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Utah Sierran

utah.sierraclub.org

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This Issue

The Utah Chapter keeps up the fight to protect Greater Canyonlands. The latest twist is a partial victory described on p. 6

Should Rocky Mountain Power be allowed to throttle the competition coming from homeowners' solar rooftop installations? Find out how you can vent on p. 3

Black Diamond CEO Peter Metcalf is passionate about protecting public lands in Utah. Get the skinny on p. 7

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on Facebook for the latest!

Diverse SLC Communities Speak Out Against Proposed Solar Tax

by Mark Clemens

Standing shoulder-to-shoulder with former President of the Utah Coalition of La Raza Archie Archuleta and Rep Rebecca Chavez-Houck, Representative Angela Romero spoke out on July 8th against Rocky Mountain Power's stubborn determination to raise rates on solar homeowners while ignoring the health, economic development and other benefits of renewable power, "Today, the commission in charge of regulating Rocky Mountain Power is holding their final meeting meant to analyze the value of distributed solar. We're here to tell them that solar energy should be incentivized, not penalized. More solar power means less coal burned, which in turn means that the communities that disproportionately bear the brunt of our fossil-fuel-centric economy, are healthier."

Utah Chapter volunteers and staff and Beyond Coal Campaign Organizer Lindsay Beebe helped organize the event together with conservation partners HEALUtah and Utah Clean Energy at Wasatch Commons Co-housing in Salt Lake City's diverse Glendale neighborhood.

Wasatch Commons resident Kathy Albury said, "Every day, I plug my Nissan Leaf into this solar array you see here,



MARK CLEMENS

Wasatch Co-Housing residents join solar champions Archie Archuleta, Rep. Rebecca Chavez-Houck and Rep. Angela Romero to denounce a new solar tax proposed by Rocky Mountain Power.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet.

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The Yellowstone grizzly bear is an irreplaceable part of America's natural heritage, a symbol of the independence that defines the American character and an icon of all that is wild and free. The Bush administration set forth a proposal that would remove federal protection for the Yellowstone grizzly bear. Since it was first listed as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act in 1975, the grizzly bear has made a strong recover, but there is still more work to be done. Help Sierra Club protect our forest friends; they prefer the woods than being on display.

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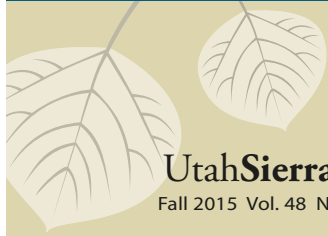
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DESIGN: Davina Pallone

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OurMission

**The Utah Chapter of the Sierra Club
is a grassroots volunteer
organization dedicated to:**

**Protect and promote Utah's
outdoors and natural landscapes;**

**Educate and advocate for the
responsible preservation of clean air,
water and habitats; and**

**Support the development of
sustainable renewable energy;**

**For the benefit of
present and future generations.**

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Bylined articles represent the research and opinions of the author and not necessarily those of the Sierra Club or the Utah Chapter.

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- Jeff ClayWilderness 50 Committee
- Kim Crumbo Our Wild America local delivery team
- Wayne Hoskisson..... Grazing, National Utah Wilderness, Wild Lands and Wilderness, & Our Wild America local delivery teams
- Marion KlausOur Wild America leadership team
- Lawson LeGate Leadership & Capacity Building team member
- Dan Mayhew National Utah Wilderness team & Wild Lands and Wilderness BLM sub team

OnEnergy

PROPOSED SOLAR TAX, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and charge the car's battery. Then, energy from sun, and not from fossil fuels, powers my car when I drive through Salt Lake City. The electric vehicle reduces emissions in Salt Lake Valley, just as the solar panels reduce the need to burn coal at one of Utah's several coal-fired power plants."

Jean Hill, government relations director for the Utah Catholic Diocese, made remarks to conclude the event, "As our own air quality attests, there is a strong, clear connection between energy production, environmental protection and public health. While Rocky Mountain Power discounts these indirect benefits, its focus solely on the benefits to its own bottom line will continue to harm the health of all Utahns."

Catholic commitment to climate justice was deepened and more fully explained with the recent publication of the papal encyclical Praise Be

Hill continued, "Though Rocky Mountain Power asserts that PSC cannot consider any other factors than its economic desires, PSC has a far broader role to fill. As a public service agency, PSC does not exist just to prevent bad practice or promote business interests, but also to promote best practices to protect our common home."



**Benefits of Solar Program
Go Beyond Environmental**

INVEST NOW, SAVE FOR YOUR FUTURE

Solar panels harvest clean, abundant energy, reduce carbon emissions and promote cleaner air. But did you know that installing solar provides incredible financial savings? An average system pays for itself in roughly 8 years, provides a hedge against rising electricity rates and can save tens of thousands of dollars in energy bills.

Have you considered going solar? Utah is among the top six states for solar energy production with a thriving solar market. However, with over 50 solar contractors in Utah, choosing an experienced, trustworthy installer can be daunting.

The Utah Chapter Sierra Club has teamed up with Creative Energies to bring members the best pricing in rooftop solar. Installing renewable energy systems since 2000, Creative Energies provides expert design, installation and the best equipment and warranty available. As an added benefit, every solar installation results in a donation to the local Sierra Club Chapter!

Going solar makes great financial sense, is great for the environment and now, through the Utah Solar Homes Program, is nearly effortless. Learn more and get a free solar site assessment of your home at www.sierraclubsolar.org.

EXPIRING FEDERAL INCENTIVES

Several incentives apply for all members and supporters living in Utah. A 30% federal tax credit and \$2,000 state tax credit make solar surprisingly affordable.

Take advantage of these tax incentives before they expire at the end of 2016. Please contact Creative Energies to see if your utility offers additional rebates or incentives for going solar at sierraclubsolar.org.

SPEAK OUT AGAINST A SOLAR HOMEOWNERS TAX

Stand up for clean energy and clean air! Join fellow solar advocates 4 pm on Thursday, October 8 for a rally in front of the Utah Public Service Commission as they decide whether or not to support more rooftop solar development in our state.

Directly following the rally, head upstairs in the Heber M. Wells building and seize the opportunity to have your voice heard. Tell our Public Service Commissioners how much Utahns value rooftop solar for the betterment of the environment, the economy and our public health. Public testimony will begin at 5:00 pm.

The rally and hearing will be at the Heber M Wells Building, 160 E 300 S, in Salt Lake City.

Like our Facebook page:
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events/411781455679874](http://www.facebook.com/events/411781455679874)

ATTEND A FREE SOLAR WORKSHOP

Creative Energies will be hosting free, educational solar workshops at their new building in Salt Lake City. Enjoy complimentary food and beverages, see equipment, discuss options and ask questions. Bring a copy of your electric bill as a resource in planning your own system.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15 & THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5
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Promises Broken

by Bill Love

The Environmental Analysis for the sixteen new Fidelity well pads will make many promises or statements that relate to well safety, well location, flaring of gas, fracking of wells, and the air quality of the surrounding area. The problem with many of these types of promises or statements is that the Moab BLM and the oil companies have a long history of making changes as the project progresses. Many of these changes significantly affect the public's health and welfare.

The Moab BLM told the public several years ago that the pipeline for transporting gas from the Big Flats area would meet the highest standards of a government transmission line and not the much lower standard of an oil field gathering line. This promise was broken. The BLM approved a

request from the pipeline owner to remove the majority of the safety requirements from the pipeline. The BLM no longer requires continuous surveillance of the pipeline, there is no required damage prevention program, no required emergency plan, and no required Investigation of pipeline failures. The pipeline changes allowed the pipeline to be built with old or obsolete material that is below federal transmission line requirements. The safety and health of the almost million people that visit the area each year was not considered when the promise for a high quality pipeline was broken.

The Moab BLM promised that all flaring of natural gas would be eliminated near Canyonlands National Park. The flaring from the wells in the Big Flats area is visible at night in Arches National Park, pollutes the air in Canyonlands National Park, and is a waste of a valuable natural resource. This promise to stop all flaring was broken in 2014 when the BLM and the oil industry agreed to stop flaring on those wells producing more than 1800 MCFs of gas. Flaring will continue for many of the wells in the Big Flats Area for many years.

The oil and gas industry promised high paying jobs for many Moab residents. Instead of providing high paying jobs for local people, the industry brought in their own crews from outside the area to build the pipeline and to drill wells. The few jobs provided to Moab firms generally pay a much lower wage.

Fracking of wells was not even mentioned to the public by the BLM or the oil industry. Fracking was considered to be impossible due to salt formations in the area. At least two wells have been fracked in the Big Flats area with no oversight from the BLM on one well fracked on federal property. Fracking is expected to continue as older wells decline.

The BLM promised all spills in the Big Flats area would be cleaned up immediately and completely. However, the first clean up of a production water spill on Highway 313 last year was only half completed. The BLM after receiving public pressure and pictures of contaminated soils in the spill area finally required the cleanup crews to finish the job.

Promises were made that oil production was going to provide Grand County with several million dollars from Mineral Leases each year for development. However, Mineral Lease Money is expected to decrease over 60% in 2015 and is far below several million dollars. Several Special Service Districts in Grand County were foolish enough to use Mineral Lease Money for long term projects and may have to cut services to the public.

The public has lost all trust in the promises and statements of the BLM and the oil industry. Promises made today are all too often broken tomorrow. The EA for the Fidelity West fertilizer 16 Pad Oil and Gas Project needs to be reviewed by both Fidelity and the BLM for all items that are subject to change by the BLM as the project progresses. The BLM needs to separate promises and statements in the EA that are enforceable by Federal Law from those items subject to future change at the discretion of the local BLM management.

InMemoriam

Clyde Gillette

UTAH CHAPTER CO-FOUNDER

Our husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, friend, Clyde Ford Gillette, was born in Salt Lake City on March 30, 1927, and died on June 9, 2015 after a short illness. He will be remembered as a scientist, adventurer, and explorer, chasing and studying butterflies and climbing mountains for 88 years.

Clyde's love of and interest in butterflies began at a very early age, and he was asked to co-author an article on painted lady butterfly migrations with Dr. Angus Woodbury of the University of Utah at age 9. He co-founded the Utah Lepidopterist Society and was known informally as Mr. Butterfly of Utah because of his extensive research into the life histories of the butterflies of the Great Basin and western states of the US, avidly exploring mountain peaks and glaciated valleys of the western states to establish the range of alpine butterflies until his stroke in 2011 curtailed this somewhat. He loved sharing his knowledge with others.

He was one of the co-founders of the Sierra Club's Utah chapter in 1959 and an avid conservationist, always cleaning up trails and campsites on family hikes. He established summit registers on the top of the highest peak in all 29 counties of Utah and has climbed the highest

mountain in all the 11 western states. He loved taking his wife and four daughters on all the adventures he could find. Many times accompanied by his daughters, he climbed, among many others, the Great White Throne in Zion National Park in 1959, the Tetons and Wind River Mountains, Mexico's Orizaba, Popocatepetl, Iztaccihuatl in 1961; Mt. St. Helens in 1962 before it blew its top; and at age 80, he climbed 18,000 ft Vajanaarahu in the Andes of Peru with his daughter Janee.

He was inspired by the explorations of Major John Wesley Powell and early Utah pioneer Will Flanigan. He first traversed the Narrows in 1947 and facilitated his wife-to-be Janet Walker's being the first documented woman to traverse the Narrows in 1948. He instigated the Sierra Club's establishment of a monument and plaque in 1972 memorializing Major Powell's exploration of Parunuweap Canyon in Zion National Park. He hiked across the Grand Canyon with his four daughters in 1960. In 1963 he joined a Utah group to raft down the Rio Urique in Mexico's Barranca del Cobre, but they mostly ended up carrying their rafts because of low water and huge boulders — he was emaciated when they climbed out of the deep gorge to rural civilization.



Clyde was in the navy near the end of WWII; joined the ROTC at the University of Utah; was in the Army Reserve for 30 years, teaching artillery classes at Ft. Douglas; commanded an Honest John Rocket Battery; and graduated from the Command and General Staff College as a full Colonel. He was a referee at many war training games in various parts of the U.S. and was proud to have met Gen. Mark Clark on one of these exercises.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Janet Walker Gillette,

daughters Jeralee, Janee, Heidi and Michele, 14 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren, half-brothers Nels Larsen and Don Larsen, half-sister Phyllis Pedroncelli, cousins Jackie F. Robinson, Lark Flanigan, Glenna F. Gibbons, Shane Flanigan, and nephew Barry Gillette.

A funeral service was held Thursday, June 18, 2015, at the LDS Chapel located at 3408 South Celeste Way. Interment was at the Utah Veterans Memorial Park at Camp Williams.

Clyde was very supportive of efforts to prevent animal abuse. In lieu of flowers, contributions to the Best Friends Animal Society or Pet Samaritan Fund are appreciated.

This obituary is re-printed courtesy of Holbrook Mortuary.

ExCom Elections 2015

This year's ballot includes candidates for the Utah Chapter Executive Committee and the Ogden Group Executive Committee. All members—even those who don't live in one of these areas with groups — are welcome to vote for candidates for the chapter executive committee — the volunteers who decide Sierra Club policy at the state level. Please read the candidate statements, vote, and return your anonymous ballot in the envelope provided. All ballots must be postmarked no later than **November 20, 2015**.

CHAPTER CANDIDATES

Turner Bitton

Turner C. Bitton is a lifelong resident of Ogden and was endorsed by the chapter in his 2013 race for Ogden City Council. He uses a data-centered approach to fund development and has lectured, spoken, and presented on the intersections between political engagement, donor cultivation, and digital organizing. Turner is a member of the Utah Society of Fundraisers, Association of Fundraising Professionals, Utah Nonprofits Association, and Grant Professionals Association.



Driven by the intersection between data and organizational development, Turner C. Bitton utilizes his experience in political campaign management, community organizing, and public policy advocacy to improve the financial successes of the organizations he interacts with. Drawing on experiences from diverse backgrounds has given Turner a keen understanding of interpreting data and using technology to improve organizational capacity.

Turner has also served on the Board of Directors of several organizations and serves in many volunteer leadership capacities.

Jim Catlin

Served on the Chapter ExCom earlier helping with wilderness in Utah's National Forests. Served in a number of positions including two terms on the Sierra Club's national Board of Directors. Jim is also the father of the citizens' inventory of public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management for wilderness qualities. This process resulted in a re-inventory ordered by former Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt in which the vast majority of inventoried lands were indeed found to have wilderness quality. Recently retired from the Wild Utah Project a group which provides scientific and technical expertise to the conservation community.



Kim Crumbo

Kim is currently on the Utah Chapter EXCOM. He served as a Sierra Club's Volunteer Co-leader for the Greater Grand Canyon – Colorado Plateau Resilient Habitats campaign, and has served on the Plateau Group (Grand Canyon Chapter) EXCOM, and held a staff position as the Club's Utah Wilderness Coordinator (1976-77) Kim is the Director of Conservation for the Grand Canyon Wildlands Council, a non-profit, Flagstaff-based wildlife conservation organization dedicated to protecting and restoring native wildlife. He is an official stakeholder on USFWS Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan Revision process. Kim has strived to develop and maintain professional relationships with other conservation groups, legislators and their staff, and agency personal as well as general public outreach. He served 20 years with the National Park Service in Grand Canyon as the river ranger and later as Wilderness Coordinator. Kim



worked as professional river guide for 10 years.

Before his experience on rivers and in wilderness activism, he spent four years with the Navy's SEAL Team One completing two combat deployments to Vietnam. As a result of his military service, Kim earned several combat decorations, including a Bronze Star.

He received a B.S. in Environmental Studies from Utah State University, with postgraduate work in outdoor recreation. His publications include A River Runners Guide to the History of Grand Canyon.

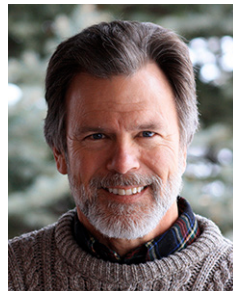
Wayne Y. Hoskisson

For many years I have been committed to volunteering with the Sierra Club. I have served as the Chair of the Utah Chapter Executive Committee. As a Chapter volunteer I work on issues related to wilderness, public lands management under the BLM, National Forest management, National Park management and creating new National Monuments. I wrote Sierra Club comments on Wild and Scenic River designation on National Forests in Utah, BLM Resource Management Plans for several field offices and regularly work with other organizations on projects concerning management of public lands and national forests. For many years I have been involved in RS 2477 right of way issues including keeping the Utah Chapter a key partner in the campaign against county and state claims for so-called highways that would destroy our wild places.



Jeff Kramer

As a Sierra Club member since 1976, the conservation of unique natural environments has long been one of my primary interests. Since 2008, as a member of the Knapsack Subcommittee, I have been leading National Outings backpacking trips in California's Sierra Nevada. In 2011, after moving to Utah, I joined the Southwest Subcommittee of the National Outings Committee and, as an assistant leader, led a backpacking trip in the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. I would like to become more involved in the ongoing efforts of the Sierra Club and other groups to preserve and protect many of Utah's extraordinary landscapes, which are under constant threat by local political and commercial interests.



I have been a practicing lawyer since 1976, specializing in litigation. I am licensed to practice law in California and, since 2011, also in Utah. My legal experience in general, and my litigation experience in particular, provide me with skill sets that should be particularly useful in the battles to protect Utah's natural environment. Service on the Executive Committee of the Sierra Club's Utah Chapter should provide me with many opportunities to contribute in a meaningful way to the ongoing work of the Sierra Club in Utah.

OGDEN GROUP CANDIDATES

Ranee Johnson

I am running for a position on the Ogden Group's executive committee again. I have served as a member for over 10 years: have been group chair, representative to the chapter's executive committee and as the chapter's representative to the club's advisory committee. I am currently serving as treasurer and would be happy to continue working on behalf of the Ogden Group.



Dan Schroeder

The Ogden Group plays a critical role in our rapidly growing community, as an advocate for natural places, quiet recreation, and sustainable living. I have been honored to serve as a volunteer in the Ogden Group, promoting these all-important values, for the last 20 years. I currently serve as the group's conservation chair and webmaster. Among our current projects are limiting the growth of off-road vehicle use in our National Forests and pushing for more pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods within Ogden City.



John Slack

John Slack has been a member of the Ogden area Sierra Club for 15 years after moving from Sacramento, California and membership in the Sierra Club there. An avid hiker, runner and bicyclist for many years, he has worked on local trails with Weber Pathways as well as on Antelope Island with the Trail Patrol. Currently, he volunteers with Utah Water Watch doing monthly monitoring of two Weber County rivers. Enduring interests are habitat preservation, non-motorized trail development and preservation, suburban bikeways, human influences on climate change, and a safe and contemplative trail system in Northern Utah.

Dan Spark

I would like to be considered for a board member spot. As a member and event leader I have come to appreciate the work the organization does for the local community. I am an active outdoorsman who moved to Ogden to take advantage of the trails and organizations like the Sierra Club.

Larry Woolsey

I have been a member of the Sierra Club for 20 years and an outings guide for 15. I have also served in various leadership positions in the Ogden Group's executive committee. Also, I have served on the Utah Chapter Executive Committee as the Ogden Group delegate. I believe in the goals of the Sierra Club for the protection of our environment and preservation of wilderness areas.



Thanks
for your
vote!

Supporting Your Chapter

Protecting our environmental legacy

In 2016, the chapter will continue its effective advocacy on behalf of clean air. We continue to fight to put the brake on coal and other dirty fossil fuel development while promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency. We'll pursue our work to protect Utah's public lands and wilderness. But if you value our work, we'll need your help. Please contribute as generously as you can.

Thank you to the members listed below for their contributions during the final months

of the Utah Chapter's 2014 fundraising drive or the 2015 fundraising drive. Thanks also to the many members who contributed anonymously. Contributors who respond during the rest of 2015 will be acknowledged in the Winter 2016 newsletter. If you don't see your name listed and would like for it to be published in the next issue, please call Mark at (801) 467-9294 x102. We try hard to spell people's names correctly; please accept our apologies if we misspelled your name!

- | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|------------------------|---|--|
| Fred Adler | Sam Dunham | Dale Johnson | Jessie Paul | WF Snyder |
| Kathryn Camisa Ball
& H McDaniel Ball | Barbara Farnsworth | Gene Jones | Judith Pechmann | Southern Utah
Wilderness Alliance |
| Stephen Bannister | Naomi C Franklin | Don Kauchak | Carolyn A Pedone
& John W Rose | Page Speiser |
| Patty Becnel | Craig R Gasser | Robert Keiter | Gabrielle Pezely | Richard Spotts |
| Donald Benson | Nathan Gilbert | David Keller | Insa Riepen | Douglas O Stark |
| Judy Bertsch in memory
of Larry Mehlhaff | Dan Gillenwater | Marion Klaus | Robert Robbins | Bob Stevens |
| Linda Bettinger | Jock Glidden | Randal & Bobbi Klein | Rob Rodman | Todd Stone |
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| Dick Cumiskey | Sandra & Lewis
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Utah Valley Earth Forum |
| AngelikaDavis | Deborah Hollenbeak | Nicola Nelson | Scott Slomiak | Henry Whiteside |
| Dale Davis | Renee Holleran | Deneen Nunn | George B & Oma E Wilcox and
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| Bryan Dixon | Polly Hough | Warren Ohlrich | Donald Smith | Ron Younger |
| Ed Dobson | Susan Huffmyer | Kathleen Olsen | | Treasure Mountain Inn |
| | Frank Irish | Ralph Packard | | |

Election Ballot

UTAH CHAPTER EXCOM ELECTIONS 2015

Your ballot must be received by November 20, 2015. Mail your completed ballot in the enclosed envelope or to the address below. The second set of boxes below (J) are for the second member of a joint membership only. Blank lines are for write-in candidates. If you live in one of the following ZIP codes near Ogden, you may vote both for Utah Chapter and Ogden Group candidates: 84015, 84037, 84040, 84041, 84050, 84056, 84067, 84075, 84089, 84302, 84307, 84309, 84310, 84312, 84315, 84317, 84324, 84334, 84337, 84340, all 844___. All other members should vote just for Utah Chapter candidates. **Vote for no more than 4 in each category, including write-ins.**

CHAPTER CANDIDATES		
TURNER BITTON	S	J
JIM CATLIN	S	J
KIM CRUMBO	S	J
WAYNE Y. HOSKISSON	S	J
JEFF KRAMER	S	J

OGDEN GROUP CANDIDATES		
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OurLand

Proposed Indian Creek Trail Would Bulldoze Wilderness Quality Lands

by Wayne Hoskisson

For years the Monticello Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Field Office has been considering a new ATV trail deep in the heart of the Canyonlands Basin. The trail would cross sandy hills and desert pavement near Indian Creek and eliminate wilderness prospects for about 6,000 acres recognized by the BLM as land with wilderness character. The BLM considered giving San Juan County a right of way (ROW) for the ATV trail just outside of the Needles District of Canyonlands National Park.

Indian Creek is a sinuous green thread of life in an arid landscape. Its waters and associated vegetation have attracted wildlife and hunters for thousands of years. Vestiges of Native Americans are found plentifully in the surrounding area, and Indian Creek is still a vital wildlife corridor.

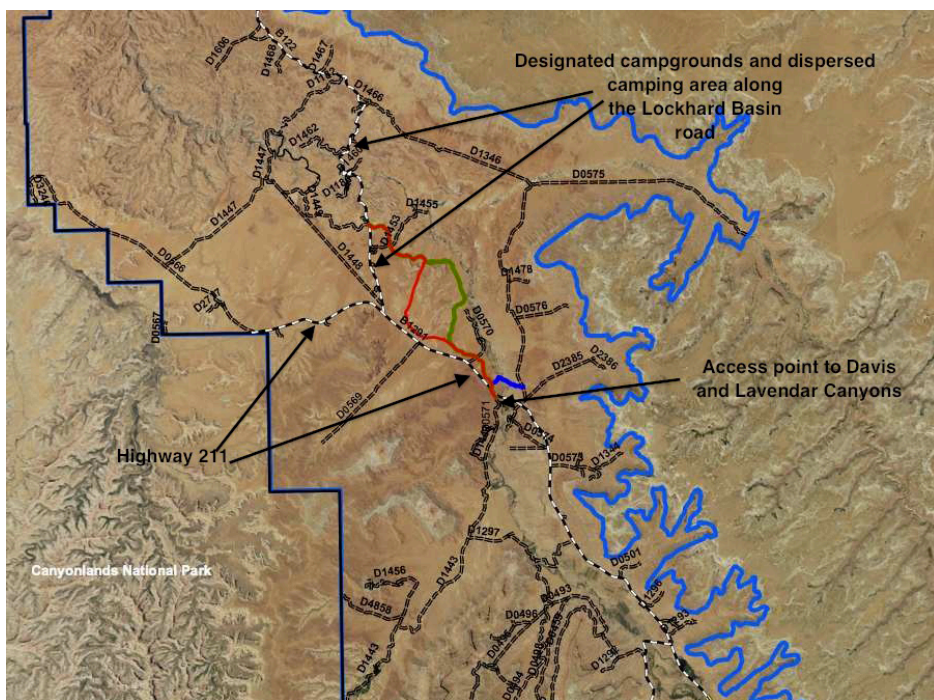
The National Park Service identified the problems with the proposed ATV trail: "In our December 2011 and October 2012 comments, we expressed concern that issuance of the right-of-way and establishment of the connector route certainly would result in greater ATV use in areas directly adjacent to Canyonlands National Park that previously have seen little use. This could lead to incursions of ATVs into the park itself where they are prohibited, with associated damage to natural and cultural resource values and conflicts with non-motorized users."

The BLM thinks they have resolved that problem. The new Environmental Assessment (EA) states on page 2, "San Juan County's need for the ROW is to provide ATV users with a trail riding experience in the Indian Creek area, by separating ATV use from larger vehicle use." The ROW under consideration is only a few miles so it cannot really be relieve a need for "a trail riding experience." It is really a shortcut and redundant route designed to access motorized routes south of Highway 211, the area that the NPS is concerned about. We are also worried about the increasing impact of increasing motorized recreation in areas that see little or none at the cur-



WAYNE HOSKISSON

We really need a new National Monument to preserve the beauty and quiet of this spectacular place. The proposed trail is inside both the Greater Canyonlands and Bears Ears National Monument proposals.



rent time. The new EA does not adequately address this issue.

The BLM continues to propose a new ATV trail deep in the heart of the Canyonlands Basin. The trail would cross sandy hills and desert pavement near Indian Creek. In all alternatives the proposed ROW would result in construction of new motorized impacts through an area with few or no impacts.

In nine pages of comments submitted to the BLM, we noted the lack of concern for decreased soil stability, increased wind erosion, and increased dust production. Between increased motorized trails and continued commercial livestock grazing, soil stability is impaired. Our comments included images and photographs showing the current problem and the likelihood of increasing cumulative impacts on soil stability. Dust from the southwest continues to be deposited on the snow pack in the Southern Rocky Mountains resulting in reduced water storage and early spring run-off.

On Dec. 8 members of the Glen Canyon Group visited the site of the proposed ATV trail. To the east and south the red Wingate cliffs of Hart's Point and Hatch Point rise abruptly from the basin floor. The straw-colored remnants of summer plants stuck out of the gentle sandy hills. We found pottery shards near where the proposed ATV trail crosses a road into a quiet campground. But the extensive and intensive impacts of motorized recreation and dispersed camping along the Lockhart Basin road created a sense of dread if a new trail is constructed and the same kinds of impacts extend even further.

The BLM issued a decision to grant a right of way. On May 30, 2015, the Sierra Club, the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and the Great Old Broads for Wilderness filed a notice of intent to appeal and asked for a stay on the BLM's decision. The Grand Canyon Trust filed also filed a notice. On April 30th, Neal Clark from SUWA filed a Statement of Reasons supporting the request for a stay. The stay was granted on May 14th. On August 5th, BLM withdrew the decision stating the "BLM has decided to conduct further analysis of the visual impacts of the proposed ATV trail and other project details."


This could be a victory, but more likely the BLM will come back with yet another version of the ATV trail.

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OurFuture



PETE MIMMACK

Reflections on the Outdoor Industry and Our Public Lands

by Peter Metcalf

Over 25 years ago, I made the decision to move an embryonic Black Diamond from the Pacific Ocean of California to the Wasatch Mountains of Utah. The reason was simple — I wanted location to reside on the asset side of the balance sheet and to be accretive to our vision of being one with the sports we serve which are the active outdoor mountain sports. We wanted location to help forge who we would become.

No other state in America has a vibrant capital city juxtaposed against beautiful, federally-protected alpine wilderness mountains nor the access to such a breadth and depth of beautiful, varied, sublime mountain, canyon, crag, and desert public land environments as here in Salt Lake City and Utah.

Regardless of that conclusion, it took guts to pack up a young 48-person manufacturing company to a state that had no other outdoor or ski equipment companies. Upon arriving, our company's growth took off, and with pride I worked tirelessly to lead the relocation of the Outdoor Retailer tradeshow — the largest — as well as a host of other outdoor/ski related businesses.

All of this was done with very little government awareness, assistance or involvement, and that was well aligned with my philosophical political beliefs — of keeping government relatively out of business.

However in 2003, when then-Governor Leavitt settled in a backroom deal with then-Secretary of Interior Norton — the RS 2477 and Wilderness Inventory Areas litigation — I cried foul. It is one thing not to have government help you but quite another to have a governor working against one of the fast growing, sustainable economic sectors in the state — active outdoor recreation — today one of the largest. I say “against” because this industry's growth and for that matter much of Utah's growth is built upon the vibrancy that our public, American, lands provide us.

Leavitt's comment when he entered the show was, “Wow... I had no idea that such a show existed... especially one of this size

and scope.” One that brings in nearly \$50 million to the local economy.

We and the Outdoor Industry Association then worked with three administrations — Leavitt, Walker and Huntsman — to find an acceptable alignment for the public policy agenda.

In the 25 years since arriving, our industry has become one of the most important in the state. It brings jobs and economic vibrancy to Salt Lake City, the Wasatch Front and our rural communities. It is the show and an ecosystem of small & medium size businesses — outfitters, shops, hospitality and much, much more. This is an industry that is sustainable, entrepreneurial and about rugged individual, i.e. small business owners. It is not subject to boom and bust cycles and commodity prices.

This vibrant and critical economic sector is built upon well-preserved, well-stewarded American public lands — lands that are properly regulated and managed. Lands that are zoned — lands of many uses but NOT all uses on all lands. We must thoughtfully manage these lands for their best, highest and long-term use, and often that means leaving them just as they are because recreation, adventure tourism, watershed, bio diversity, and wildlife habitat are their best and highest use. This at times means permanent protections.

This is not only about one industry. It is about a quality of life — the Utah quality of life.

Why do Goldman, Adobe and other creative class and knowledge-based workers move here?

Our public lands where they want to hike, bike, climb and canyoneer.

I have met with and exchanged ideas with our legislative leaders, à la Ken Ivory, who are pushing this land grab. I have explained to them that though the federal government is not an angel it is also not the enemy. And in the 25 years we have been here, our community of active outdoor enthusiasts and our industry have nearly always been allied with the Federal Government in assaults coming from the

state who almost always object to protections and zoning, let alone the concept of America's public lands.

Most likely, Utah could not afford to manage all of these lands and would be financially compelled to sell off large amounts of acreage to fund the management of those they kept.

Were it not for the federal government there would be no Grand Teton National Park which began life as a monument that the Wyoming congressional delegation spent nearly thirty years trying to undo that. Today we all acknowledge that it's one of this country's greatest national parks and one that Wyoming derives immense economic benefit from. Without the federal government we would not have the iconic parks or monuments that Utah now has and that drive the southern Utah economy as we all learned in the shutdown of the government and parks nearly two years ago.

In addition, there remains a lack of honest acknowledgement by those foisting this attempted land heist on all of us that most likely, Utah could not afford to manage all of these lands and would be financially compelled to sell off large amounts of acreage to fund the management of those they kept.

Utah's future does not lie in uranium or coal mining, nor in timber, nor in the recently approved oil sands. This is a desert state and allowing these exploitive indus-

tries with their short term contributions, high costs, rapacious use of water, and the destruction to our landscapes that the rapidly growing active outdoor recreation and the rapidly expanding knowledge-based work worker/creative class businesses require. To pursue those is like driving a car down a road with your eye fixated on the rear view mirror.

Our bold and vibrant future is to look out the windshield and embrace the future with policies that support that which is happening organically versus keeping the past alive with policies that destroy our vibrant future. Holding on to outdated values and beliefs supporting and funding the legal fees of convicted Commissioner Phil Lyman's destructive and illegal, ATV posse ride into protected federal lands rich in Native America sites and antiquities is akin to the continued embracing of the Confederate flag by the political leadership in other states. It is an insult to everyone in this industry as well as the employees and management of the Fortune 500 global brands setting up shop in Utah.

Our future vibrancy as a state, both economically and culturally, lies not in the behaviors of the past, but in embracing the values that are driving our state's desirability forward today as a destination for global visitors and a desired home for today's knowledge worker and the creative class. Those values are based on embracing and celebrating the cornucopia of benefit derived from our public lands that include human powered recreation, Native American antiquities, wildlife and sportsmen activities, biodiversity and true wilderness. Preserved wild landscapes have become the cornerstone of our one of the fastest growing sectors of our economy as well as our quality of life that is the underlying superstructure to the steady growth of other economic sectors such as high-tech and investment banking.

This article was adapted from an address given on August 5, 2015. Peter Metcalf is the founder and CEO of Black Diamond.

UtahChapterOutings

EXPLORE WITH US! OCTOBER 2015 – JANUARY 2016

All members and nonmembers are welcome on any of the chapter or group activities listed. Interested participants are strongly encouraged to contact the outing leader in advance and inquire as to updates, degree of difficulty, and other outing details. Participants should be prepared for various seasonal weather conditions, temperature changes that occur due to rapid increases/decreases in altitude, and bring enough food, water, and appropriate clothing for the given outing.

Abbreviations in capital letters signify the group planning the outing. [E] = educational content, [C] = conservation focus, [S] = service activities.

Radios, firearms and dogs are not welcome on Sierra Club outings. Outing leaders reserve the right to turn away anyone who appears unprepared for scheduled outings.

ONLINE OUTINGS TOOL!

All the outings, book club meetings and socials for the chapter and all three groups are now found in one place, www.utah.sierraclub.org/activities.asp.

You can sort by event type or use a built-in mapping function.

www.utah.sierraclub.org/email_list.asp

October

SLG Fri 10/2: Lake Blanche in the afternoon. Lake Blanche is the first of a trio of beautiful small lakes nestled in a cirque under rugged Sundial Peak. Outcroppings of colorful smooth rock soften the jagged alpine landscape and offer pleasant distraction from the steep hike to the lakes. Recommend at least 1L water, ample snacks & footwear for a hike over rocky terrain. RSVP before day of hike to check trail conditions. Meet 1pm at the 6200 S Park and Ride lot, 6450 S Wasatch Blvd, 1mi north of mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon. Leader: Jim Paull, 801-580-9079 or jimpaull@sisna.com.

SLG Sun 10/4: Gobblers Knob from Butler Fork. Enjoy spectacular city & mountain views from the summit of this classic hike up steep but good trails. Bring lunch + snacks, 2L water, hiking shoes or boots, hat & layers of clothing. Meet 10am at the 6200 S Park and Ride lot, 6450 S Wasatch Blvd, 1mi north of the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon. 4mi out & back; 8mi total; 7 hours. Summit elevation 10,246'. Elevation gain from trailhead 3,092'. Leader: Bruce Hamilton, 801-819-9435 or bhami@pobox.com.

GCG Sat 10/10: Comb Ridge, Butler Wash. Visit sites from the Butler Wash road like Procession Panel, Monarch, Cold Spring, Eagles Nest. Hikes to ruins ~3mi, a couple hundred feet elevation. Procession Panel and Eagles Nest (view from extended Cold Spring) perhaps 5mi, 500'. Meet 8am at parking lot, former Red Rock Elementary School. Leader: Jock Hovey, 435-260-0239 or jockhovey@gmail.com.

OG, Sat, 10/10: Bonneville Shoreline Trail – New Northern Extension Hike. Ogden Trails has been working hard to develop this beautiful extension of the Bonneville Trail system through One Horse and Coldwater canyons, linking up with the existing Pioneer Trail. Few have hiked it yet, so let's see what it's like. Meet 9am at Ogden High NE corner. Bring water & lunch. Leader: Jock Glidden, 801-394-0457.

OG, Sat, 10/10: Day Hike to Frary Peak on Antelope Island. 6.6mi round trip, about 4 hours, moderate to strenuous. The peak is the highest point on the island at 6,596'. The trail offers spectacular views in all directions. Antelope & Big Horn Sheep are often seen. Dogs not allowed. Leader: Larry, 801-690-4335 or landcrun@hotmail.com.

SLG Sun 10/18: Grandeur Peak from Church Fork. At 8,300', Grandeur Peak is the most accessible and easiest of the major peaks overlooking the Salt Lake Valley. Its summit offers fine views N to Parleys Canyon, SE to Millcreek Canyon and W to SLC. About 4 hours, 5.5mi roundtrip with 2,600' elevation gain. Bring lunch + snacks, 2L water, hiking shoes, hat and layers of clothing. Dogs OK; must be leashed on even-numbered days. Meet 10am at Skyline High School parking lot (NW end), 3251 E Upland Drive (3760 S). Leader: Bruce Hamilton, 801-

819-9435 or bhami@pobox.com.

GCG Sat 10/24: Dry Wash Trail to Rocky Rapids. From Cache Valley, a spectacular constructed stock trail leads down to the Colorado River at Rocky Rapids. 4WD needed for the road that continues in Cache Valley from the Delicate Arch Overlook parking lot. About 7mi with 1200' return climb. With the drive to trailhead and hike, a full day. Meet 8am at former Red Rock Elementary School parking lot. Leader: Michael Stringham, 435-259-8579 or mikechrista@earthlink.net.

November

GCG Sat 11/7: Pool Arch and Solstice Panel. From Amasa Back parking lot on Kane Creek, take Tombstone trail into Pritchett, up a side canyon to Pool Arch, follow joint to Solstice Panel (Hyper Viper). Return on joint trail connecting Tombstone trail to Kane Creek. 9mi, ~1200' elevation gain outbound. Moderate hike requiring some hand holds, scrambling and, if needed, using rope to lower oneself ~5-6'. Meet 9am at former Red Rock Elementary School parking lot. Leader: Michael Stringham, 435-259-8579 or mikechrista@earthlink.net.

SLG Sun 11/8: Leaders Choice Hike in Millcreek Canyon. Join us for a refreshing hike in the fall shoulder season. Rebecca & Pete choose the best trail for current conditions. It's advisable to have spikes or traction devices in your pack & trekking poles in case of icy trail. Anticipate a 3-4 hour, moderate-intensity hike. Meet 10am at Skyline High School parking lot, 3251 E Upland Drive (3760 S). Contact: Rebecca Wallace, 801-557-5261 or rebeccawallace38@msn.com.

Sat-Sun 10/17-18: Barrier Building in the San Rafael Swell with Wasatch Mountain Club (WMC). Note: Although this is not a Sierra Club-sponsored activity, we encourage our members to take part. The BLM's Price field office and the WMC need volunteers to relocate and rebuild a barrier protecting the Mexican Mountain Wilderness Study Area at Prickly Pear Flat in the heart of the San Rafael Swell. Motorized intrusions found by WMC surveys in 2003 and 2013 were reported to the BLM but not acted upon. We will now do what should have been done over 10 years ago. The BLM will provide design, tools and materials; we provide labor. Please bring work gloves, clothes and shoes. This will be a moderate-intensity tear down and rebuild. You can expect beautiful fall weather and dry car camping. 4X4 not needed, but you will drive 20-30 miles on dirt roads. Contact: Will, 801-694-6958 or will@commercialchemistries.com.



BRYAN BROWN

GCG Sat 11/21: Harts Point. 12mi out Harts Point road from UT-211, hike a road then overland to NW tip of a broad point into Indian Creek Canyon. Great views over Six-Shooters into Needles, up Davis & Lavender Canyons & over Dugout Ranch. Return as we came (5mi) or circumnavigate the point (7mi). About 400' elevation difference with some ups & downs. Meet 9am at former Red Rock Elementary School parking lot. Leader: Thomas J Messenger, 435-259-1756 or messengert35@gmail.com.

OG, Thu-Mon 11/27-11/30: Grand Junction, CO Adventure. Join Debra and Dale for a Thanksgiving weekend getaway. Leave Thanksgiving Day & return Monday. Hikes in Colorado National Monument. Shaded by majestic red rock cliffs & mesas, Grand Valley is the heart of Colorado wine country with over 20 wineries & vineyards. We'll visit several! Your leaders will stay at clean, quiet, budget Columbine Motel. Thanksgiving dinner at 626 On Rood (\$\$\$), but several restaurants serve turkey dinner. Contact: 801-430-1209 or daledee@gmail.com.

December

GCG Sat 12/5: Hey Joe Canyon, D Julien inscription. Descend into Hey Joe Canyon, pass old mine workings & relics on way to Green River. Explore for inscription & visit spectacular Cliffhanger Arch on rim of Labyrinth Canyon. ~5mi & 850' between mesa & river. ~100' elevation change to arch. Most driving is on county B-roads requiring high clearance, but spur to Hey Joe trail requires 4WD. Meet 9am at former Red Rock Elementary School parking lot. Leader: Jock Hovey, 435-260-0239 or jockhovey@gmail.com.

Fri-Mon 12/11-14: Arches NP, Moab, and Meteor Shower Trifecta with Wasatch Mountain Club. Note: this is not a Sierra Club-sponsored activity, but is listed as a courtesy to members who may wish to participate. A fabulous adventure the weekend of the Geminid meteor shower, considered the strongest shower of the year. We're blessed with no moon to cause interference. December temps at the park are typically 23-45°. Days we'll hike Arches or nearby areas according to conditions. Evenings we'll enjoy Moab, and at night we'll be treated to a spectacular celestial event. Motel rates are very reasonable at this time and crowds have mostly left. Contact: Aaron Jones, 801-467-3532 or ajonesmvp@msn.com.

GCG Sat 12/19: Coffee Pot Rock. From the beginning of the Porcupine Rim 4x4 trail in Sand Flats, take an old stock trail across Negro Bill canyon. From the north side of the canyon hike to Coffee Pot rock and other prominent buttes. Poke around other features of interest. Return on same route. 4WD or high clearance required to reach vicinity of the stock trail. The hike is easy to moderate and ~5 miles round trip. Meet 9am at former Red Rock Elementary School parking lot. Leader: Thomas J Messenger, 435-259-1756 or messengert35@gmail.com.

SLG Sat 12/19: Cottonwood Canyons snowshoe. We'll head up Big Cottonwood to a suitable snowshoe destination, likely Greens Basin, Days Fork or Willow Lake. Pace will be steady but relaxed as we usher in winter among firs and aspens. Meet 10:30am at 6200 S Park and Ride lot, 6450 S Wasatch Blvd, 1mi north of the canyon mouth. Bring snowshoes, warm clothes, water, lunch & sun protection. Call if winter conditions are threatening, as we may modify or cancel. Leader: Fred Swanson, fbswan32@msn.com or 801-588-0361.

January

GCG Sat 1/2: Devils Garden Primitive Loop, Arches NP. Get some post-holiday fresh air on this Arches National Park favorite. About 5mi, a few hundred feet elevation. Will do something else if there's snow & ice. Meet 9am at former Red Rock Elementary School parking lot. Leader: Thomas J Messenger, 435-259-1756 or messengert35@gmail.com.

The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ridesharing or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel. If you choose to carpool to the trailhead, it is only fair for fees charged by the US Forest Service to be shared by all participants. Text of the outings liability waiver may be found at www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/signinwaiver.pdf. CST 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.