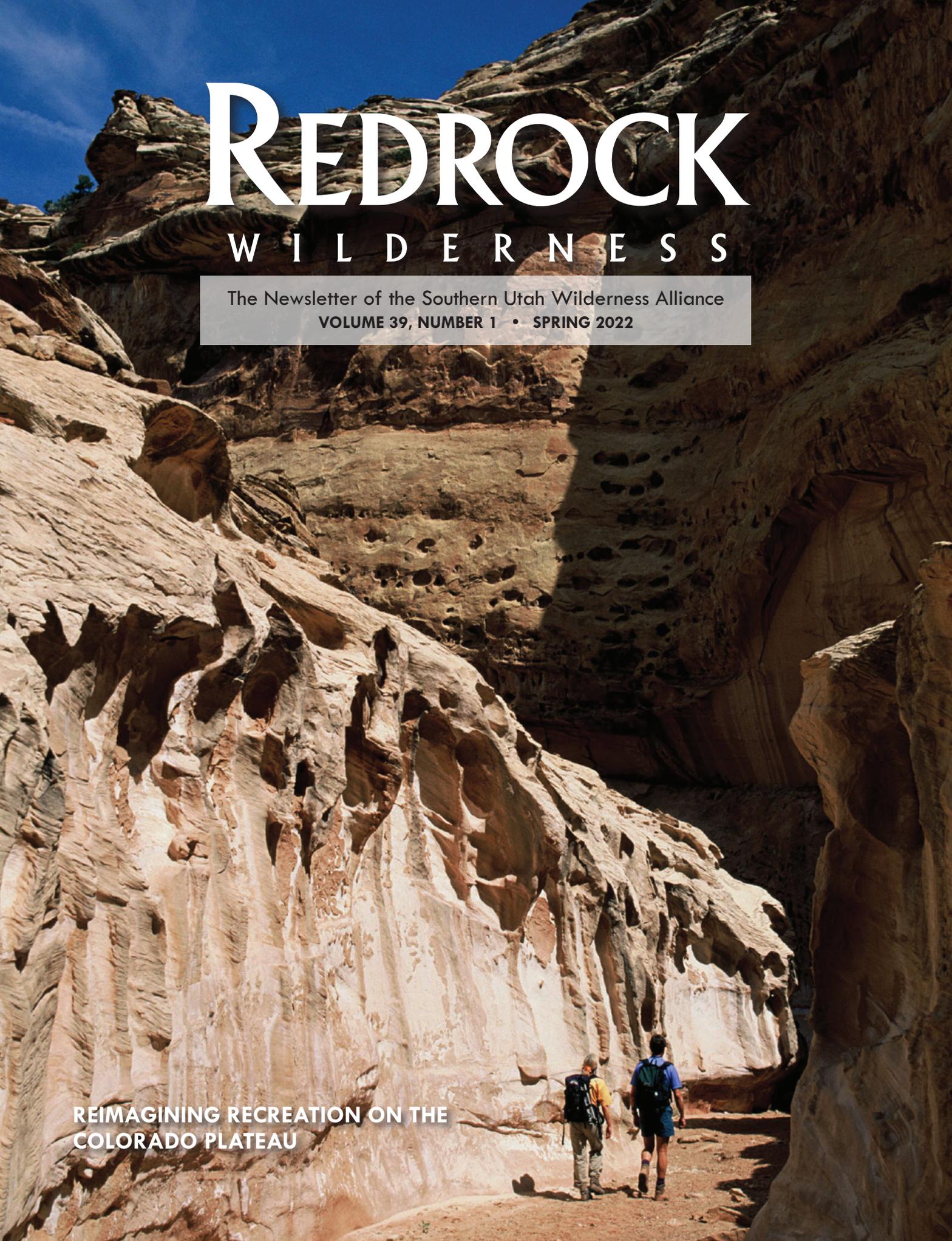


REDROCK

W I L D E R N E S S

The Newsletter of the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance
VOLUME 39, NUMBER 1 • SPRING 2022

REIMAGINING RECREATION ON THE
COLORADO PLATEAU





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.

SUWA is qualified as a non-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the federal tax code. Therefore, all contributions to SUWA are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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OFFICES

Main Office
425 East 100 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
801-486-3161

Washington, DC
122 C Street NW
Suite 240
Washington, DC 20001
202-546-2215

Moab
P.O. Box 968
Moab, UT 84532

info@suwa.org • www.suwa.org

SPRING 2022

Volume 39, Number 1



4

WILDERNESS NOTES

Are We Loving Our Favorite Places to Death?

5

FEATURES

Reimagining Recreation on the Colorado Plateau

9

DC NEWS

10

CANYON COUNTRY UPDATES

18

INSIDE SUWA

23

AMERICA'S RED ROCK WILDERNESS ACT REFERENCE MAP



This issue of *Redrock Wilderness* was written by the following staff and outside contributors: Steve Bloch, Ray Bloxham, Judi Brawer, Neal Clark, Kelsey Cruickshank, Jasmine Despain, Scott Groene, Mathew Gross, Diane Kelly, Tom Kenworthy, Jeremy Lynch, Kya Marienfeld, Heather Martinez, Landon Newell, Dave Pacheco, Chris Richardson, and Michelle White. It was edited by Darrell Knuffke and laid out by Diane Kelly. Newsletter design by Amy Westberg.

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 submissions to photos@suwa.org or via regular mail c/o Editor, SUWA, 425 East 100 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84111.

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ARE WE LOVING OUR FAVORITE PLACES TO DEATH?

After a string of cold, dark winter months, we relish spring as something of a triumph, a promise kept. Sure enough, in the wild crannies of southern Utah, spring is doing its assigned job. The cottonwoods have just begun to sprout their translucent new green leaves. Migratory birds have returned.

So have migratory humans. Peering down from SUWA's second floor, I watch the crowds of visitors wandering up and down Moab's Main Street.

Not even double glass windows can save me from the whine of too many UTVs driving past. It's busy. And it gets busier every year.

We take a detailed look in this issue at the explosive growth of recreation in Southern Utah and how we might manage it. The growth of non-motorized recreation is a creature of many parts: the state's aggressive tourism advertising; population growth across the West; and Americans' rediscovery of their public lands, partly as an escape from Covid's strictures. The resulting pressure runs slap up against the reality that our land management agencies are underfunded and poorly equipped to manage this level of visitation. The result is harm to natural and cultural resources, wildlife, and user experiences.

While spring has done its welcome and timely work, Utah's political class has done exactly what we've come to expect of it, too, with a small-mindedness that flourishes in every season. The state legislature just ran roughshod over a voter initiative in order to divvy up Salt Lake City between four congressional districts. That bit of gerrymandering is, of course, meant to ensure that this most progressive part of the state can never again send to Congress someone like the late Wayne Owens, who first introduced America's Red Rock Wilderness Act.

If we needed more unwelcome news, it comes with the report that the Outdoor Retailer trade show will abandon Denver to return for Utah's green—the paper kind. The show, long staged in Salt Lake City, made a principled and very public departure for Denver several years ago to protest Utah politicians' hostility to public land protection. Just to be clear: Emerald Exhibitions, owner of the show, returned for the money and not because Utah's public land policies or politics improved. In fact, Emerald returned over the objections of 25 of the nation's largest gear companies, all of which understand that Utah's united congressional delegation and governor continue to attack Utah's wilderness and sabotage our national monuments. Collectively, Utah's delegation is arguably the most antagonistic in America when it comes to public lands.

We can only hold the redrock country intact by keeping the fate of these lands a national issue. We must have congressional champions such as Illinois Senator Richard Durbin and California Representative Alan Lowenthal to stand up to the Utah politicians. Despite the support of so many individual Utahns, if Utah wilderness decisions are ever reduced to a local issue, subject only to the parochial, insular views of Utah politicians, we will lose it. Thank you for helping us make sure that never happens.

For the Redrock,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Groene', written over a thin horizontal line.

Scott Groene
Executive Director

REIMAGINING RECREATION ON THE COLORADO PLATEAU

When we think of major threats to Utah's redrock wilderness, the first to come to mind are mining, drilling, chaining and off-road vehicle abuse. Less obvious is the explosive growth of human-powered recreation and its impacts on wildlife and wild places.

That recreational segment—hiking, biking, camping, climbing, river running, horseback riding, and the like—has grown rapidly over the past decade across the West. Utah public lands began seeing drastic increases in visitation as a result of aggressive advertising by the State of Utah in 2013. The pandemic piled on, exponentially increasing recreational use.

The obvious result is what many of us have already experienced: packed parking areas, full campsites, no permits, crowded trails, and a diminished public land experience. Beyond these human inconveniences are the larger ecological and cultural concerns: loss of wilderness values, loss of wildlife and its habitat, impaired water quality, trampled native vegetation and soil crusts, and damage to irreplaceable cultural sites—some deliberate, some inadvertent.

TO SOLVE A PROBLEM, FIRST ACKNOWLEDGE IT

To be clear, this is not an indictment of those who recreate on public lands. Nor are we saying that human-powered recreation is bad or ought to stop. We're all public lands recreationists, too. Study after study has shown the significant benefits of being outside in nature. More time there means less sedentary screen time, and that's good for everyone.

This is instead a heartfelt plea that we collectively acknowledge that our love of recreating in Utah's redrock wilderness is having unintended and often harmful consequences. The reality is that the current trend is unsustainable for resources and wildlife—something that no one who cares about the natural environment wants to see.

So the question is: How do we both conserve public lands and wildlife and provide for a spectrum of high-quality experiences—from backcountry solitude to frontcountry trail systems—for an increasing and increasingly diverse user base? We can do both, but only if the public demands



AS THE COLORADO PLATEAU PROVIDES REFUGE AND ADVENTURE TO INCREASING NUMBERS OF OUTDOOR RECREATIONISTS, A MANAGEMENT APPROACH THAT IS BOTH SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE IS URGENTLY NEEDED. © LIN ALDER

action from federal land managers who, for reasons detailed below, lack the tools and the motivation to tackle the issue in earnest.

PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT IN UTAH

Several federal agencies manage America's public lands, including the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the U.S. Forest Service, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The BLM manages 244 million acres of public lands, primarily in the West, with nearly 23 million acres in Utah. Here, BLM-managed public lands include national monuments, designated wilderness areas, and all of the proposed wilderness in America's Red Rock Wilderness Act. This article focuses on the BLM's management.

According to the agency, visits to BLM lands in Utah more than doubled between 2011 and 2021, jumping by 107 percent from 5.7 to 11.8 million visitors. During the first year of the pandemic, 2020-2021, visitation saw an unimaginable increase of 3.5 million people. But resources for—and strategic approaches to—managing this visitation have not kept pace. The BLM is woefully understaffed and underfunded, and thus ill-equipped to proactively manage for that growth. The public lands bear the consequences. Absent a clear, landscape-level, forward-looking strategy, the agency ends up reacting piecemeal, stuck in a game of



Visits to BLM lands in Utah more than doubled between 2011 and 2021, jumping by 107 percent from 5.7 to 11.8 million visitors. During the first year of the pandemic, visitation saw an unimaginable increase of 3.5 million people. But resources for—and strategic approaches to—managing this visitation have not kept pace.”

whack-a-mole in which everyone, including the land, ultimately loses.

We know that many BLM staff understand and are concerned about these impacts but are overwhelmed by these rapid changes. They lack direction from leadership and are hampered by decreased funding and limited personnel, particularly for law enforcement, outreach, and education. Those are hurdles, certainly, but they alone cannot excuse the failure to think creatively or to follow the body of established science around recreation trends, management, and impacts.



ACCORDING TO THE MONZ REPORT, CRYPTOBIOLOGICAL SOIL CRUSTS, WHICH ARE VITAL TO MAINTAINING A HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM, ARE HIGHLY SUSCEPTIBLE TO TRAMPLING DISTURBANCE AND MAY TAKE DECADES TO RECOVER. (FILE PHOTO)

This failure creates a range of problems. The most damaging is the oft repeated but wrong-headed belief at the federal and state levels that the solution to increased public land use is to disperse users across a larger landscape.

For example, the state's "Mighty 5" national parks tourism campaign overwhelmed Utah's national parks in just a few years. Then the state tourism board pivoted to a new message, "The Road to Mighty," which sought to fix the problem by promoting and directing visitors to state parks and BLM-managed public lands instead. Predictably, the results were increased use, overcrowding, and associated environmental and cultural degradation at those newly-recommended destinations. Longstanding recreation management research roundly debunks the notion that dispersion is a sound strategy, yet the idea remains pervasive and pernicious.

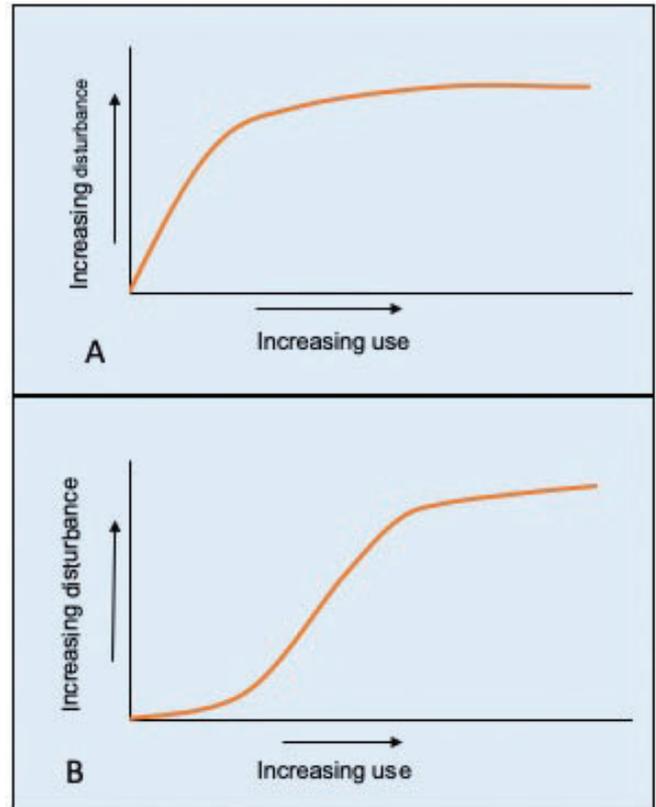
A SCIENTIFIC APPROACH TO RECREATION MANAGEMENT

To help educate land managers, the public, and ourselves, and to begin a conversation about science-based recreation management, SUWA commissioned a report from Dr. Christopher Monz, a professor of recreation management at Utah State University. Dr. Monz specializes in recreation ecology, which is "the study of outdoor recreation activities and their associated ecological disturbance."

The report, *Outdoor Recreation and Ecological Disturbance, A Review of Research and Implications for Management of the Colorado Plateau Province*, synthesizes more than 60 years of published scientific research to identify the environmental impacts of human-powered recreation on the Colorado Plateau. It also recommends management strategies to ensure ecological integrity while accommodating growing recreation demands.

The report describes the major impacts of human-powered recreation. It's a daunting list that includes soil erosion and compaction; wildlife habitat destruction and fragmentation; theft and destruction of cultural objects; dispersal of noxious weeds; and water, noise, and light pollution. It also finds that because most impacts occur as a result of initial use, even elevated levels of additional use in previously disturbed areas results in minimal further impacts.

Monz's overarching recommendation for the BLM and other federal land managers is that "concentrating visitor use in previously impacted or hardened sites and trails will likely be a successful management strategy, while dispersal strategies may result in a proliferation of recreation disturbance."



TWO COMMON MODELS OF THE USE-IMPACT RELATIONSHIP FOR GROUNDCOVER VEGETATION. (A) DEPICTS A LESS RESISTANT VEGETATION TYPE WHILE (B) IS MORE RESISTANT TO INITIAL USE. WITH ENOUGH USE, BOTH TYPES WILL ULTIMATELY BE DEVOID OF VEGETATION AND BECOME HARDENED TO ADDITIONAL USE. SOURCE: MONZ ET AL., 2013.

"Unused locations are the most precious and fragile, and thus should be intensively protected and managed to avoid the proliferation of impacts," the report finds.

It is hard to imagine how current management practices could be any more at odds with such solid science, yet dispersal remains the all-purpose tool for dealing with recreational pressure. The report makes clear that this reactionary management strategy will not suffice if the BLM hopes to accommodate "a likely continued increase in demand while also protecting the natural landscapes visitors seek."

CREATING A NEW, MORE SUSTAINABLE RECREATION MODEL

As human-powered recreation continues to grow and the recreating public continues to diversify, the central question remains: How can federal land managers juggle the competing responsibilities to protect public lands, cultural resources, and wildlife while also providing for a spectrum of high-quality experiences?

We at SUWA start from the simple fact that the interests of the recreating public are as diverse as the public lands

themselves. Some visitors ask no more than a picnic table, shade, and restrooms; others prefer a more primitive backcountry experience of solitude, natural quiet, and dark skies—and no or very few human encounters. Others are somewhere in between.

As Dr. Monz's report recommends, we believe the BLM must move toward recreational planning that involves a landscape zoning approach focused broadly on the idea of "frontcountry" and "backcountry" management, with additional zones as needed. This strategy is not new nor even new to Utah. The BLM successfully implemented it in its 2000 management plan for Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, which divided the entire monument landscape into four management zones: frontcountry, passage, outback, and backcountry or primitive.

Generally speaking, frontcountry zones are the focal point for visitation. Located near communities, the frontcountry provides developed, concentrated recreational amenities—trail systems, picnic areas, campgrounds, and information kiosks that BLM staff can manage more efficiently and effectively. Among other things, this cuts search and rescue costs and helps focus economic activity.

By contrast, backcountry or primitive areas are mostly devoid of developed amenities. They are farther from towns and distance provide buffers for flora and fauna. While some management prescriptions may still be needed in backcountry areas to protect resources (designated dispersed campsites, for example), the management hand will be lighter. In its 2000 Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument plan, for example, the BLM was clear that it would provide no facilities in backcountry areas and would limit signage to the minimum necessary for human health and safety.

ZONING MAY BE THE ONLY MANAGEMENT ROUTE TO BALANCE

We believe this approach is the only way the BLM will be able to reconcile the tension between protection and the availability of varied recreational opportunities. Zoning allows land managers to analyze and define use patterns and user expectations. That, in turn, guides them in setting clear goals, objectives, and management prescriptions for each zone.

The Monz study leaves little doubt that if the land management agencies persist in using dispersal as the sole or dominant tool for managing recreation growth we will end up

with fewer backcountry opportunities, new disturbances to sensitive natural and cultural resources, and the compounded inability of the BLM to effectively manage increasing recreational use.

It is worth noting that while permit systems can be effective in managing use levels in some specific high-use locations like river corridors and slot canyons, they are not panaceas and should be a last resort. Permits are often just reactions, not strategies, that signal a failure to plan for recreational use at a landscape level. Permit systems can also be exclusionary, and operate as barriers to entry for underserved populations and new public land users.

NEXT STEPS

As the Monz report illustrates, human-powered recreation can significantly impair even large landscapes. Scientists say that to maintain functioning ecosystems, we need to protect more land, and the benefits increase dramatically when we protect large landscapes that connect ecosystems and wildlife habitat.

While legislative protections are our ultimate goal, we urgently need the BLM to begin doing its part to manage for human-powered recreation in a way that is sustainable and equitable. This requires comprehensive, proactive planning that protects undisturbed landscapes while accommodating increased demand and providing meaningful recreational experiences.

When we released the Monz report last year, SUWA and more than a dozen Utah-based and regional organizations petitioned the Utah BLM to establish a human-powered recreation and visitation working group to undertake a comprehensive review of current recreation management policies, to identify emerging issues and management challenges, and to develop recommendations to address current problems. While we continue to encourage the Utah BLM to take the lead in addressing this issue through a formal working group, we are currently working to create our own diverse stakeholder group to tackle those same issues.

At the same time, as the BLM develops management plans for the newly designated San Rafael Swell Recreation Area, the Green River Wild and Scenic River segments, and the re-established Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante national monuments, SUWA will press the agency to implement science-based recreation management strategies.

—*Judi Brawer & Neal Clark*

GOOD NEWS

NAVAJO NATION ENDORSES RED ROCK BILL

We got some thrilling news to wrap up the year 2021: the Navajo Nation Council passed a resolution in support of America's Red Rock Wilderness Act. This first-of-its-kind endorsement acknowledges the role protecting public lands can play in combating climate change.

"Our support for this congressional bill sends a message that the Navajo Nation is concerned about climate change and the impact on our environment," said Council Delegate Herman Daniels, Jr. "Since time immemorial, we have lived in the canyons, mountains, and on the mesas currently managed by the federal government that would be protected and preserved by this congressional bill. For generations, our Indigenous people across the United States have been the original caretakers of our sacred lands and it will remain so."

"As the ancestral home of many tribes, the region contains abundant cultural significance that we view as imperative to preserve for generations to come. Protecting our land is important to the Navajo people and we support America's

Red Rock Wilderness Act," said Speaker Seth Damon, who represents the Bááhaalí, Chichiltah, Manuelito, Red Rock, Rock Springs, and Tséyatoh chapters in New Mexico (chapters are governmental subdivisions of the Navajo nation). "President Biden outlined a robust policy change across the federal government to address climate change. It is imperative that the Navajo Nation work on a global level to address this growing problem that affects our waters, air, and land."

Protecting these wild landscapes would also keep a significant amount of fossil fuel in the ground—enough to provide 5.7 percent of the carbon mitigation scientists say is necessary to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, a basic objective of climate stabilization efforts. In addition, the Red Rock bill accounts for 1.5 percent of the acreage necessary to protect 30 percent of land in the United States by 2030, a stated goal of the Biden administration.

Besides their importance to the Navajo Nation, these lands are also ancestral to the Ute, Hopi, Zuni, Paiute, and Pueblo people. SUWA is committed to working with tribal governments to help protect the redrock permanently. We are grateful to the Navajo Nation for their support of America's Red Rock Wilderness Act.

—Chris Richardson

SENATORS FIGHT TO REVITALIZE WILDERNESS PROTECTION AUTHORITY

The Department of the Interior once recognized its authority under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) to designate qualifying lands as wilderness study areas (WSAs) and manage them to protect their wild values pending congressional decisions about their fate. That initiative and many more disappeared during the Bush administration.

Senator Dick Durbin of Illinois, our redrock champion, organized a letter to the Interior Department earlier this year urging it to resurrect that FLPMA authority and actively use it to protect threatened but otherwise unprotected landscapes. Designating more WSAs will be pivotal in addressing the ever more urgent climate crisis and is an important step toward President Biden's goal of protecting 30 percent of our lands and waters by 2030.

Durbin and his colleagues also urged the BLM to set minimum management standards for areas of critical environ-

mental concern (ACEC) because the BLM does not routinely prioritize the designation of new ACECs in its land use plans. There are over 1,000 designated ACECs spanning 20 million acres, mostly in western states.

Helping us in this effort were our national coalition partners, among them the Natural Resources Defense Council, the League of Conservation Voters, the Conservation Lands Foundation, the Sierra Club and The Wilderness Society.

The Interior Department has acknowledged receipt of the Durbin letter but has yet to reply.

We want to thank Senator Durbin for leading this letter, and Senators Padilla, Murray, Heinrich, Duckworth, Menendez, and Feinstein for signing on in support of this important effort.

—Chris Richardson

**GOOD
NEWS**

BLM SCRAPS IDEA TO TURN WILDERNESS STUDY AREA TRAIL INTO A ROAD

Late last year, the Moab office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) began considering a project to upgrade and maintain an undeveloped and undesignated motorized vehicle route deep into the Floy Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA). This proposal would have allowed an excavator, loader, and road grader to blade a steep route up the side of a deep side canyon located many miles up Right-Hand Tusher Canyon from the Green River.

The idea was pushed on behalf of the grazing permittee, who stated that the road was needed to allow motorized access to a historic spring and trough development. According to the permittee, the road construction was needed to “perform maintenance on malfunctioning spring infrastructure.”

Relevant law and policy for WSA management allows maintenance of longstanding uses that predate when a WSA was established, trough and spring developments among them. However, that same governing policy expressly forbids impairment of wilderness values for other reasons, including the re-establishment of routes that have

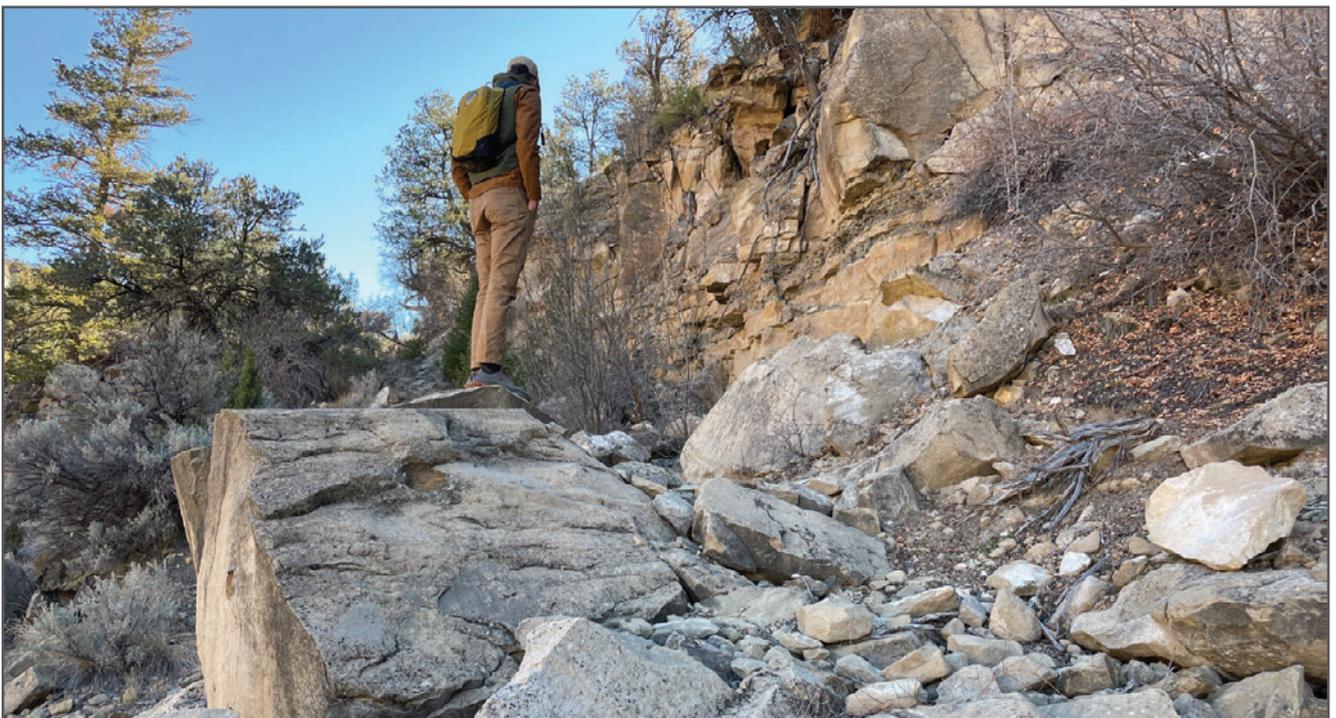
been closed and rehabilitated and are no longer used for motorized travel.

While engaging on this project, SUWA staff hiked the entire portion of the WSA that would have been bladed into a road. We confirmed that the “route” is extremely reclaimed, substantially unnoticeable, and impassable to motorized vehicles without major surface-disturbing new construction. Historic photos and documents in BLM files show the route—consistently referred to as a “trail”—as extremely well reclaimed as long ago as 1983.

After our careful fieldwork, months of discussion with the BLM, and the submission of extensive comments in opposition to the project, the BLM notified us in mid-February that it is dropping plans to proceed.

This is great news, and a fine illustration of why we get involved as early as possible with agency and private parties’ plans that we fear may harm the redrock wilderness. It is why our Wildlands program exists. Because of it, one of the most rugged and spectacular WSAs in Utah remains intact.

—Kya Marienfeld



SUWA'S FIELDWORK CONFIRMED THAT THE PROPOSED "ROUTE" WITHIN THE FLOY CANYON WSA IS EXTREMELY RECLAIMED, SUBSTANTIALLY UNNOTICEABLE, AND IMPASSABLE TO MOTORIZED VEHICLES. © KYA MARIENFELD

PUBLIC INPUT CRUCIAL AS BLM ROLLS OUT MULTIPLE TRAVEL PLANS

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) continues its multi-year travel planning processes that will decide where motorized vehicles are and are not allowed to travel on roughly six million acres of public land in southern and eastern Utah.

Off-road vehicles (ORV) are one of the most significant threats to the redrock wilderness. They erode streambanks and leak oil into important riparian environments. They contribute to climate change and emit dust at levels that can be harmful to human health. ORV routes fragment important wildlife habitat and damage natural and cultural resources.

The BLM's travel planning processes give us an opportunity to help shape reasonable, manageable, and forward-thinking travel plans—plans that will provide access to Utah's public lands while also protecting redrock wilderness.

The agency has recently made progress on several of these plans. In February, the BLM's Kanab field office opened public scoping for travel planning in the Paunsaugunt travel management area (TMA) just west of Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. This comment period provided us an opportunity to review the network of routes the agency is considering designating as open to motorized use and raise issues the BLM must analyze moving forward. The Paunsaugunt TMA includes not only spectacular redrock wilderness but also a high concentration of unique and important cultural resources. Some of these resources lie within potential vehicle routes and are thus at literal risk of being run over and destroyed.



LABYRINTH CANYON. © RAY BLOXHAM/SUWA

Back in 2020, the BLM completed a travel plan covering the San Rafael Desert. That plan more than doubled the mileage of routes open to ORVs. The agency recently closed roughly 35 miles of those routes after affirming they were “not apparent on the ground.” The BLM has also announced that before fall of 2022 it will revisit around 190 miles of its 2020 trail designations, emphasizing lands the agency has identified as having wilderness characteristics. Stay tuned for updates on this.

Looking forward, we expect to see a draft travel plan for the Labyrinth Rims/Gemini Bridges TMA from the Moab field office soon. As always, we will need your help to ensure that the BLM embraces management practices that protect Utah's spectacular redrock wilderness.

—Kelsey Cruickshank

FIRSTHAND KNOWLEDGE COUNTS!

If you live near any of the wilderness-quality lands under review in the current travel planning process (see suwa.org/travelplanning) or have firsthand knowledge of an area's route network, we need your help. We're looking for volunteers who can write about the natural values of these areas and how ORV use would impact those values.

We'll ask you to (1) visit the area and document current conditions, (2) submit comments during the public comment period, (3) generate and share current information with the BLM, and (4) possibly attend a meeting in the planning area.

If you're interested and willing to volunteer your time, please email us at issues-action@suwa.org.



THE BLM IS CURRENTLY REVISING ITS MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR LANDS PROTECTED BY THE EMERY COUNTY PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT ACT, INCLUDING IN THE SAN RAFAEL SWELL (PICTURED ABOVE) AND LABYRINTH CANYON. © RAY BLOXHAM/SUWA

MANAGEMENT PROCESS UNDERWAY FOR SAN RAFAEL SWELL, OTHER IMPORTANT PUBLIC LANDS

The Emery County Public Land Management Act (passed as part of the 2019 John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act) was a boon for conservation in southern Utah, designating 663,000 acres of wilderness, the 217,000-acre San Rafael Swell Recreation Area, three Wild and Scenic River segments, Jurassic National Monument, and the John Wesley Powell National Conservation Area.

Three years later, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has kicked off a process to shape the long-term management of these areas and to amend existing land use plans accordingly. Specifically, the agency will revise existing resource management plans for the Moab, Price, and Vernal field offices as they relate to lands newly protected in the bill.

While some management directives are clear—such as the preservation of wilderness values and the prohibition of motorized or extractive uses in designated wilderness—others are less so. How much commercial recreation should be allowed in wilderness areas? What uses should be

allowed in the recreation area or protected river segments? How should wilderness-quality land released from protective status be managed?

SUWA has provided extensive comments encouraging the agency to:

- Preserve wilderness values by closing backcountry airstrips within designated wilderness areas and limiting commercial recreational use levels.
- Protect designated Wild and Scenic rivers by closing the Labyrinth Canyon corridor to motorized vehicle use and by prohibiting the development of new facilities within the viewsheds of the Labyrinth Canyon and Desolation Canyon Wild and Scenic river segments.
- Plan and manage for increased recreational demand in the San Rafael Swell Recreation Area by using a zoned management approach that includes identifying areas as backcountry, frontcountry, and other zones as necessary.

- Maintain or enhance protective designations such as areas of critical environmental concern (ACECs) and natural areas within the recreation area and released wilderness study areas.
- Maintain or enhance visual resource management classes and primitive and semi-primitive non-motorized areas within the San Rafael Swell Recreation Area and released wilderness study areas.

The BLM is analyzing public comments now and will release a draft environmental assessment of its proposed plans for additional public comment. It's critical that we all stay engaged in that process, so you'll hear more from us when it's time to provide comments on those draft documents.

—Neal Clark

GOOD NEWS

BOOK CLIFFS HIGHWAY PROJECT DEAD (AGAIN)

This spring season brings a new stake through the heart of another truly bad idea: the Book Cliffs Highway. Citizens and elected leaders in Moab and Grand Counties have steadfastly opposed the idea for over 30 years. It has had many iterations and variations over time, but the one destructive constant has been to punch a paved highway 35 miles long through Utah's wild Book Cliffs region, one of the most pristine and remote places in Utah, if not the entire West.

The narrow 4-3 vote against the controversial project in early March comes after fossil fuel advocates recently reinvigorated the idea of a Book Cliffs highway as a way to use funding from the 2021 INVEST in America Act. In their zeal to build a new road through this wild and unpaved region, with its sensitive wildlife migration corridors and irreplaceable cultural and historic resources, road proponents ignored the fact that these federal funds were intended to fix failing infrastructure and provide needed community resources.

Thanks to SUWA members and advocates and great organizing at the local level with partner groups and Grand County residents, this 30-year-old bad idea is once again dead. This zombie highway has a way of rising again, though. We'll continue to keep a close eye on the situation

and, in the meantime, do all we can to gain permanent protection for the remarkable Book Cliffs region.

—Kya Marienfeld

RS 2477 LITIGATION: THE LATEST CHAPTER

SUWA continues to fight the State of Utah and many of its counties' long-running attempt to gain control over sensitive public lands through use of an arcane statute known as Revised Statute (RS) 2477.

Passed in 1866 as part of the Mining Act, this obscure law granted "highway" rights-of-way over federal lands in certain circumstances. Congress repealed RS 2477 in 1976, but Utah's politicians seized on it in the 1990s and early 2000s as a means of preventing redrock wilderness designation and asserting local control over federal public lands.

Here we offer an update on three of the most currently active RS 2477 cases.

First, the litigation known as the "Bald Knoll lawsuit" is back. The State of Utah and Kane County filed the suit in 2008 and the district court reached its original decision in 2011. Then, in 2014, the Tenth Circuit sent the case back to the district court to make a new decision regarding the width of three of the RS 2477 rights-of-way, each of which are either within or border Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The case lay dormant until the fall of 2021, when the parties, including SUWA, began the process of determining what additional evidence is necessary to reach a final resolution in the district court. That resolution is likely to come in late 2022 or 2023. An appeal is almost certain to follow.

Second, in March of this year, the Tenth Circuit heard argument in SUWA's appeal regarding the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) 2019 decision to allow Garfield County to chip-seal (akin to paving) a portion of the Burr Trail right up to the eastern doorstep of Capitol Reef National Park. This was the last unpaved section of the Burr Trail on BLM-managed lands. We expect a decision later this year.

Finally, for those keeping score, the RS 2477 "bellwether" case remains pending in federal district court. The court held a three-week-long trial in 2020 followed by a year of post-trial briefing but has yet to address several outstanding

issues, including what SUWA's role will be in the case. There are no fixed deadlines right now, but we expect some movement in the case this year.

—Michelle White

WHY MORE PUBLIC LAND LEASING WON'T REVERSE RISING FUEL PRICES

More than a year ago, President Joe Biden directed the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to pause all new oil and gas leasing on public lands while the agency conducted a comprehensive review of its outdated oil and gas program. The leasing pause was part of a broader executive order meant to address the climate crisis. It also represented a welcome pivot away from the prior administration's relentless assault on our public lands.

Immediately after the president ordered the leasing pause, the state of Utah and pro-drilling groups such as the

Western Energy Alliance launched an aggressive campaign claiming the pause would have devastating effects on Utah's rural economy. These hysterical predictions were wildly inaccurate.

Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the calls for more public land leasing and development have grown louder. But the clamor for more extraction is a thinly veiled attempt by fossil fuel interests to gouge more profit from the tragic conflict. It is also based on a false premise: that more public land leasing will lead to more drilling and production, which in turn will lower the price of oil and natural gas.

Not so.

Most oil and gas drilling in Utah and across the United States takes place on state and private lands, not public lands. And on public lands, operators have stockpiled millions of acres of unused leases and more than 9,000 unused (but approved) drilling permits.

The war in Ukraine has made it clear that the world needs to become significantly less, not more, reliant on fossil fuels.



UTAH LESSEES HAVE MORE LEASES & PERMITS THAN THEY KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH

Oil and gas operators do not need new federal leases or drilling permits because they are not developing the ones they already have. In Utah, according to the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) data, fifty-eight percent of current, existing leases remain undeveloped. That's more than 1.3 million acres of undeveloped public land leases in Utah alone.

At the same time, operators have stockpiled hundreds of approved but unused drilling permits in Utah. According to BLM data, operators drilled just seventeen percent of their approved permits over the past two years. Add to the mix that most of the oil and gas drilling in Utah takes place on state and private lands and there is no legitimate argument that the BLM needs to approve more leasing or drilling on public lands.

Meanwhile, climate scientists are speaking in one unified voice and telling us in unmistakable terms that if we continue drilling, transporting, and burning fossil fuels we are risking everything.

For far too long the BLM has wrongly elevated oil and gas leasing and development as the primary use of our nation's public lands, threatening our climate, wild places, cultural heritage, and the continued existence of thousands of species. This unbalanced approach must stop now. Our wild places—and the climate crisis—demand no less.

—Landon Newell

WHAT'S NEXT FOR UTAH'S RESTORED MONUMENTS?

President Joe Biden has restored the full original boundaries to Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and restored and expanded by roughly 12,000 acres Bears Ears National Monument. Thus, it wouldn't be unreasonable to ask what, if anything, remains to be done to protect these places? The answer is: plenty.

First, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) needs to go about the mundane but important task of placing signs identifying the boundaries of the Bears Ears monument. No boundary signs were installed following President Obama's original establishment of the monument in 2016 and that's led to confusion. Fortunately, the BLM never took down the Grand Staircase-Escalante signs. In both monuments, many of the signs telling the public where it's okay to drive and

what areas are closed to motorized use have suffered "sign mortality" and need to be replaced.

Second, BLM Director Tracy Stone-Manning issued interim guidance in late 2021 which set out several tasks regarding the management of these remarkable places. It included a commitment that new management plans for each monument be completed by March 1, 2024.

The guidance also instructs the BLM to review current and all future authorizations and confirm that they are consistent with the terms of President Biden's monument proclamations. In other words, the BLM is to look and see whether things like jeep jamborees and other BLM-issued "special recreation permits" are consistent with the high standard of management called for in the Biden proclamations. On that last point, the guidance also reminds agency personnel that, unlike BLM-managed lands which are subject to Congress's "multiple-use mandate," these monuments must be managed with the protection of monument objects and values taking priority above all other uses and activities.

Finally, we're preparing for the State of Utah's inevitable lawsuits challenging the establishment of these monuments. Rather than revel in the fact that our state is blessed with these remarkable places, Utah state leaders are prepared to sue and continue their efforts to undo these protections. No federal court has overturned the establishment of a national monument and we don't intend to let Grand Staircase-Escalante and Bears Ears be the first!

We'll keep you posted when Utah's ill-conceived effort gets underway.

—Steve Bloch



THE BLM WON'T SAY WHETHER A NEW COMMUNICATIONS TOWER IN UTAH'S MOUNTAIN HOME RANGE WOULD AFFECT THE AREA'S WILDERNESS ELIGIBILITY. © RAY BLOXHAM/SUWA

WEST DESERT PROJECT RAISES ALARM BELLS

SUWA has gone to the Interior Board of Land Appeals to oppose a plan the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) approved to build a communications tower and ancillary structures in the Mountain Home Range, one of the West Desert's most remote and remarkable ranges.

We are certainly not opposed to improved communication for emergency personnel. We are opposed to rolling the dice when wilderness is at stake, and that is what the agency is asking us to do. Our major concerns are the location of the complex and the BLM's coy refusal to tell us what impact it will have on the future of 37,000 acres of land proposed for wilderness in America's Red Rock Wilderness Act. While the BLM currently agrees that the lands are of

wilderness quality, the agency's environmental analysis states that future wilderness inventories "may determine that the tower is omnipresent," which "may impact naturalness and solitude to a degree" that renders the area unsuitable for wilderness consideration.

The BLM's meager analysis does not tell us whether the tower complex will disqualify none, some, or all of the 37,000 acres. That uncertain prospect would concern us anywhere, but it is even more troubling when it involves the BLM's Cedar City field office.

In 2014, the Cedar City field office determined that the 41,000-acre San Francisco Mountains proposed wilderness did not meet the requirements of the Wilderness Act. That was due,

in part, because it didn't meet the naturalness criteria. Why? Because of "communication facilities and towers on the highest peak in the unit . . ." The BLM determined that the communications site was "omnipresent" and thus disqualified the entire area.

When the BLM is tap-dancing about how it will rule on the actual impact of a new 80-foot tower on wilderness-quality lands, and when that same BLM office has previously used just such an intrusion to disqualify lands from wilderness eligibility, you can color us deeply skeptical. Once bitten, twice shy?

We'll keep you in the loop as the appeal progresses.

—Neal Clark

FIELD TEAM BRINGS HIGH-TECH TOOLS, SWEAT, AND BLOOD TO BEAR IN REDROCK ADVOCACY

Though spring has come in fits and starts, SUWA's field season is well underway. Our full-time and seasonal field staff have been busy performing detailed inventories ranging from tracking illegal motorized use to developing motorized route assessments to inform the BLM's travel management planning efforts across the state. In addition to our travel planning inventories, our field team is also working on identifying and mapping intrusions into the new wilderness areas in Emery County and existing wilderness study areas throughout the state, as well as analyzing site-specific projects as needed.

We've come a long way from the days of film photography and drawing on paper maps; the tools available to us now for this fieldwork are much advanced, with our team utilizing technological software that can be paired with cell

phones to create GPS photo points, on-the-ground condition reports, and geospatial data with limitless uses.

Our seasonal staff team spends months doing route and inventory work and documenting what they find. Many see this as a dream job. In reality, it is tough, dirty, and tiresome work. But the information produced is critical to our work with the BLM to improve land management and achieve more sensible, less disruptive designations for motorized travel. This year's primary focus continues to be on the agency's travel planning efforts within the Trail Canyon and Paunsaugunt areas near Kanab, and the San Rafael Swell, Nine Mile Canyon, and Dolores River areas. As needs arise we will include other locations around the state.

—Ray Bloxham

BEHIND THE SCENES AND OUT IN FRONT: SUWA STEWARDSHIP IN 2022

SUWA's Stewardship Program launched its 2022 season in mid-March as crews convened in two of southern Utah's most magnificent landscapes within the span of a week.

First, partnering with Grand Staircase Escalante Partners' volunteer program and BLM backcountry rangers, we met to work (and camp) on Big Spencer Flat in the monument. Our project addressed the impacts of illegal off-road vehicle travel in the North Escalante Canyons region, an area enduring rapidly increasing visitation. Over the course of three days, volunteers repaired a half-mile of vehicle-disturbed area. We reshaped topography with hand tools to improve drainage, transplanted native bunch grasses, mulched loose piñon snags and cow patties (yes, you heard that right)—all to diminish impairment, spur natural restoration, and improve visual continuity within the landscape. To boot, volunteers reversed damage from 11 dispersed campsites and hauled out 180 pounds of refuse and campfire charcoal—no small task.

Just a few days later, we gathered on BLM lands overlooking the Needles District of Canyonlands National Park and the northern reaches of Bears Ears National Monument. Students from the University of Utah's Bennion Center Alternative Break Program hustled to build 200 feet of

buck-and-rail fence to help enforce the Canyon Rims travel management plans. We sought to reverse over two miles of off-road vehicle impacts, including extensive physical remediation on the most visible quarter mile. We also found time to discuss the relevance of this protection work in the face of growing recreational pressures as well as issues of environmental justice connecting Utah's urban and rural communities. There is arguably no better way to visit canyon country—for the first or 500th time—than by giving one's time and energy to wilderness stewardship.

We now have 24 scheduled projects for 2022 covering 65 days of on-the-ground work on Utah's public lands. That work will range from backcountry archaeological surveys in Bears Ears National Monument to wilderness boundary management in the Labyrinth Canyon and Muddy Creek wilderness areas. In the deserts, on the rivers, and in the mountains of southern Utah, we will be out there with you again this year, grateful as always for your support.

To join a project, first view our upcoming calendar at suwa.org/projectcalendar. Then, submit an application at suwa.org/apply. We look forward to working with you.

—Jeremy Lynch

LONGTIME LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR JEN UJIFUSA DEPARTS SUWA

After a dozen years of keeping SUWA staff apprised of Utah politicians' shenanigans in Washington, telling the best jokes at our annual staff retreats, and walking the halls of Congress on behalf of redrock protection, SUWA legislative director Jen Ujifusa moved on from SUWA in February.

A native Utahn, Jen grew up in Liberty, Utah, and gained her love of wild places roaming the state with her father, who worked for the Forest Service. Jen majored in journalism at Utah State University and wrote for several papers before joining SUWA. She and her husband, Andrew, are avid world travelers.

Ever creative when it came to bothering Congress, Jen delivered not just convincing information but also oversized checks, dinosaur puppets, and piles upon piles of letters from redrock supporters making the point to elected officials that Americans care about preserving these wild places.

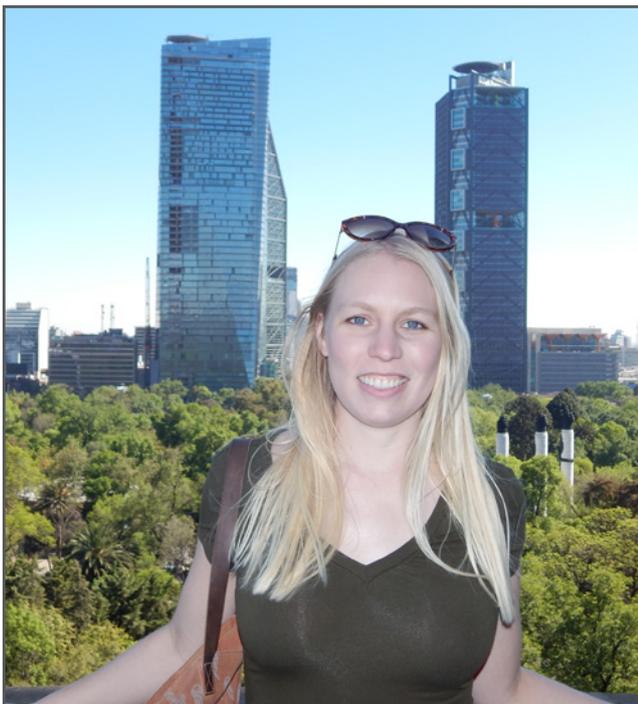
Jen was the solid rock who stood up to the Trump administration's ridiculous actions. Organizing a "welcoming committee" event when former Interior Secretary Ryan

Zinke arrived for his first day of work in DC, Jen rallied coworkers and interns to wear dinosaur and mountain lion costumes—which took some convincing on a swampy DC summer day. She was commanding with the megaphone, to say the least.

Jen was also the guide of SUWA's DC office, welcoming staff, interns, supporters, and office mates. During our annual Wilderness Week events, for which she organized trainings and tracked participants' lobby visits, Jen walked activists through all sorts of scenarios and conversations to make sure they were prepared advocates. She also helped every participant share their wilderness stories in the best way possible. We wish her the best and we will miss her!

KATHERINE INDERMAUR MOVES ON TO NEW ADVENTURES

After serving as SUWA's development associate since the Before-Times (2019), Katherine Indermaur moved on last November, taking a job at Colorado State University's Department of Communication Studies. She passes the torch to our new development associate, Heather Martinez (see article on page 20).



SUWA IS ETERNALLY GRATEFUL TO JEN FOR HER STEADY LEADERSHIP IN DC THROUGH UNIQUELY BIZARRE AND CHALLENGING TIMES.



WE WISH KATHERINE THE VERY BEST AT HER NEW JOB AND IN HER NEW COLORADO HABITAT.

Katherine's experience as a poet and in the publishing world served her well at SUWA, where her writing skills and keen editing eye made light work for the rest of us. In addition to keeping all of our mailings on schedule, writing grant proposals, and overseeing our fundraising campaigns and member events, she was a friendly face (or voice on the phone) to many of our supporters. She deserves special praise for expertly guiding her team's adaptation to pandemic-era donor relations by planning and hosting a series of well-orchestrated, members-only Zoom events, including a virtual celebration of the long-awaited restoration of Grand Staircase-Escalante and Bears Ears National Monuments.

Though we are sad to see Katherine go, we wish her the very best in her new beginnings, which, besides her new job, include the publication of her first full-length book in November (a lyric essay on mirrors and mental health, which won the 2022 Deborah Tall Lyric Essay Book Prize), and the arrival of her first child (a baby girl) this June!

ANNE MILLIKEN STEPS DOWN FROM SUWA BOARD

Eleven years ago, in the spring 2011 issue of *Redrock Wilderness*, SUWA introduced members to a new addition to our board, Anne Milliken. They learned that Anne had to that point had an eclectic career in journalism, politics, and helping to bring the Utah Museum of Natural History to fruition. They also learned of Anne's passion for wilderness and the outdoors.

"The land is my cathedral," said Anne.

Well, Anne hasn't abandoned the cathedral, and never will. But—much to our regret—she has relinquished her role on SUWA's board of directors.

"I really think people should not overstay their welcome, and should leave at the peak of the party," Anne said when asked why she had chosen to leave the board. Anne says she feels like she had accomplished her reason for joining SUWA's board. "I went in to introduce SUWA to Salt Lake City. SUWA wanted to grow up in a way, to get rid of its radical spit-on-your-shoes, if-you're-not-with-us-you're-against-us" mentality.

In Utah's capital city, Anne has been a tireless networker on behalf of SUWA. She has made us friends in places where



ANNE'S VALUABLE GUIDANCE AND UNIQUE INSIGHTS WILL BE MISSED BY SUWA STAFF AND BOARD ALIKE.

we didn't have so many before she came along. And she's been an invaluable help in cementing our financial foundation. For other members of the board, she's been a wonderful colleague, great fun to be around, and full of wise counsel.

Anne admits what all of us on the board know: that it's a pretty easy gig because SUWA's staff is so talented, dedicated, and hardworking that there's not a whole lot of heavy lifting for the board to do. "What am I most proud of?" asks Anne. "I'm most proud of just allowing the staff to be who they are and being a cheerleader for progressive ideas" at SUWA's affiliate organization the Rural Utah Project.

Anne also served as the Rural Utah Project's board president, a position she has also now left to others.

With two young grandchildren in Salt Lake City, Anne is now finding joy in what she calls her "next career—being a nanny."

Best of luck to you, Anne. And we expect to see you out in the redrock with those two young ones, giving them tours of the cathedral.

—Tom Kenworthy, SUWA board chair

WEISSMAN INTERN ELI JOHNSON LEADS STUDENT OUTREACH

As a high school senior, Eli Johnson approached SUWA with the bold and confident statement that he “wanted to be our southern Utah college campus organizer.” Soon after, as he prepared for his first semester at central Utah’s Snow College, he became the latest recipient of SUWA’s Dr. Norman Weissman Internship for the Protection of Wild & Scenic Utah.

Hailing from conservative Utah County, Eli came to us already skilled in communicating about environmental protection in non-threatening ways. “Throughout the internship I’ve worked to connect students across college campuses throughout Utah to join the fight for Utah’s redrock and the ever-growing threat of climate change,” says Eli. “Young people are not satisfied with the way previous generations are currently dealing, or rather not dealing, with the climate crisis.”

We have no doubt that Eli has a bright future in helping to protect Utah’s redrock country!



JASMINE AND HEATHER ARE THE NEW FRIENDLY FACES AT SUWA’S SALT LAKE CITY OFFICE. BOTH ARE HAPPY TO CHAT WITH SUPPORTERS AND HELP WITH ANYTHING MEMBERSHIP-RELATED.

MEET OUR NEW DEVELOPMENT DUO: JASMINE DESPAIN AND HEATHER ROSE MARTINEZ

Jasmine Despain (they/she) became our new membership coordinator last September. In her months with SUWA, she has truly enjoyed her conversations with members about their outdoor adventures and their passion for the wild.

Jasmine was born and raised in Utah. She attended Utah State University and graduated with a degree in education. In 2021, she decided to try something new and look for work that made her feel like she was making a positive impact in the world. With the encouragement of friends, she applied to SUWA and ultimately joined our staff. Jasmine feels lucky to have such supportive and kind coworkers that make coming to work so fulfilling. Outside of the office, she loves spending time with her partner, Mateo, and her dear friends and family. Jasmine can often be found giggling at dad jokes and drinking an oat milk latte in the sun with her two dogs, Jax and Josie. She is a veritable ray of sunshine at our Salt Lake City office and we are happy to have her on board.

Heather Rose Martinez joined our staff in late February as development associate. She brings to SUWA over 14 years of experience in member outreach and development. A Utah native, Heather spent the past two years living off-grid in a white pine forest on the mid-coast of Maine. It was a beautiful and humbling experience for her, one that taught her the meaning of the Zen proverb “chop wood, carry water.” While she is happy to be back in sunny Utah, her amazing partner is still in Maine keeping up the homestead.

Heather is passionate about wildland preservation, decolonization, and helping to ensure that there are still places of solitude where people can go to connect with the land and with their higher selves. She enjoys camping, hiking, yin yoga,

cooking, metaphysics, endless philosophical debate, and conspiracy theories. She is currently working on her BA in philosophy and religious studies. Welcome, Heather!

LAURA BORICHEVSKY JOINS COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

SUWA is pleased to introduce Laura Borichevsky (she/they), our new social media and digital advertising specialist based in Moab.

Laura was an exceptionally lucky find for us. Not only was she already part of the Moab community, she had also been honing her digital communications skills for years as a consultant/freelancer. Her broad experience ranges from digital marketing and social media development to podcast production and professional photography (still a side gig).

Since starting at SUWA last fall, she has (among other things) expanded our social media content and engagement, helped us reach new audiences through digital (and some traditional) advertising, built and promoted online advocacy campaigns, assisted our in-house podcasting efforts, and even taken on field photography assignments with our Stewardship Program. We are grateful for the creativity and enthusiasm she brings to our communications efforts.

Born and raised in the suburbs of Seattle, WA, Laura studied human services (including non-profit work) at Western Washington University in Bellingham. She says she is proudly self-taught in all her creative and marketing endeavors. In the not-quite-related-but-still-very-cool column, Laura has a passion for sex education and reproductive justice issues and is currently studying for her certificate as a holistic sex educator. When not at work, she's likely spending time with her husband and dog on the road, trail, or river—or learning how to longboard with her two curious cats. We are delighted to have her on staff.



LAURA BORICHEVSKY BRINGS NEW TALENTS TO SUWA'S COMMUNICATIONS TEAM.



THANKS TO SPRING INTERN KAYA TATE

The spring semester gave us the pleasure of meeting and working with Kaya Tate, a senior in environmental sciences at Westminster College. Kaya grew up in Albuquerque, NM, and regularly visits family on the Navajo Nation in the Four Corners region.

Her tasks at SUWA ranged from researching influencers in various congressional districts in the Southwest, to tabling at events in the Salt Lake City area, and meeting with congressional staff and other red-rock activists in her home state.

“My brief time with the organization has proved to be incredibly valuable,” said Kaya. “In an age of climate anxiety, interning at SUWA has made me more optimistic and motivated to speak up for the lands I cherish. It has strengthened my identity as an environmentalist and Indigenous person, further connecting me to landscapes that offer endless beauty and respite.”

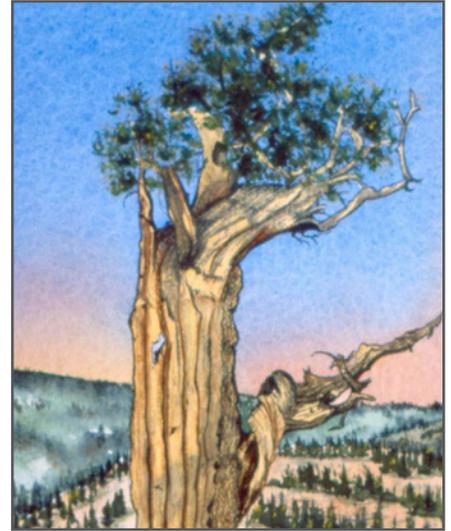
Congratulations on your graduation, Kaya, and all the best in what we know will be a successful career!

MAKE A LONG-TERM INVESTMENT IN UTAH WILDERNESS

Please consider leaving a gift to SUWA in your will or trust. Bequests are a simple, effective way for those of us who love the redrock to ensure that when we're gone, the work to protect these amazing landscapes continues.

A bequest for SUWA (or any other charitable organization) is very simple to establish. Just name the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance in your will, trust, retirement plan, or life insurance policy, along with our contact information and tax ID number and the dollar amount or percent of your estate you wish to contribute.

If you'd like to make a gift to SUWA or have already included a gift in your estate, please contact Michelle Martineau at (801) 236-3763 or visit suwa.org/plannedgiving for more information.



BRISTLECONE PINE. ARTWORK BY PAT PRIEBE

STILL AVAILABLE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST: LIMITED-EDITION ITEMS CELEBRATING UTAH MONUMENTS

With all that's going on both locally and nationally these days, you'd think Utah politicians would have better things to do with their time (and taxpayer money) than continuing their indefensible attack on Grand Staircase-Escalante and Bears Ears National Monuments. Instead, the State of Utah is preparing to sue over President Biden's celebrated restoration of these magnificent wild landscapes.

Show your ongoing support for the monuments with our limited-edition collection of colorful stickers, magnets, and T-shirts featuring local Utah artist Josh Scheurman's amazing artwork. You can find them, while supplies last, at suwa.org/goodies or click SHOP at the top of our home page.

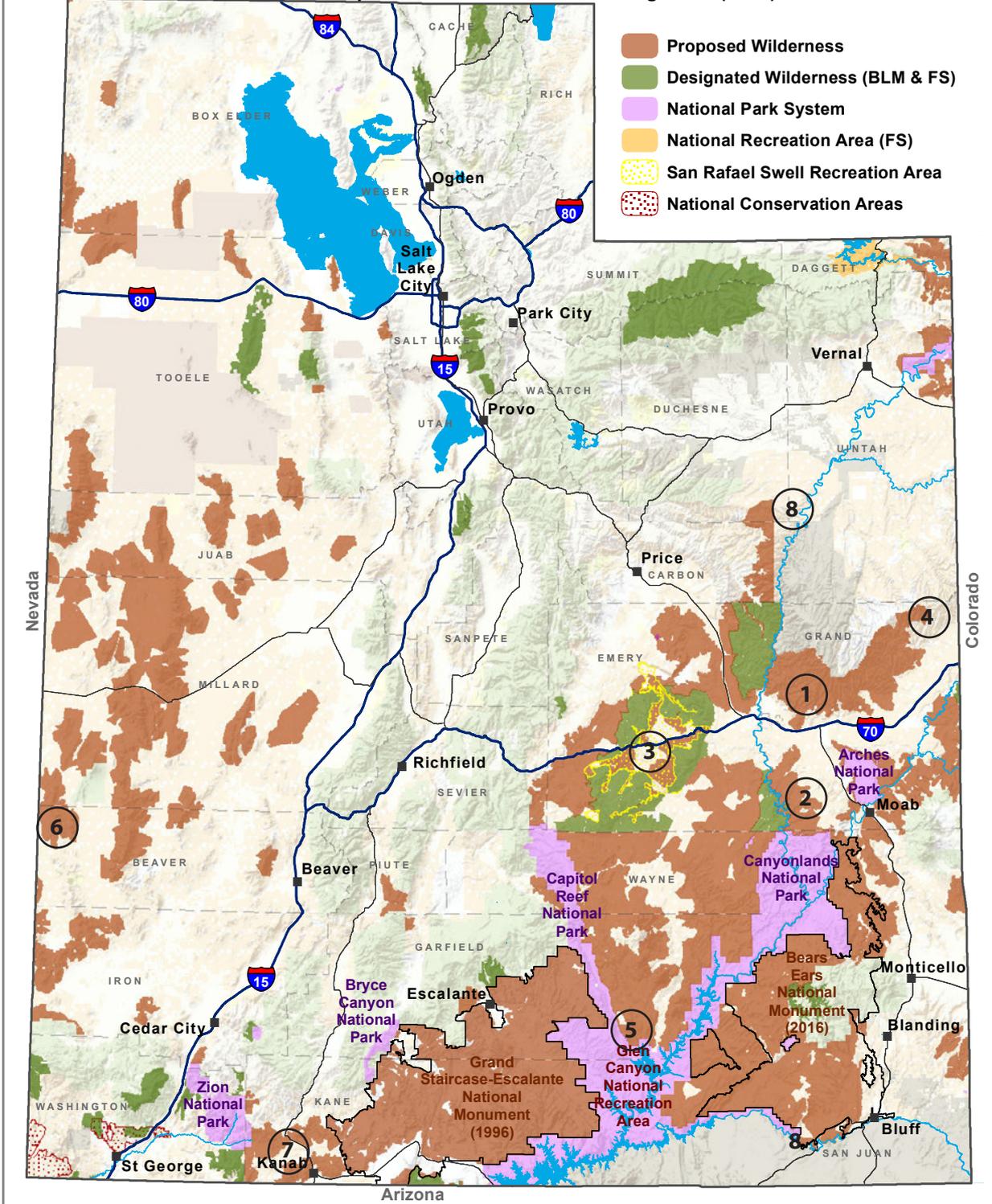
LIMITED EDITION

MONUMENTS RESTORED

SEE THE COLLECTION AT SUWA.ORG

America's Red Rock Wilderness Act

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



- | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ① Floy Canyon (p. 10) | ④ Book Cliffs (p. 13) | ⑦ Trail Canyon (p. 17) |
| ② Labyrinth Canyon (p. 11) | ⑤ Burr Trail (p. 13) | ⑧ Nine Mile Canyon (p. 17) |
| ③ San Rafael Swell (p. 12) | ⑥ Mountain Home Range (p. 16) | |



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CACTUS BLOOMS IN BEARS EARS NATIONAL MONUMENT. © JEFF FOOTT

“The survival of the human species is inescapably linked with the survival of all other forms of life.”

~Michael Frome