

Save Our Canyons

Citizens' Committee to Save Our Canyons

www.saveourcanyons.org

June, 2010

Ah! Wilderness At Last!

The Wasatch Wilderness and Watershed Protection Act was introduced into the U.S. House of Representatives by Congressman Jim Matheson on April 6, 2010. Read all about it on pages 3 and 8 inside.

Save Our Canyons is an organization of citizen activists "dedicated, since 1972, to the beauty and wildness of Wasatch canyons, mountains, and foothills."

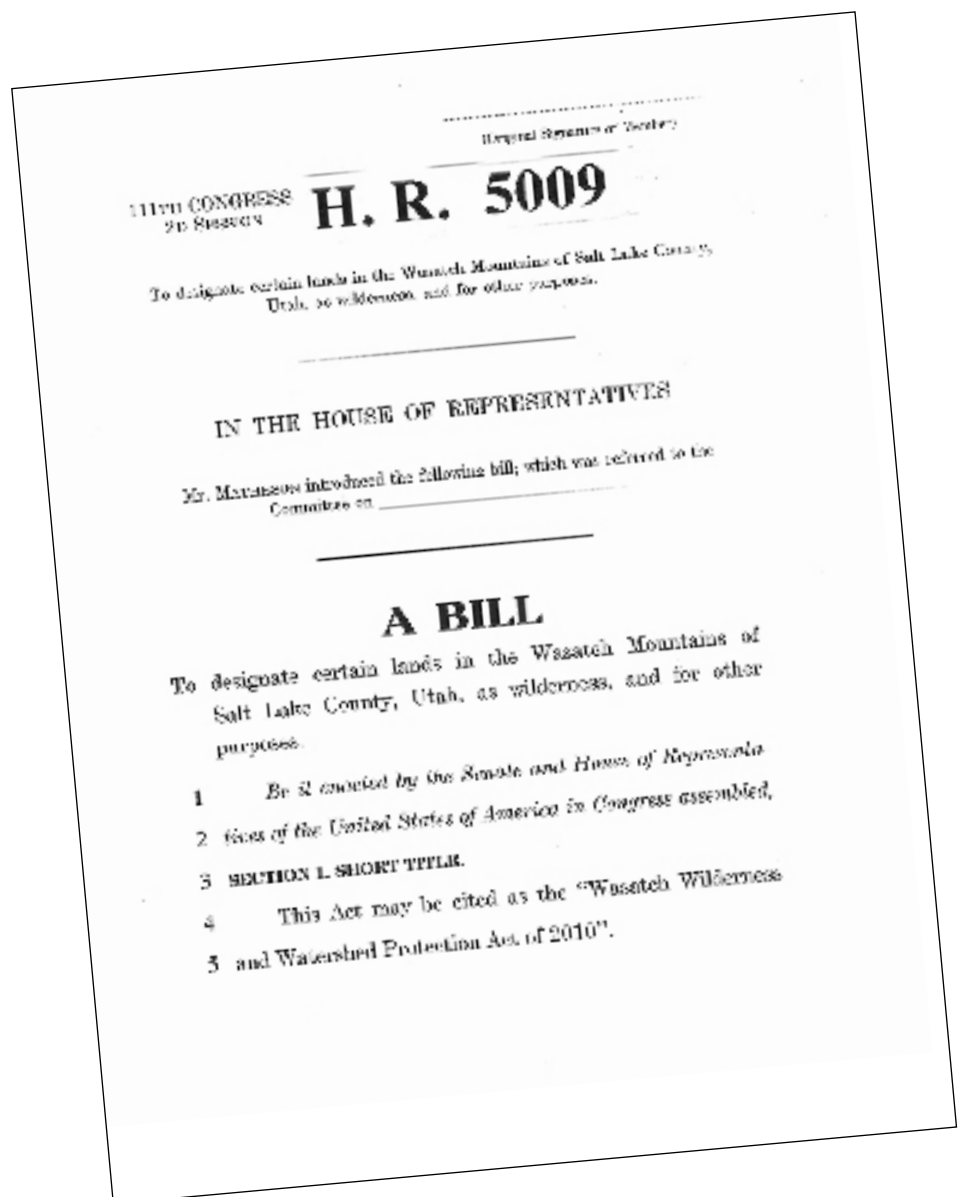
Save Our Canyons is the quarterly publication of the Citizens' Committee to Save Our Canyons

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ALEXIS KELNER,
Perennial Editor

GALE DICK,
Associate Perennial Editor





President's Message

Wilderness and the House that Jack Built

HR 5009 is the designation of "Wasatch Wilderness and Watershed Protection Act of 2010" introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives by Congressman Jim Matheson on April 6, 2010.

It is certain that this would not have happened without the longtime work of Save Our Canyons – its staff, its board, its volunteers, its donors and its members past and present. But a very large cast of characters participated in the long and laborious process that led to this moment. It brings to mind the old Mother Goose jingle about The House That Jack built. HR 5009 is that house and SOC can be thought of as the "cock that crowed in the morn". (Without peeking, can you reel off the rest of it?) Here's how the Mother Goose rigmorale ends, listing the roll call of participants:

This is the farmer sowing his corn,
That kept the cock that crowed in the morn,
That waked priest all shaven and shorn,
That married the man all tattered and torn,
That kissed the maiden all-forlorn,
That milked the cow with the crumpled horn,
That tossed the dog,
That worried the cat,
That killed the rat,
That ate the malt.
That lay in the house that Jack built.

It's a little reminder about cause and effect and interconnectedness. It would be tempting to go through this cast of characters and identify them with participants in the grueling 15 meetings of the stakeholders that took place between September 2008 and May 2009. Some 30 hours in all, with many conferences in preparation for the formal gatherings. Among this large group, they were all metaphorically there: the priest, the farmer, occasionally the rat.

There is a lot of credit to be spread around. Crucial to the conception and promotion of this legislation has been the legal guardian of the Salt Lake City watershed, its Department of Public Utilities. This agency has been protecting and developing this vital resource for over a century and in this role they have been truly heroic. Agency Director

Jeff Niermeyer and Special Projects Manager Laura Briefer were vigorous supporters of Wilderness throughout the stakeholders' meetings representing the interests of the 700,000 users of the pure water from the Wasatch Mountains.

Even before the stakeholders group started their discussions on the details of possible Wilderness legislation, Save Our Canyons' Executive Director Carl Fisher had been in intense and successful discussions with local mountain bikers and representatives of IMBA, the International Mountain Biking Association. This led to one of the early compromises involved the whole process: corridors through the proposed wilderness to keep open very popular biking trails in Mill D North. IMBA endorsed the developing bill.

The Utah Ski industry was well represented among the stakeholders: From Solitude Ski Corporation, Chairman of the Board Gary De Seelhorst and on a few occasions Dave DeSeelhorst, General Manager. From Snowbird Ski and Summer Resort, Bob Bonar frequently accompanied by Marty Banks of the law firm Stoel Rives. Randy Doyle from Brighton Ski Resort. From the Alta Lift Company, its General Manager Onno Wierenga and from the Town of Alta, Town Administrator John Guldner. Along with the ski resorts, there were representatives, President Rusty Dassing and General Manager Kevin O'Rourke, from Wasatch Powderbird Guides - helicopter skiing concessionaires in the Wasatch.

Black Diamond Equipment, a Salt Lake City based business has been an active Wasatch Wilderness supporter among the stakeholders through its President Peter Metcalf and its In-house Corporate Counsel Rick Luskin.

Salt Lake Valley municipal governments were also among the active stakeholders. Ben McAdams, now a Utah State Senator but then Senior Advisor to Mayor, Ralph Becker, represented Salt Lake City. Sandy City participated frequently and was represented by Council member Chris McCandless and Deputy Mayor John Hiskey.

Salt Lake County, under the leadership of its Mayor Peter Corroon, hosted the stakeholder meet-

ings. The county also provided Ann Ober, at that time its Environmental Policy Coordinator (and now the Mayor's Inter-Governmental Relations Coordinator), as extraordinarily able chair for the meetings, which sometimes were tense and white-knuckled.

Congressman Jim Matheson was represented at the meetings by Mike Reberg, his District Director. Kristen Lingley, Senior Legislative Assistant to Rep. Matheson worked on drafting the legislation.

Save Our Canyons, like most of the other participants, attended all of the stakeholder meetings and was represented by Executive Director Carl Fisher, President Gale Dick, and Advisory Board Chair John Johnson.

Prominent Salt Lake Attorney and former federal Bureau of Land Management Director Pat Shea played a very active role in the stakeholders' meetings discussions.

The context for these discussions was interesting. They started centered around a map of proposed areas for Wilderness designation. Some of these were extensions of existing wilderness areas and some new. Ski businesses were understandably wary and concerned. The strong proponents, Save Our Canyons and Salt Lake City supported by Black Diamond, presented their case and the sparks began to fly as they needed to do. After all, a stakeholders meeting, worthy of the name, involves those who have a true stake in the outcome of the discussion.

Meanwhile Salt Lake County was beginning its revision of its 1989 Wasatch Canyons Master Development Plan using Envision Utah, a local organization that partners with Utah communities to help them plan quality growth strategies. As part of the work of revision, Envision Utah conducted three public "Wasatch Canyons Tomorrow" Surveys. A large number of Salt Lake Valley residents responded and decidedly expressed their over-

whelming opinion that they did not want to see any more commercial or residential development in the Wasatch Mountains above the valley. They strongly opposed expansion of ski resorts onto federal lands.

Although not present at the stakeholders meetings themselves, a very important player in the Wasatch wilderness work has been the Campaign For America's Wilderness of The Pew Environmental Group. They have been supporters and very knowledgeable advisors in teaching SOC how to get a grasp on the myriad details involved in a wilderness campaign. Especial thanks must go to the invaluable wilderness guru Doug Scott, to Public Policy Manager Maria Argust, to Senior Associate Carrie Sandstedt, Communications Director Susan Whitmore and, of course, Director Ken Rait.

The upshot of the work of all these individuals representing a wide spectrum of interests was, of course, a quilt work of compromises. No one got all they wanted; everyone got something important that they needed and had fought for. I believe it was a job well done and that the results form the core of the HR 5009. You can read the text at our website and learn more about it in Carl Fisher's article on page 8 of this newsletter.

The important message embodied in HR 5009 is that the passion of individual citizens, working together with one another and with clear and enduring goals can achieve amazing things, especially when the goal is something so precious as the preservation of the beauty and wildness of the Wasatch Mountains, canyons and foothills. The Farmer Sewing His Corn is a symbol of those citizens and he is essential to the House That Jack Built.

Now we need to get the bill through congress.
— GALE DICK

Thank You, Whole Foods Market



Salt Lake Valley Whole Foods Markets donated \$2 from the sale of each Earth Month floral bouquet during the month of April to Save Our Canyons!

The total added up to an impressive \$2,700.

We want to thank the Markets for their generosity and support of our mission to protect the beauty and wildness of the Wasatch canyons, mountains, and foothills!

Learn more about Whole Foods Markets, and their staff's environmental outreach programs at:

www.wholefoodsmarket.com



Bob Woody, ski touring in Parleys Nature Park.

Photo by Alexis Kelner

Remembrances of Bob Woody

“Waiting for Repair Parts in Winnemucca”

by Alexis Kelner, SOC Board Member

Bob Woody, an active supporter of Save Our Canyons for many years, died recently at the age of 84. He is survived by his wife Barbara, sons Peter, Jonathan, Thomas, and daughter Stephanie.

Bob was born in Philadelphia, Pa. in 1925. He and his parents lived in Texas for a time as well as Massachusetts, where he learned to ski on \$5.00 wooden skis (that his father upgraded with steel edges), \$5.00 boots, and bamboo ski poles selling below \$2.00.

During World War II, while still in high school, Bob had viewed a semi-documentary motion picture depicting Soviet and German ski troops in armed conflict. “The Soviets,” he remembered some 40 years later, “used a leather binding with heel lift, while the Germans wore Kandahars and skied much better.”

Bob especially recalled the film’s final scene that depicted a Soviet ski trooper defending a farmhouse surrounded by Germans. Stoically the outnumbered skier ordered his artillery to bombard the shelter. “Comrade Pushkin! Comrade Pushkin!” Bob repeated the final dialogue as Headquarters attempts to summon the surrounded trooper. “The scene ends with silence on the end of the field telephone. White skis are visible beneath the rubble that once was the farmhouse.”

The impression was lasting and when the U.S. Army requested his service to fight the “Axis Menace” Woody, like so many thousands of America’s skiers and mountaineers, volunteered to serve in a mountain warfare unit then being organized. The unit became known as the 10th Mountain Division, commonly referred to as “ski troops.” The division trained at Camp Hale, Colorado and was deployed to Italy where it suffered heavy losses in engagements with elite German units.

Another early World War II motion picture, Alfred Hitchcock’s spy thriller, *Foreign Correspondent*, left a similarly lasting impression, one that would later influence his choice of a life-long career.

After the war Bob attended Dartmouth College graduating in 1950. That same year he married Barbara Follansbee of Norwich, Vermont. After their marriage Bob worked as a reporter at several rural newspapers in Idaho and

Colorado. In 1957 he settled in Utah as a general assignment reporter with the *Salt Lake Tribune*.

Seeking mountain recreation Bob gravitated to the Wasatch Mountain Club participating with the group in numerous winter outings. He recalled “suffering a lot using our alpine equipment” on ski tours down American Fork Canyon, Lake Blanche, and Gad Valley.

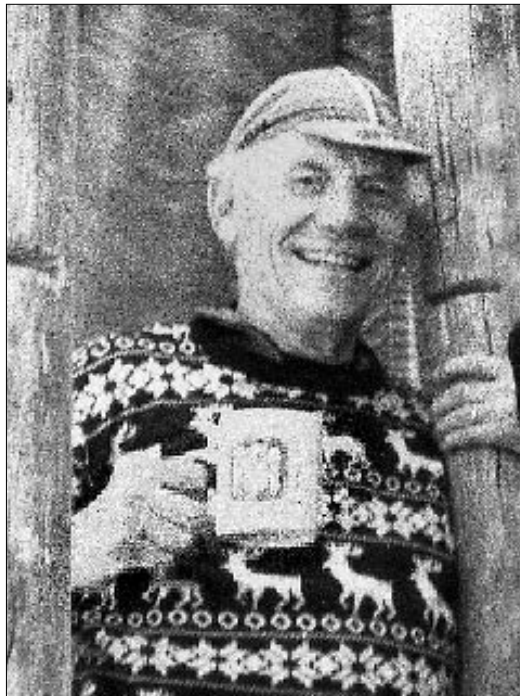
In August, 1958 Bob wrote a photographically illustrated article praising the club’s rock climbing program, its leadership capabilities and safety record. The article was titled *Mountain Toppers. A World of White*, describing the club’s winter touring program, appeared some months later. His articles helped reverse the club’s trend of declining membership.

Bob was named the *Tribune’s* Business Editor in 1966, the position he held until his retirement in 1990. As business editor Bob became exceptionally knowledgeable with Utah’s ski industry and its successful (and sometimes unsuccessful) developers. Bob’s business reporting was not limited to big industry; he was equally committed to writing about the area’s small businesses and its innovative entrepreneurs. His style of writing was casual and conversational. He appears to have favored short paragraphs over long ones. He was also a “stringer” for several national ski and ski business magazines.

Bob was a proponent of backcountry skiing and later amateur cross-country (Nordic) competitions. He was one of the founders of the Park City Nordic Ski Club that evolved to become The Utah Nordic Alliance, TUNA. He served on its board of directors for several years. Bob participated in many “citizens” cross-country races, often winning in his age bracket, at times as the *only* racer in his bracket. He took part in the organization’s annual erection and disassembly of its Uinta Mountains yurt.

Bob penned many interesting historical articles on the Russo-Finnish War and the 10th Mountain Division for the Nordic Alliance’s publication. He also taught beginning skiing for several local ski schools.

Bob and Barbara loved to travel, Greece being a special place to visit. He played classical guitar, took karate lessons, and mixed a wonderfully wicked martini. He was passionately anti-war; he wore



his 10th Mountain Division pin on his beret proudly at many public demonstrations against the war in Iraq.

The Woodys took their community responsibilities seriously. Barbara became heavily involved with the establishment and preservation of Parleys Nature Park, with local zoning issues, and with efforts to curb billboards. Bob often involved himself with federal land use issues. He commented thoughtfully on the Forest Service's numerous proposed land use plans that included ski area expansions, helicopter skiing permits, and issues related to wilderness, public access, and trailhead development.

The Woodys were active supporters of the Citizens' Committee to *Save Our Canyons*, perfect examples of the sort of citizens who understand what is at stake in the Wasatch and who do their part in controlling unwise development in these mountains treasured by so many like them. In many ways they represented the type of environmental and community

activism expected of the organization's members.

Bob Woody was a soft-spoken individual with a subtle and often self-effacing sense of humor.

During one lunch break on a Lake Blanche ski tour Bob stood up on a rock and with outstretched arms entertained us by describing how he would develop the area as a destination resort; he delivered his vision in a perfect Texas oil tycoon's drawl.

During the past decade Bob had received an artificial hip and an artificial knee. While waiting for installation of an artificial ankle he likened his state of health to that of a "well used car" traveling between Chicago and San Francisco: "I feel like I'm stuck in Winnemucca waiting for repair parts to arrive." The ankle part was eventually installed and Bob continued his metaphorical journey to the Golden Gate.

Bob Woody will always be remembered by those of us who toured, hiked, and socialized with him.



Life and Accomplishments of Stewart Udall

By John Worlock, Trustee

This is the text of John's weekly Wasatch Environmental Update for February 28, 2010. Tune Sunday afternoons at 2:00 p.m. on KRCL 90.9 FM.

TODAY we celebrate the life and the accomplishments of Stewart Udall, a lifelong champion of the environment, and to our good fortune, the 37th Secretary of the Interior. Stewart Udall had just been reelected to Congress from Arizona when newly elected John Kennedy chose him to be his Interior Secretary. That was in the year 1961, and Udall went on to serve as Interior Secretary for eight years, through both the Kennedy and the Johnson administrations.

Those were heady times for conservationists, and Udall is said to be largely responsible for the passage of a variety of legislation that now supports our efforts to protect our environment. Here is a partial list of those laws: The Clean Air and Water Quality Acts, The Wilderness Act of 1964, The Endangered Species Preservation Act of 1966, and the National Trails System and Wild and Scenic Rivers Acts of 1968. Secretary Udall also presided over the creation of four National Parks (among them Utah's Canyonlands), as well as 93 different national monuments, historic sites, wildlife refuges, national seashores and recreational areas:

all told, nearly four million acres of protected land.

Those must indeed have been heady times, and we look back hungrily. Stewart Udall has said: "That was a wonderful time, and it carried through into the Nixon administration, the Ford administration, into the Carter administration. I don't remember a big fight between Republicans and Democrats.... There was a consensus that the country needed more conservation projects of the kind we were proposing." That was a consensus sadly lacking in the current era, when environmentalism is often identified with socialism, or worse, and the federal government is often viewed as a foreign, occupying power.

Stewart Udall must have been much more than a consummate politician. It was he who recommended his poet friend, Robert Frost, to write and read a poem at Kennedy's inauguration. He invited poets, actors and others to evenings at the Interior Department. It was Wallace Stegner's presence as the department's Writer-in-Residence that prompted Udall to write his book "The Quiet Crisis" a brief environmental history of the United States.

We are fortunate to have had such a person among us at a pivotal moment in that history.

Stewart Udall died on March 20, 2010, at the age of 90.

Summer Events With Save Our Canyons!

WILDERNESS SAFETY COURSE: June 4-6th

There is a 15% discount for SOC members; plus 10% of the proceeds will be donated back to SOC! Register by going to www.utahwildernesssafety.com or calling 1-877-277-5819.

The Wilderness First Aid portion of the courses is held on the 5th and 6th from 9am - 6pm. An optional CPR class prerequisite is held on the Friday preceding (4th) from 5pm - 7pm.

The course costs are as follows: \$127.50 for SOC members (without CPR course) or \$170.00 for SOC members (with CPR course).

BIG COTTONWOOD CANYON CLEANUPS: June 6th, July 4th, August 8th, September 5th

Meet at 8:30 AM at the Big Cottonwood Canyon mouth Park-and-Ride parking lot. Get out those work gloves, sturdy boots, a pack to carry at least a quart of water & snacks, (Some drinks & bagels will be provided by SOC before we start), a long-sleeved shirt, long pants & sunscreen. Sunglasses & a hat will come in handy too. Helmets will be provided by SOC. UDOT will be providing safety vests and bags for cleanup.

Please contact Julia Hendrian Lester at 801 201-9460 or jhendrian@yahoo.com if you have questions about Adopt-A-Highways events.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE PROGRAM: June 12th, July 10th, August 14th, and September 11th

Every year the trails in the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest need routine maintenance due to weather, overuse, and abuse. Now is your opportunity to give back to the Wasatch by volunteering with Save Our Canyons!

Join us at 8:00 am at the Big Cottonwood Canyon mouth Park-and-Ride parking lot on the second Saturday of the month: June 12, July 10, August 14, and September 11. Bring water, lunch, rain gear, work gloves, and any other necessary items. Wear long pants, sunscreen, a hat, and sturdy hiking boots. Must be 18+ to attend. Call (801) 363-SAVE with any questions!

GEOLOGY HIKE: Saturday, August 21st

We're happy to announce that Bill Parry's ever-popular Geology Hike will take place on Saturday August 21st this year. Bill is Professor Emeritus of Geology and Geophysics at the University of Utah. These hikes are informative and fun! You will learn about igneous rocks, contact metamorphism, effects of mining, and water quality in the Wasatch. This year's hike will go from Brighton to Lake Mary to Catherine Pass. Please call the office at 801-363-SAVE (7283) to register for this hike. Space is limited.

On Saturday, August 21st, we will meet at 8:30 AM at the Park-and-Ride lot at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon. Bring lunch, plenty of water, sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses, and rain gear.

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

Visit the SOC booth at the following events and say, "Hello!"

Venture Outdoors Festival at Canyon Rim Park
3100 South 2900 East – Saturday June 19th, 2010
from 3:00pm - 10:00 p.m.
More information at: <http://www.millcreekoutdoors.org/>

Salt Lake City Farmer's Market at Pioneer Park
300 South 300 West – 8am–1pm – Saturday's – June 26th, July 17th, September 4th

Avenue's Street Festival
August 11th, – 9am – 6pm — Location TBD

For the most up-to-date listing of events involving Save Our Canyons, please visit our website at www.saveourcanyons.org.



Celebrating the Wilderness bill Gale pours champagne, Carl cuts cake.

Wasatch Wilderness and Watershed Protection Act: What's In It?

By Carl Fisher, Executive Director

On April 1, 2010 at an event hosted by Black Diamond, Congressman Matheson, Mayor Becker, Mayor Dolan, Bob Bonar, Peter Metcalf and Save Our Canyons collectively celebrated the introduction of H.R. 5009, the Wasatch Wilderness and Watershed Protection Act! This piece of legislation is the result of a two year stakeholder process (learn more in the President's Message) hosted by Mayor Peter Corroon. Ann Ober of Mayor Corroon's Office very delicately kept this group of differing viewpoints on task and on track as we discussed the future of our wonderful mountains.

So, what *is* the Wasatch Wilderness and Watershed Protection Act? What does it do, and why is it so important? Glad you asked!

This legislation will permanently protect some 26,000 acres of the Wasatch Mountains, in and around the vicinity of Parleys Canyon, Mill Creek Canyon, Big Cottonwood Canyon and Little Cottonwood Canyon. Not only will the legislation add acreage to the three existing Wilderness Areas, we also stand to gain two more: the Wayne Owens Grandeur Peak Wilderness and the Bear Trap Wilderness. Wilderness protection is the ultimate protection that can be placed upon our public lands, with a mandate to allow the particular areas of wildness to be untrammled

by man, a place where nature can naturally run its course. According to the Wilderness Act of 1964, "An area of wilderness is further defined to mean in this Act an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least five thousand acres of land or is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value."

In addition to expansion of Wilderness, this legislation also applies a wilderness-type management area called a "Special Management Area (SMA)". These SMAs, which make up about 11,000 acres of the aforementioned acreage, tell the Federal land managers that the areas must be managed to protect their inherent wilderness characteristics to ensure their future inclusion into the National Wilderness Preservation System. This inclusion will take place in

*Being part of the
Save Our Canyons
office team is not
all work and no play.
Here are
Havila Martak, Jen Kecor,
and Carl Fisher
joining a toast
to Wasatch Wilderness.*



the future when the use preventing them from becoming wilderness goes away. What “use” is blocking this protection of our watershed and wildlands you might ask? The noisy birds of winter who descend upon the high peaks of the Wasatch each December 15 - April 15. As part of a compromise with Wasatch Powderbird Guides these SMAs will place protections in the areas where WPG operates while allowing for their continued operation until at some point in the future, when the nonconforming use ceases.

The area prohibits the construction of roads, temporary or permanent, as well as vehicles and only allows the activities associated with heli-skiing that are permitted at the time of this legislation’s enactment. In short, we share the Wasatch with WPG. As their permit changes, expires without renewal or they go out of business, the areas automatically become Wilderness. This idea came out of the nearly 2 year long stakeholder process, and our friends at the Campaign for America’s Wilderness as they were working through similar issues (with helis) in Southwestern Colorado’s San Juan Mountains.

Another piece of the legislation facilitates a land exchange between Snowbird and the Forest Service. Throughout this process we became very enlightened as to who owns what in the private-public patchwork that plagues much of the Big/Little Cottonwood Ridgeline. As it turns out, Snowbird owns much of the land across the road from their resort including areas surrounding Mt. Superior, Flagstaff Mountain, Reed and Benson Ridge and White Pine. From the start of the stakeholder meetings, Snowbird was very forthcoming about their desire to construct a low visibility tram to the American Fork Twin Peaks. This would allow them to access areas they own in Mary Ellen Gulch and Mineral Basin. Measures are being put into place to protect White Pine Canyon from being accessed by

the resort’s slack-country shredders.

The silver lining of this land exchange with Snowbird is that the “proposed” lift up Flagstaff Mountain will be blocked and another public access point to back country skiing in Little Cottonwood Canyon will be secured! Through the land exchanges, ski area expansion onto the acquired lands will be prohibited, as will the construction of roads, temporary or permanent, and vehicular access. The one caveat, is that avalanche control mechanisms like Gazex or similar devices would be permitted on these parcels at some point in the future to help address issues with ammunition used in avalanche control and its potential for being phased out.

We commend the leadership of Congressman Matheson, Mayor Corroon and his staff and also the work of Mayor Ralph Becker, and his watershed guardians at the Department of Public Utilities. The tenacity of not only the people mentioned above but also of the ski resorts, other municipalities, the Big Cottonwood Community, and other interested parties played a significant role in the shaping of this timely legislation. The Wasatch Mountains will not get any larger, in fact, with the population of the Salt Lake Valley slated to double within 25 or so years, the water resources that come from these canyons will become even more precious than they are today. Along with increased population, comes increased development pressure. With the passage of this legislation (we hope), we will have effectively secured for the residents and future generations the promise of clean water resources and access to the diverse landscape of the Wasatch Mountains, the place that allows us to enjoy such a high quality of life. Write your elected officials today, and ask them to support HR 5009, the Wasatch Wilderness and Watershed Protection Act. □

Annual Lone Peak Celebration was a Great Success

The annual Save Our Canyons' Lone Peak Celebration for 2010 took place on April 23 at the beautiful Jewish Community Center dining room overlooking the Salt Lake Valley. The event was especially celebratory this year with Congressman Matheson's recent introduction of HR 5009, the Wasatch Wilderness and Watershed bill. Speaking on Matheson's behalf we had Mike Reberg from his local office. Mike had been deeply involved in the long and fruitful stakeholders' meetings and talked about his own long-standing dedication

to environmental issues such as this. SOC's Executive Director, Carl Fisher, also talked about the process and the result.

There was a goodly crowd to enjoy the view, the happy occasion, the wonderful Middle Eastern food furnished by *Mazza*, the music by Erik Spreng and the zippy auction. Thank you all for your support and plan to attend next year's Celebration.



Mike Reberg, from Matheson's Salt Lake office, a major Wilderness player, talks to guests.



Joel Bown, mountain man and long-time SOC supporter, smiles in front of auctioned photo by Garrett Smith of Hammer's Photography, Inc.

David and Robert Olson, rapid-fire and amusing auctioneers, urge on bidders.



Many Thanks to All the Businesses and Individuals Who Helped Make the Lone Peak Celebration a Success

Lone Peak 2010 Event Business Supporters

Alpine Art
Alta
Bacchus Rental Services
Beehive Cheese
Bill Gray
Bill Parry
Black Diamond Equipment, Ltd.
Boulder Mountain Lodge
Brighton Ski Resort
Cactus & Tropicals, LLC
Caffe Molise
Carlucci's Bakery
Carolyn Guild Photography
Cascade Designs
Centered City Yoga
Columbia Sportswear Company
Deer Valley Resort
Denise Doebbeling
Desert Star Playhouse
Gibbs Smith Publisher
Hammers Inc. Photography
Hansen Co. Jewelry

Health 2 Go! (Deanna
McLaughlin)
High Sierra Sport Co.
Huddart Floral
I.J. and Jeanne Wagner Jewish
Community Center
Kirkham's Outdoor Products
Liston Concepts (Lunastix)
MacNichol Guitars
Martine
Mazza Middle Eastern Cuisine
Moki Pottery
Momentum Climbing Gym
Ortovox USA
Patagonia Outlet SLC
Petzl America
PrAna
Reflections Salon
Sage's Cafe/Vertical Diner/Cali's
Southwest Airlines
Stella Grill
Sundance

The Beer Nut
The Desert Edge Brewery
The Dodo
The Gateway
The King's English
The Porcupine Pub and Grille
The Red Butte Cafe
The Tin Angel
The Wild Bird Center
Uinta Brewing Company
University Guest House
Utah Wilderness Safety
Voile
Wanderlust Images
Whole Foods Market
Xmission

Lone Peak 2010 Volunteers

Erik DeWall
Rachael Mathey
Eric Spreng

Michael Stone
Krista Bowers
Jacqueline Pollos

Emma Saarel

We would also like to give special recognition and thanks
to these local businesses for their support of our work!

Einstein's Bagels
Este Pizza
Millcreek Coffee
Pier 49 Pizza

REI
Rico's
Wasatch Touring





Iceland's Eyjafjallajökull volcano – be happy the Wasatch aren't volcanic – yet.

The Good, the Bad, the Ugly – and the Improbable

GOOD – Alta Ski Area has received two grants totaling \$4,500 to improve energy management and install interpretive signs at an Albion Basin parking lot for wildflower enthusiasts. The energy management part of the funding will go toward efforts to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases by trimming electrical consumption next year by 6 percent.

GOOD – Three mountain lions were seen running in and out of a parking garage on the University of Utah campus recently. The Salt Lake Tribune story on this rare and exciting event reported that the mountain lions were caught on camera, and officials believe them to be cubs—about 50 lbs each—that had been separated from their mother. Students and citizens have been advised to be on the lookout for the lions, but to simply make noise and act 'large' if they see them. Officials say running can elicit a 'chase' response—which would be a pretty rare way to start one's workday. The Wild West still exists right next to Salt Lake City.

GOOD – Solitude's request that the Forest Service allow it to expand into Silver Fork Canyon has brought

multi-pronged opposition on the basis of the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache Forest Plan that clearly prohibits ski area development onto adjacent Forest Service land, on concerns for the integrity of the Salt Lake City watershed, on arguments that skier use per acre at Solitude is lower than in most of the country and on worry over the resultant loss of ever-diminishing areas for popular backcountry skiing. Let's hope that these considerations will cause the Forest Service, with its avowed first priority status for water resources, to make what is clearly the right decision: denial of this request.

IMPROBABLE – It is good, isn't it, that Wasatch Range is not volcanic. Just think of the local problems we'd have with air quality, ski industry woes, avalanche conditions, traffic jams, flights in and out of Salt Lake International Airport and watershed contamination if we had something like Iceland's Eyjafjallajökull volcano. See photo above.

A rare sighting of three mountain lions occurred on the University of Utah's campus recently. They were cubs, not adults like the one pictured at right. See previous page.



BAD – Juan Antonio Samaranch, long time IOC President, died last April 21. He had had to face the scandals surrounding the Salt Lake City 2002 Winter Olympic Games arising from allegations that the process, overseen by Samaranch, of choosing Salt Lake City had been corrupt. Local organizers faced federal bribery charges from which they were eventually exonerated.

The biggest scandal, however, related to those games was arguably the infamous land exchange that transferred thousands of acres of forest service land adjacent to Snowbasin into private ownership. It was bad journalism to have left this part of the Olympics brouhaha out of the press coverage. The story of how that happened is twisted and sordid and exploited the Olympics bid process from within the organizing committee. It has been told in detail by Stephen Trimble in his book "Bargaining for Eden".

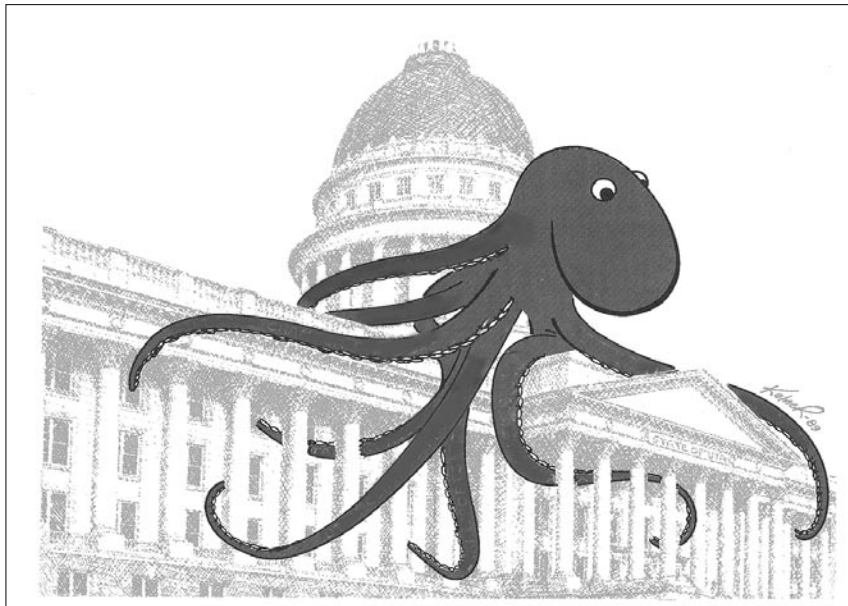
BAD – During the last legislative session State Senator Curtis Bramble, R-Provo, sponsored a bill that would allow the City of Sandy to annex Snowbird Ski and Summer Resort out from the jurisdiction of Salt Lake County. Bramble said that the idea was brought to him by Snowbird officials. The bill SB244 would create special exceptions to current annexation statutes. Not surprisingly, it was greeted with almost universal dismay and disapproval by the Salt Lake County Council and Mayor. County Deputy Mayor Nicole Dunn described the proposal as "...bad public policy and ... not good for public safety." In one of his daily columns in the Salt Lake Tribune, Columnist Paul Rolly blasted the suggestion and the smoke screen of reasoning presented it its support with some of his sharpest rhetoric. For many years Snowbird has grumbled about Salt Lake County's planning

commission and it takes no stretch of the imagination to believe that the resort is looking for a more lenient planning commission. Senator Bramble withdrew his bill during this tizzy. Watch for its return next legislative session.

UGLY – In recent years there have been various proposals for vast developments at northern Utah's wonderful Powder Mountain ski resort. This old-fashioned resort with wonderful powder snow and only the basic amenities has long been a favorite of local aficionados. It is quiet, low key and beautiful. But, like so much of the west, it invites dreams of developmental glories. To further these dreams, developers would continue efforts to create a town. And the town would be a true "company town" with a town council named by developers, not residents. Earlier proposals for development that happily failed to find financing called for golf courses, conference centers, airports and the like. In the 2010 State Legislative session, Representative Gage Froerer R-Huntsville introduced HB 218 that would have restored voter's rights regarding incorporation of towns. It did not pass. Loss of Powder Mountain would be a very sad thing and a loss of a beautiful and much loved recreational area.

Powder Mountain proposed for more development





Public land privatization and development interests dominated the 2010 Legislative session. Cartoon by Alexis Kelner.

The 2010 Utah Legislative Session

By Mark Clemens
Manager, Utah Chapter of the Sierra Club

This article appeared in the Spring 2010 issue of the Utah Sierran and is reprinted here with permission.

SALT LAKE CITY—The Utah Legislature not only blew off steam with a parade of costly anti-environmental message bills and resolutions, it did genuine damage to Utahns' outdoor resources, health and safety during the 2010 General Session. "From the bill providing tax cuts for polluting and destructive oil shale, tar sands and pet coke, to a bill locking Utahns out of access to floating and fishing rivers and streams, to the wolf death penalty bill, 2010 was the year of the scorpion with a real sting in its tail," said Mark Clemens, Utah Chapter manager.

"We continue to have grave concerns about public lands management in Utah, and we see nothing coming out of the 2010 session that leads us to believe legislators recognize the urgent need to address critical issues such as forest and habitat preservation, and the overall effects of climate change. What we do see is a continued emphasis on message bills that only serve to waste precious tax dollars. We believe the vast majority of Utahns value public lands and the preservation of healthy habitat, watershed and recreation, rather than our legislature's preference for privatization and development," said Dan Mayhew, chair of the Utah Chapter's Conservation Committee.

Some progress continued on bills improving energy efficiency such as Draxler's HB 70 promoting natural gas conversions, Barrus's HB 318 that expands access to an energy-efficiency revolving loan fund, and Van Tassel's SB 47 that makes CoolKeeper opt-out rather

than opt-in. In this session, the legislature built on last session's HB 120 establishing a Snake Valley Aquifer Research Team and Advisory Council, by providing a small but continuing source of funding for monitoring in Stowell's First Substitute SB 24. "We're grateful for these tweaks and incremental improvements, but they don't do much to alter the overall direction of the session," said Clemens.

Members of the Utah House of Representatives were graded on their votes on eight bills. Four representatives received 100% scores. They are Rep Rebecca Chavez-Houck (D-Salt Lake City), Rep Christine Johnson (D-Salt Lake City), Rep Brian King (D-Salt Lake City) and Rep Marie Poulson (D-Cottonwood). At the other end of the spectrum, seven representatives scored under 15%. For the second year in a row, a representative scored a zero %; this year's winner of that dubious distinction is Rep Ben Ferry (R-Corinne).

Senators were also graded on their votes on eight bills. Freshman Senator Ben McAdams (D-Salt Lake City) scored 100%. Six senators received a C, with scores between 71 and 75%. Senator David Hinkins (R-Orangeville) brought up the rear with a score of 13%.

The public can check out the scorecards on line at <http://utah.sierraclub.org/legislative.asp>

Bills are chosen across a range of topics such as public lands, air quality, energy, zoning, wetlands and public health. Bills are also chosen to include both those with broad support as well as some that have not yet gained consensus. □



The Verdict Is In: The CRR Zone is Not Appropriate for the Tavaci Site.

Jennifer Kecor, SOC Issues Coordinator

THE public process has concluded and the Cottonwood Heights city-appointed Citizen's Advisory Committee's findings led them to the conclusion Save Our Canyons had had from the beginning. The Canyon Resort Residential (CRR) zone is not appropriate for the Tavaci site.

In addition to their conclusion, the Committee came out with two recommendations. The first, is to let the Tavaci development proceed under the current zoning and approved plan. The second option would allow for a rezone to an existing residential zone, which would increase the density of single homes. It was earlier this year that the committee convened to review and make recommendations on the (CRR) zone. Members of the committee used various sources of information, including input from Save Our Canyons, to evaluate the CRR ordinance as it would apply to the Tavaci development. The final report to Cottonwood Heights City Council was submitted March 30, 2010.

After the Committee's findings were presented, the City Council made it clear that Terry Diehl, Tavaci's developer, would have the opportunity to respond to the Committee's findings. It was no surprise when on

Tuesday, April 27th, Diehl's presentation was not so much a response as a revised design proposal. The final report on the CRR zone did nothing to stop Terry Diehl from urging a continuing search for a different development concept for Tavaci. As suggested in Diehl's presentation to the Citizen's Advisory Committee on February 11th, "it's not if...but how?" Diehl seems determined to see something other than the approved 43-lot subdivision.

At this stage, the city of Cottonwood Heights will be heading back to the drawing board to review more feasible possibilities for the property. It will be interesting to see how the city moves forward with the Committee's recommendations. The Canyon Resort Residential zone may be a dead deal, but it seems as if Cottonwood Heights and Terry Diehl are continuing their negotiations and planning will continue until a compromised deal (Diehl?) can be made.

While we will no longer see a private gated project with resort-style commercial and residential development with as many as a few hundred residential units perched atop the foothills, Save Our Canyons will continue to watch Cottonwood Heights as the issue unfolds. □

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