the Utah Wilderness Coalition. As a result, the wilderness question there is far from settled.

Beaver and Piute County residents learned of the commissioners’ plan only days before legislation was to have been introduced. That provoked the



© Ray Bloxham/SUWA

*SUWA Field Advocate Brooke Williams listens to a member of the Emery County Public Lands Council during a field trip to the Mexican Mountain proposed wilderness.*

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**canyon country updates**

typical anti-wilderness fulminations. But it also incited outrage over what some citizens called “secret meetings.” Stung, the county commissioners withdrew their proposal almost immediately. They now say they have shelved the effort for at least a year.

### San Juan County

In March, Sen. Robert Bennett announced that he would convene a process to determine the future of public lands in San Juan County, home of some of the state’s most important wilderness, including Cedar Mesa with its splendid canyons and archaeological treasures.

Bennett asked SUWA and other interested parties to submit a prioritized list of areas they think are important to protect. The process the senator laid out would include a series of meetings in Monticello, Utah, and several field trips to disputed areas. In April, Bennett’s staff began facilitated discussions dealing with five different regions of the county. We were there, along with other conservationists, federal land managers and county representatives.

From the beginning, we were concerned about the hasty nature of the process. We feared that many important decisions had already been made, reducing the public part of the process to window dressing.

Sen. Bennett’s surprise defeat at the Utah Republican Convention in early May puts the future of the San Juan County effort in doubt. There are several possibilities. Bennett may decide to drop the process in order to focus on other issues for the remainder of his term. He might use the information he already has and move forward with legislation, hoping to create a legacy. Or, he could choose to hand off the process to another member of the Utah delegation. The latter route might offer the best chance of sufficient time to craft a thorough and responsible public lands bill for the county.

Despite some misgivings, SUWA has taken the San Juan County effort very seriously and hopes to see it through to a wilderness bill we can support. But if an unacceptable bill is rushed to introduction, we will be ready to act.

### Emery County

Emery County officials have been working on their public lands legislation for over a year, and SUWA

has been present at monthly meetings of the county’s Public Lands Council. Six months ago, we began touring areas where county concerns seemed to conflict with America’s Red Rock Wilderness Act.

For a time, we all believed we were making progress. As we walked the land together, we generated ideas for improving wilderness legislation that neither side alone might have envisioned. But last summer, the county began holding public meetings on a lands bill, meetings that soon demonstrated just how difficult the process would be.

SUWA offered to pay half the cost of hiring a facilitator to help us move toward resolution. Our offer produced a huge outcry from the off-road vehicle community, which accused county commissioners of dealing with SUWA behind closed doors.

The Emery County commissioners have decided to prepare their own proposal as a next step. We have let them know that we remain interested in discussing any differences between their proposal and ours once they have completed it.

—*Brooke Williams and Richard Peterson-Cremer*

Good  
News!

## Success in Nine Mile Canyon Lawsuit

We are happy to report a recent victory on the legal front. At the end of March, SUWA—with the Nine Mile Canyon Coalition and The Wilderness Society—settled a lawsuit with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) related to natural gas development that was impacting Utah’s incomparable Nine Mile Canyon. The area is well-known for its innumerable cultural artifacts, including what the BLM itself describes as the “greatest abundance of well-preserved rock art” in the West.

This lawsuit originated in 2008 as a challenge to the BLM’s approval of thirty oil and gas wells in the Nine Mile Canyon region. The lawsuit alleged that the BLM failed to analyze the environmental impacts of this development on rock art in Nine Mile Canyon from dust created by truck trips, and the impacts on air quality. The BLM relied

*(Continued on page 16)*

# Congratulations to Our “Wild About”



By design, our bright yellow “Protect Wild Utah” buttons and stickers are easy to spot from far away. In the spring newsletter, we asked you, our members and activists, to show us where you have displayed your passion for protecting Utah wilderness or where you have found a “Protect Wild Utah” button or sticker during your travels for a chance to win some fantastic prizes. We received entries from around Utah, throughout the United States, and from places on five different continents. Thank you to all who entered and to our prize donors, Ultralight Adventure Equipment, Black Diamond Equipment, and Joby!

## Category: Best in Utah



*Meadow, UT. Entry by James Ruda.*

## Category: People’s Choice/ Most Creative



*Dance Hall Rock, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, UT. Entry by David Mowry.*



*Historic Pioneer Lodge, Springdale, UT. Entry by Greta Hyland.*



*Four Corners Monument. Entry by Vicki Allen.*

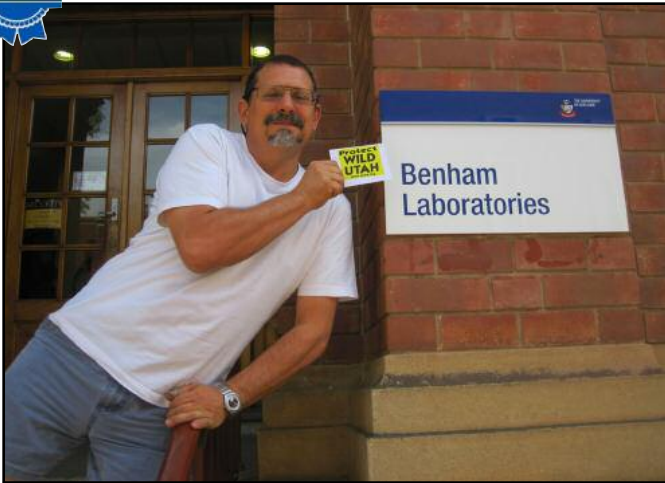
### People’s Choice Finalists:

Bruce Taterka, Chris Schiller, Eric Kuhn, Dave Rubin, Heather Carter-Young, James Ruda, Sarah Grant, Gary Warren, Greta Hyland.



# Wild About Utah” Photo Contest Winners!

## Category: Furthest from Utah



Adelaide, Australia. Entry by Julio Cesar Facelli.



Portala dining hall, Danaque, Nepal. Entry by Mike and Jean Binyon.



Wangdue Dzong, in Wangdue, Bhutan. Entry by Dave Rubin.

To view all the contest entries, visit [www.suwa.org/photocontestentries](http://www.suwa.org/photocontestentries).

SUWA would like to express its sincere appreciation to each of our “Wild About Utah” photo contest prize donors. In particular, thank you to Black Diamond Equipment for contributing their Sphynx backpacks, Demon Duffel backpacks and Cosmo headlamps; to Ultralight Adventure Equipment for their gift of a prizewinner-selected ultralight backpack; and to Joby, for their donation of Gorillatorches for our People’s Choice finalists. Our staff and board, supporters, and contest prize winners all appreciate your support for Utah wilderness!



## canyon country updates

*(Continued from page 13)*

improperly on a categorical exclusion—something like a free pass not to prepare an environmental analysis or environmental impact statement. The Congress created these categorical exclusions in the Energy Policy Act of 2005, but never intended them to be applied in special cases. And Nine Mile Canyon is a special case, indeed.

Realizing its error, the BLM settled the case. In exchange for SUWA dropping its claims, the BLM not only agreed to stop issuing these categorical exclusions improperly in Nine Mile Canyon, it also promised to change national policy, among other things. This new national policy restores categorical exclusions to the role the Congress intended. They are not to be used in special cases (or “extraordinary circumstances” in the parlance of BLM).

This settlement helps protect an area frequently referred to as “the world’s longest art gallery.” Furthermore, it helps ensure that other special places the BLM manages throughout the United States will not be imperiled by a similar threat from improperly issued categorical exclusions.

—David Garbett

Good  
News!

## New Utah BLM State Director Chosen

Finally! Nearly 18 months after President Obama took office and Ken Salazar was installed as his Interior Secretary, Utah State Director Selma Sierra has been “reassigned” to head the Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM) Eastern States office. This announcement has been a long time coming and is a welcome one to supporters of America’s Red Rock Wilderness Act.

In her nearly four years at the helm in Utah, Sierra effectively carried out the Bush administration’s mission to prioritize oil and gas development and off-road vehicle use over all other uses of the public lands. Her most damning legacy is without question the completion of six devastatingly unbalanced resource management plans and off-road vehicle travel plans. These plans, rushed to completion in October and November 2008, attempted

to cement the Bush legacy for decades to come. We are now litigating three of these plans and intend to challenge all six eventually. They simply do not reflect Congress’s mandate that BLM manage the public lands for a variety of uses, including wilderness and the protection of cultural resources and wildlife.

Sierra was also responsible for the Utah BLM’s “Christmas/We’re Going Out of Business” oil and gas lease sale in December 2008. This sale drew nationwide attention and rebuke for its attempt to auction off leases on the doorstep of national parks, amazing wilderness and culturally significant areas, all over the objections of the National Park Service and others. The upside of that particular debacle is that agency reports following the sale provided the foundation for Secretary Salazar’s onshore oil and gas leasing reforms that—if implemented—will provide a more balanced approach to how the agency sells leases. Throughout it all, Sierra was unrepentant and insisted she had done nothing wrong.

Finally, Sierra was the darling of state and county officials. She considered them her ‘partners’ in land management, along with the oil and gas industry and off-road vehicle enthusiasts. Sierra met early and often with these interests, though rarely with us or other conservation organizations. State and local politicians have praised Sierra and now wring their hands over the likelihood that (for now) they have lost their insider access at the BLM state office.

Replacing Sierra is Juan Palma, a land manager hailing from Nevada and Oregon. Palma has served as field office manager of BLM’s Las Vegas and Vale, Oregon, offices, as well as executive director of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency. Most recently, Palma served as the BLM’s Eastern States Director. He also attended Brigham Young University and has family in Utah.

We look forward to meeting and working with Palma to tackle some of the state’s most pressing public land issues, including: reigning in off-road vehicle use, actively addressing climate change and, most broadly, bringing balance back to how public lands are managed in Utah. This is a tall order but the lands that we are working to protect demand no less than a full court press throughout Palma’s tenure.

—Steve Bloch

## canyon country updates

## Fight against Coal Mine Outside Bryce Canyon National Park Ramps Up

In our last newsletter, we told you a familiar story about how bad ideas never seem to disappear. In this case, the bad idea is particularly rotten: opening a coal strip mine just 10 miles outside of Bryce Canyon National Park.

SUWA, the Utah Chapter of the Sierra Club, the Natural Resources Defense Council, and the National Parks Conservation Association are trying to kill the idea for good. After the state granted Alton Coal Development LLC a permit to mine the area last November, we filed a petition to block the mine. We are now engaged in litigation before the Utah Board of Oil, Gas and Mining. An appeal to the Utah Supreme Court is likely.

The mining operations would have disastrous effects in southwestern Utah. The mine and associated truck traffic would degrade the air quality and pristine night skies around Bryce Canyon. They would launch a stream of coal trucks—one every five minutes—along State Highway 89 through the historic town of Panguitch. Some area residents wisely fear for their health and livelihoods. “Ninety-five percent of my customers are tourists and I don’t want the truck traffic to drive them away or the mine to pollute the clean air and water we enjoy here,” says Bobbi Bryant, a small business owner.

The existing proposal is to mine privately-owned coal on private land. That may be just the beginning: the Bureau of Land Management is analyzing another proposal by Alton Coal to lease a much larger area of surrounding public land for development, compounding the environmental and human impacts and further contributing to climate change.

There is one more official opportunity for you to express your opinion about the proposed mine. The Utah Division of Air Quality is evaluating the coal company’s air pollution permit now and we’ll let you know when the public comment period opens. At [www.suwa.org](http://www.suwa.org), we’ll also keep you updated on the litigation, the proposal to expand mining onto BLM land, and how you can make your voice heard.

—Tiffany Bartz



© Tiffany Bartz/SUWA

*Expert hydrologist, Elliott Lips, examines a stretch of Lower Robinson Creek. Alton Coal Development proposes to re-route a portion of this creek to conduct its coal strip mining operation.*

## RS 2477 Update: The Kane County Case Ad Infinitum

In early May, the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver heard oral arguments—again—in the case we brought against Utah’s Kane County to put a stop to its RS 2477 shenanigans.

You’ll recall that in 2003, Kane County officials ripped out signs the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) had posted in the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument to keep off-road vehicles (ORVs) out of sensitive areas. Later, the county posted its own signs inviting ORV use in the same places BLM had banned it, and then for good measure passed a county ordinance that allowed ORVs to roam on the county’s spider web of claimed RS 2477 routes. We’re talking faint tracks and paths here, not formal trails or roads. The BLM sat on its hands and did nothing but write a couple of stern-ish letters.

So we joined forces with The Wilderness Society and Earthjustice and sued the county, arguing that federal law trumps local ordinances on federal pub-



## canyon country updates

lic lands. (We're hearing a lot in this election year about what the "Founding Fathers" wanted for this country. Well, they were pretty clear about this one: Federal law trumps local ordinances. It's part of the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution.)

A federal judge sitting in Salt Lake City ruled in our favor. After Kane County appealed the decision, the usual three-judge panel also ruled in our favor. Undeterred, the county convinced the full 12-judge appellate court to hear the case, which it did in May. With 12 judges of every stripe on the bench firing questions at counsel, it was hard to discern a com-

mon theme or direction. Suffice it to say, a variety of opinions were represented on the court. Some judges were concerned about RS 2477 law, and some were concerned about whether we conservationists were the right parties to bring the suit.

It could take some time before the court issues an opinion. We'll keep you posted. Many thanks to co-counsel Jim Angell, Ted Zukoski and McChristie Adams at Earthjustice for the countless hours of work they put into this case.

—Heidi McIntosh



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## Deadline Looms for Comments on Washington County Wilderness, NCA Plans

Just over a year ago the Congress passed legislation to protect precious public lands in Washington County as wilderness and National Conservation Areas. The measure was a huge step toward protecting the sensitive and spectacular Mojave Desert in Utah, a place of mystical Joshua trees and threatened desert tortoises. But it was just the first step.

Now the BLM is developing a plan to manage these places—some of the very first BLM-managed wilderness areas and National Conservation Areas (NCAs) in the state—and you can help ensure that the agency does the job right.

It is crucial that the BLM's off-road vehicle travel plans, wilderness plans, and NCA plans actually protect the extraordinary places and resources that the legislation intended to preserve. Beyond the new wilderness areas and NCAs, there remain other lands proposed for wilderness in America's Red Rock Wilderness Act that have yet to receive the legislative protection they deserve. How they are managed today will determine whether they remain candidates for wilderness designation in the years to come.

We need your help to make sure that these plans reduce the miles of designated off-road vehicle routes, restrict development, and otherwise do what they need to do. But time is short! **We urge you to submit your written comments to the agency by July 19, 2010.**

If the BLM's St. George field office crafts strong plans worthy of the lands and resources the agency is charged with protecting, it will set an important precedent for BLM offices throughout the state as more wilderness bills become law. Let's make it happen!

To learn more about the planning processes, visit: [www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/st\\_george.html](http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/st_george.html). A sample comment letter will be posted at [www.suwa.org](http://www.suwa.org).

## inside SUWA

# People of Faith Urge State Lawmakers to Protect Wild Places

Utahns from 11 different faith traditions stood together in the rotunda of the Utah State Capitol during this year's legislative session and called on state lawmakers to recognize the spiritual importance of Utah wilderness and to support its meaningful protection.

Present were members of the Roman Catholic, Episcopal, Islamic, Jewish, Latter-day Saint, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, Quaker, Unitarian Universalist and United Church of Christ faith communities. This event marks the first time Utah's diverse faith communities have ever converged on the Utah Legislature to advocate for protection of Utah's wild land heritage.

Reinforcing the speakers' call was an exhibit of 24 posters featuring over 250 handwritten personal statements about why Utah's wild lands are important spiritually. The personal statements and posters featured pictures of Utah's wild lands. Utah faith communities created them last fall and winter at "Wilderness Stewardship Days" events. The recurring theme is that Utah's wild lands are places of profound spiritual importance to people of many different faith traditions and deserve protection.

Midway through the event, State Rep. Mike Noel—well-known for his vocal antipathy toward wilderness protection—bustled down the stairs from the House of Representatives to watch. After the presentation he approached the members of the diverse faith communities and they had a lively, but respectful, exchange.

The event, covered by an array of media, sent a powerful message and reflects the impact that people of faith can have when they translate a shared belief into action.

The event at the capitol was an outgrowth of the Faith and the Land Project's development of an inter-faith statement on the importance of Utah's wild lands. The statement was distilled from conversations about the relationship between spirituality and wilderness within each of the participating faith communities. It demonstrates that even though participants' religious practices vary, they stand on common ground with respect for the care of creation.

To see photos and media coverage of the "Call for Wilderness Stewardship" event at the capitol, go to: [www.suwa.org/faithandtheland](http://www.suwa.org/faithandtheland).



© Terri Martin/SUWA

*Utahns from 11 different faith traditions call on state lawmakers to support the protection of Utah wilderness.*

**inside SUWA**

*Membership Coordinator Kathlene Audette can't get enough of Utah's redrock country.*

## SUWA Welcomes New Membership Coordinator

The newest addition to SUWA's fundraising team is Kathlene Audette (Kat for short), who hit the ground running as our membership coordinator. She has already impressed us with her precision and affinity for detail, her quick mastery of our complicated membership database, and her personal touch.

Before coming to SUWA, Kathlene's experience in media and fundraising took her to an AmeriCorps VISTA position with Wasatch Community Gardens, a local nonprofit for which she still volunteers. It's our good fortune that AmeriCorps positions last only a year because she was looking for a new job when the SUWA position became available. She had a leg up on the competition as she had already proven to be a stellar volunteer, helping tremendously with our Faith and the Land project.

When she's not relaxing with her two cats, Drew and Ollie, Kathlene enjoys getting outside as much as possible to explore and photograph Utah's magnificent redrock landscapes (especially areas such as Valley of the Gods in San Juan County). She also loves gardening and cooking and is an accomplished knitter.

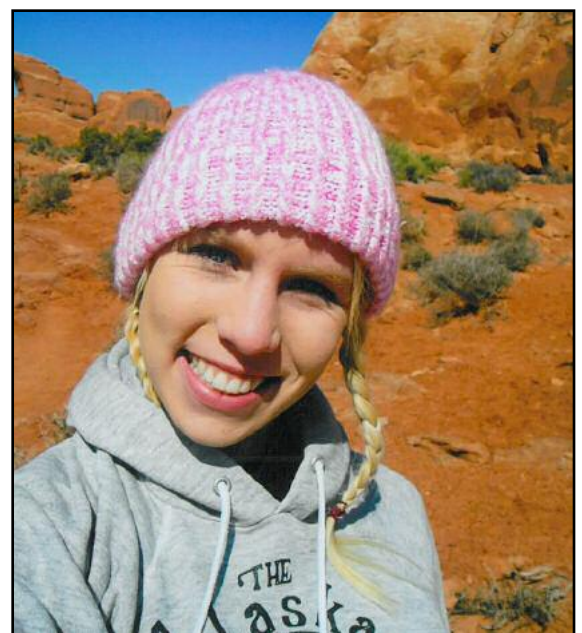
Please stop by and say hello to Kathlene when you're in our Salt Lake City neighborhood. And if you have any questions about your membership, don't hesitate to contact her at (801) 236-3763 or [kathlene@suwa.org](mailto:kathlene@suwa.org).

## Utahn Joins SUWA's DC Team

Jen Beasley, our new legislative advocate, brings a long familiarity with the redrock to our Washington, DC shop: she was raised in Ogden and graduated from Utah State University, where she studied journalism.

Jen came to Washington to pursue her journalism career, but after writing for local media outlets, she decided she wanted to work in a field where she could make more of a difference. As someone who loves hiking and being outdoors, and who has traveled through Utah's redrock country as a child on family trips and in her college years, she was drawn to SUWA. She replaces Scott Braden, who is now SUWA's associate director in Salt Lake City.

Jen's journalism background and solid writing skills have already proven valuable to our advocacy work. She has used them to report on congressional hear-



*Ogden girl Jen Beasley fights for Utah wilderness from SUWA's DC office.*



**inside SUWA**

ings and other DC events. Already, she has helped us move even closer to reaching a record number of House cosponsors for America's Red Rock Wilderness Act and has delivered breaking news on our "Redrock Headlines" blog.

Jen's initiation into SUWA came at a staff retreat that involved intense winds at a sandy campground, hail and snow while floating down the Colorado, and standing in the pouring rain at night around the campfire—a rousing welcome to our organization. We are glad to have her with us.

## Mathew Gross Is SUWA's New Media Director

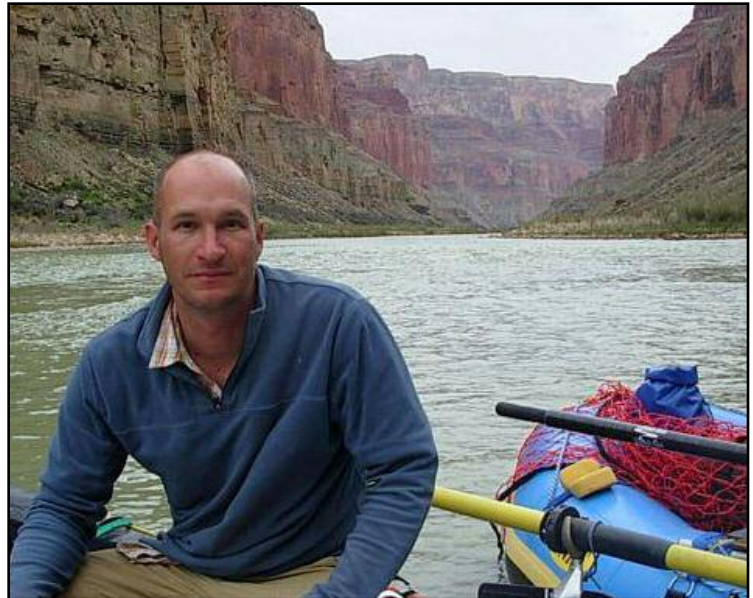
Matt Gross is the newest addition to our Moab office. As media director, he will oversee a new Utah media campaign that SUWA will launch in the fall.

A member of SUWA since 1996, Matt is credited with revolutionizing presidential politics when he launched the first presidential campaign blog for Vermont Gov. Howard Dean.

As director of internet communications for the Dean campaign, Matt helped to develop and implement the online strategy that raised more than \$25 million online and built Blog for America into one of the top blogs in the world, attracting more than 100,000 readers per day at the height of the primary season.

Since the Dean campaign, Matt has served as a political and internet consultant for a wide range of candidates and nonprofit organizations, including UNICEF and American Rivers. In 2006, he helped strengthen SUWA's campaign to win wilderness designation in Utah's Washington County. Also in 2006, he served as chief online strategist for John Tester's successful primary and general election campaigns for the U.S. Senate seat in Montana.

With the kind of knowledge and experience that make him as comfortable in cyberspace as he is in the great outdoors, Matt is the perfect person to expand SUWA's media presence and help us protect more wilderness. We're thrilled to have him on board!



*Matt Gross is excited to put his years of outreach experience to work for the Utah landscapes he loves.*

## Thanks to Legal Interns Greg Osborne and Jason Hardy

We could not begin to meet the challenge of defending the redrock without the wonderful succession of interns who have come to SUWA. We want to thank two recent ones: legal interns Greg Osborne and Jason Hardy, both of whom made significant contributions to our work.

Last spring, Greg—who grew up in Cottonwood Heights, Utah—interned with the legal team for the second time. Among other things, he helped track down values for oil and gas leases, prepare documents for our San Juan County meetings, and research deforestation projects. Greg is committed to protecting the redrock. He is also engaging and jovial, and his presence in our Salt Lake City office was a boost for all of us. A 2009 graduate of the University of Utah in Environmental Studies, he enjoys climbing, snowboarding (at which he is accomplished enough to have appeared in videos), backpacking, and fly fishing. He will start his first year at the Duke University School of Law this fall.

We also had the good fortune of working with Jason, who is from Salt Lake City. He got a crash course in the potential effects of greenhouse gas emissions from Bureau of Land Management

**inside SUWA***Jason Hardy**Greg Osborne**Emily Jencso (with Cooper)*

(BLM) deforestation projects. His research on the subject resulted in excellent comments SUWA submitted on several deforestation projects in the BLM's Vernal district. Jason also provided helpful research on a number of other topics. We appreciated his enthusiasm for this work and his passion for protecting the environment. His undergraduate degree is from the University of Utah and he graduates this summer from the University of Washington School of Law. He is interested in potentially pursuing a career in environmental law.

We wish both of our legal interns the best of luck: Greg, that he will survive three years of law school and Jason, that he will find fulfilling environmental work after graduation.

## Emily Jencso: Another Intern Who Made a Difference

We offer our thanks to Emily Jencso, the wonderful spring 2010 intern who worked with our organizing and outreach team. Emily helped us with our Women Protecting Wilderness (WPW) project, working with WPW members to interview Utah women who are leaders in the arts, small business, faith, and political communities, regarding what Utah's wild lands mean to them.

She also assisted with our Faith and the Land project, helping to organize our "Call for Wilderness Stewardship" event at the State Capitol in February (see story on page 19). We wish Emily well and know that her intelligence, good humor and passion for wild places will serve her well in her chosen field as an environmental educator. Thanks again, Emily!

## Join Us for the SUWA Roundup this Fall

Mark your calendar for SUWA's 2010 membership gathering at Hidden Splendor, September 24-26.

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 deluxe continental breakfast prepared by the SUWA staff 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 and sign up for Saturday's guided hikes, contact Deeda Seed at (801) 428-3971 or [deeda@suwa.org](mailto:deeda@suwa.org). Information and driving instructions are posted at: [www.suwa.org/roundup2010](http://www.suwa.org/roundup2010).

## Planned Giving: A Legacy of Support

SUWA has always valued the strength and commitment of our greatest asset: our members. The majority 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 enduring commitment to SUWA 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.

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. Planned giving is an important part of this long-term financial picture.

For more information on planned giving, please visit our website at [www.suwa.org](http://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 Scott Braden at [braden@suwa.org](mailto:braden@suwa.org) or (801) 428-3970.



© Stephen Trimble

## SUWA Welcomes Summer Legal Clerks



Spencer Critchett

Utah is home for Spencer Critchett and he returns for the summer after completing his first year at the University of Michigan Law School. We are pleased to have him as an intern. A Utahn since he was six, he has taken full advantage of all our state has to offer. He looks forward to working with SUWA to help protect wild Utah, ensuring that others have the same opportunity he had to experience the state's natural wonders.

Elise Aiken is excited to be working with SUWA this summer after completing her second year at the University of Colorado Law School. A Colorado native, Elise is passionate about protecting public lands. Growing up, her family hiked and camped often in Utah. She is delighted to have the chance to help protect those lands for future generations. And we are delighted to have her!



Elise Aiken

## Thank You SUWA Business Members!

SUWA's Business Membership Program is a great way for your small business or company to support the protection of Utah's redrock country. If you own a business and care deeply about protecting Utah's magnificent wilderness lands for future generations, please consider joining today. For a donation of \$150 or more, we'll send you a business member window decal and print your company's name in our newsletter (once a year) and on our website (with a link) at [www.suwa.org/businessmembers](http://www.suwa.org/businessmembers). At higher levels of support we offer additional benefits, such as a featured spot in our monthly e-newsletter. For more information, please contact Kathlene Audette at (801) 236-3763 or [kathlene@suwa.org](mailto:kathlene@suwa.org).

Listed below are businesses that currently support Utah wilderness through SUWA's business member program. We encourage SUWA members across the country to reward these businesses with their patronage.

### Platinum Business Members

(\$5,000+)

Backcountry.com, UT  
Treasure Mountain Inn, UT

### Gold Business Members

(\$1,000-\$4,999)

Black Diamond Equipment, UT  
Injoy Productions, CO  
Law Offices of Robert L. Miller, AZ  
Llama, LLC, UT  
Osprey Packs, Inc, CO  
Polar Equipment, CA  
Stone Forest Inc, NM

### Silver Business Members

(\$500-\$999)

A Wanderlust Adventure, CO  
Bluehouse Ski Company, UT  
Community Builders Cooperative, MA  
Dammeron Corporation, UT  
Gregory Mountain Products, CA  
JC Financial Inc, UT  
Page Speiser LCSW, UT  
Powderhound Marketing, UT  
Rocking V Cafe, UT  
Streamline Industries Inc., UT

### Standard Business Members

(\$150-\$499)

Alta Lodge, UT  
Avalanche Properties, UT  
Baked In Telluride, CO  
Boulder Mountain Lodge, UT  
Brown Bag Farms, CA  
Canyon Voyages Adventure Co., UT  
Capitola Book Cafe, CA

Charles Cramer Photography, CA

Charles Wood Photography, UT

Christine Lee Carver P.C., UT

Consulting Psychologists, AZ

Cucina Deli, UT

Dabney & Dabney PC, UT

David Gibans Law Offices, CO

Deanna Rosen LCSW, UT

Deer Hill Expeditions, CO

Dennis Chavez Development Corp,  
NM

Desert Highlights, UT

Earth Goods General Store, UT

Faceplant, UT

Githens Properties, LLC, CO

Glenn Randall Writing and

Photography, CO

Gospel Flat Farm, CA

Haymaker Construction, CA

High Country Appraisal, CO

Hyperspod Sports, ID

Imlay Canyon Gear, UT

Inkling Design, CO

Institute of Taoist Education and

Acupuncture, Inc, CO

J Edward Hansford DDS, CO

J Groene Construction Inc, KS

Keen Inc, OR

Kind Coffee, LLC, CO

Kuru Footwear, UT

Law Office Of Don Lipmanson, CA

Lazy Lizard International Hostel, UT

Lucky Dog Communications, UT

Matheson Design, OR

Maui Mountain Environmentally

Friendly Coffee, HI

Michael Gordon Photography, CA

Michael Kутten DMD, MO

Momentum, LLC, UT

Mountain Chalet, CO

Mountain Gear, Inc, WA

Muench Photography Inc, NM

Odeus Apparel, CA

Ody Brook Enterprises, MI

Pack Rat Outdoor Center, AR

Passage to Utah, UT

Petzl America, UT

Pinnacle Peak Eye Care, AZ

Powderwhore Productions, UT

Red Rock 'n Llamas, UT

Richard Farrell CPA, CO

Rocky Collins Construction, UT

RTA Associates, CT

Scott T Smith Photography, UT

Select Stone, Inc, MT

Selinda Research Associates, IL

Southwest Planning & Marketing, NM

Steven L. Gilsdorf, CPA, AZ

Streamline Bodyworks, LLC, UT

Tesch Law Offices PC, UT

Tom Till Gallery, UT

Underwood Environmental, Inc, UT

Vortex Outdoors, UT

Waterwise Design & Landscapes, LC,  
UT

William Stone Photography, NM

Williams Tree Farm, ID

Words and Photographs by Stephen

Trimble, UT

Workspace Installations LLC, CT

Wydah Corporation, UT

ZAK Construction, OR

### SUWA also thanks the following businesses for their generous donations of goods or services:

Ultralight Adventure Equipment (UT), Rockreation Sport Climbing Center (UT), Joby (CA), The Naked Binder (IA), and Voile Equipment, Inc (UT).



## Get a Copy of SUWA's *Wild Utah* Video on DVD

SUWA's popular multi-media slideshow, *Wild Utah! America's Redrock Wilderness* includes video interviews, stunning photos, and compelling narration by longtime wilderness activist Robert Redford. These DVDs make great gifts and educational tools!

Please send \_\_\_\_\_ copies of the *Wild Utah* DVD at \$10 each (includes shipping).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

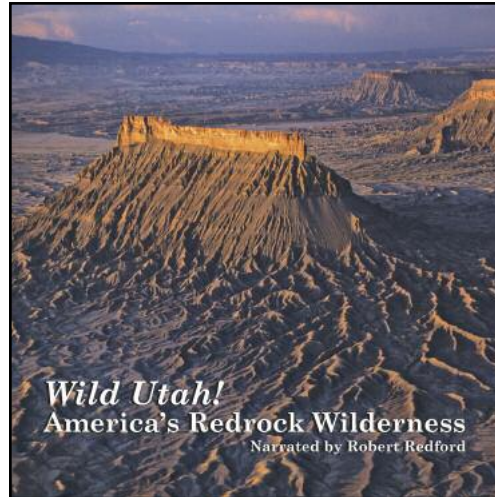
Please make your check payable to SUWA or include credit card information (VISA, MC, AMEX, DISC):

CC#: \_\_\_\_\_ CVC# \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. date: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail form with payment to:

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



*Wild Utah* DVDs can also be ordered online at [www.suwa.org/goodies](http://www.suwa.org/goodies).

## 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, AMEX, DISC):

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ CVC# \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. date: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail form with payment to:

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

### Fine Art Posters by David Muench

Please send \_\_\_\_\_ White Canyon or  
\_\_\_\_\_ Cedar Mesa fine art posters at \$20 each  
(including shipping).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

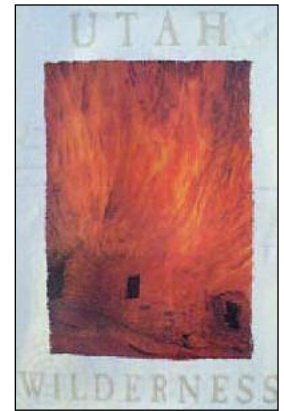
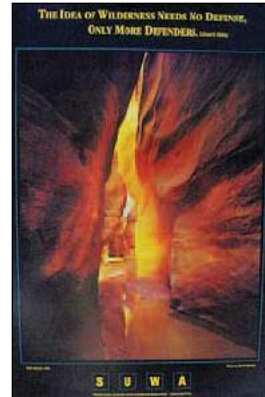
CC# \_\_\_\_\_ CVC# \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. date: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail form with payment to:

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

White Canyon



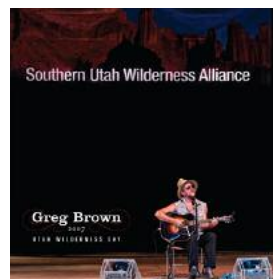
Cedar Mesa

These now classic 24" x 36" SUWA posters feature full-color images of southern Utah by world-renowned wilderness photographer David Muench. The White Canyon poster (on black) features Edward Abbey's words, "The idea of wilderness needs no defense, only more defenders." The Cedar Mesa poster (on natural fiber ivory) includes a quote by the Wallace Stegner: "...the spiritual can be saved..." Either one would make a great gift for that wilderness lover on your shopping list!

## SUWA Baseball Caps and Other Goodies Available on Our Website!

SUWA offers posters, hats, *Wild Utah* DVDs, gift memberships, and a limited selection of t-shirts for purchase on our website—all of which make great gifts for friends or family. To view our online product catalogue, go to [www.suwa.org/goodies](http://www.suwa.org/goodies).

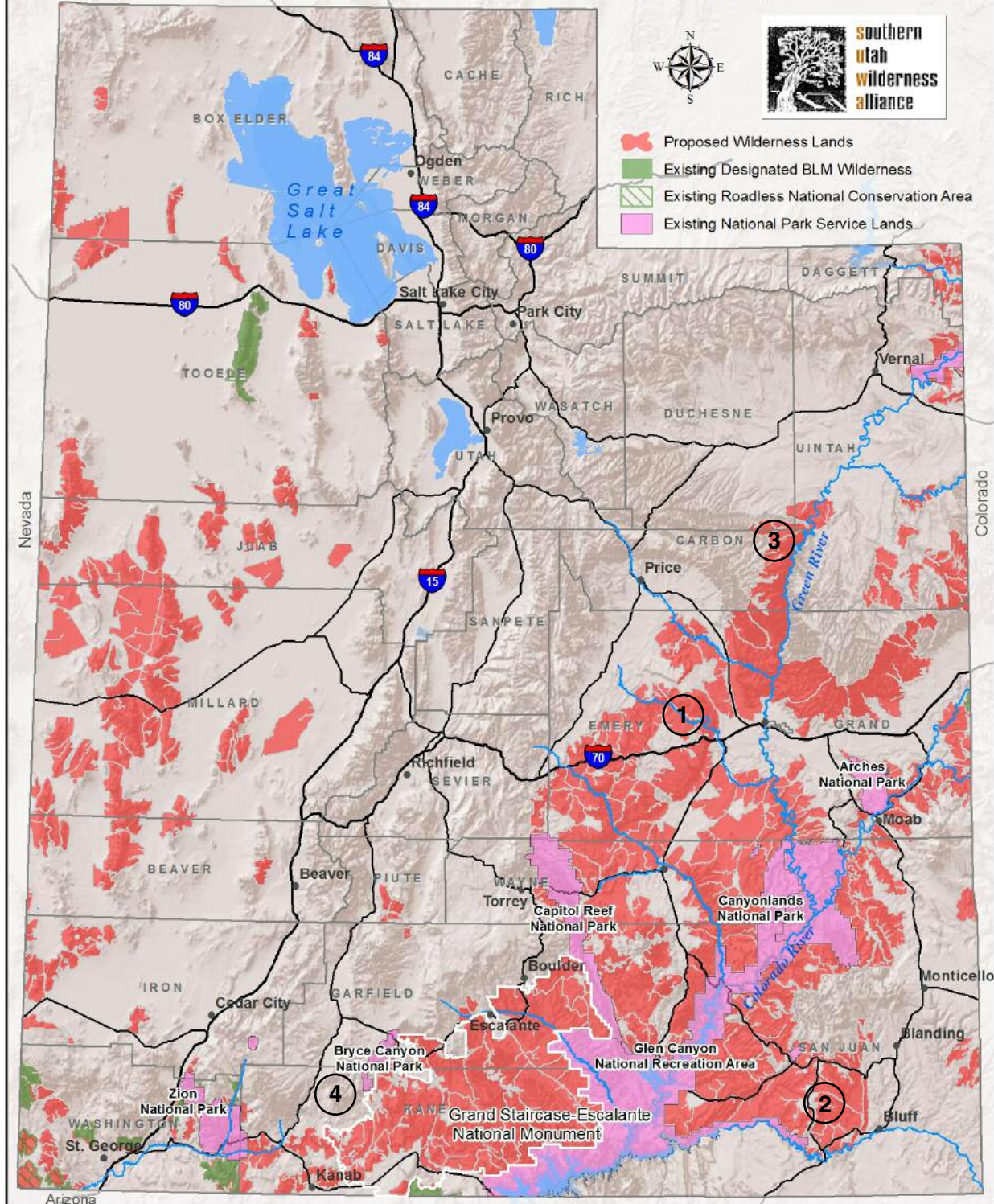
And remember, CDs of singer-songwriter Greg Brown's performance at Utah Wilderness Day are included with any \$50 new membership, renewal, or gift membership purchase! See our donation page at [www.suwa.org/donate](http://www.suwa.org/donate).





# America's Red Rock Wilderness Act

A Citizens' Wilderness Proposal for Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands in Utah



## Reference Map for Articles in this Issue

- ① Mexican Mountain (p. 12)
- ② Cedar Mesa (p. 13)
- ③ Nine Mile Canyon (p. 13)
- ④ Alton Coal Mine / Lower Robinson Creek (p. 17)





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*SUWA grassroots leaders and organizing staff at the May 2010 Grassroots Leader Retreat—a planning session held at the Canyonlands Field Institute near Moab, Utah.*

**Standing** (from left to right): Deeda Seed (with son Joe hiding behind her leg), Allen Stockbridge, Clayton Daughenbaugh, Mark Meloy, Sandy Heise, Bryan Keith, Vicki Allen, Wayne Hoskisson, Jackie Feinberg, Mike Painter, Anna Treibel, Dave Wolf, George Handley, Bev Wolf. **Sitting** (left to right): Brad O’Grosky, Lee Gelatt, Terri Martin, Stephen Trimble and Harvey Halpern.

See pages 14-15 for our “Wild About Utah” photo contest winners!