



## *Mid December News and Views - Greater Wasatch Broadband*

### **Holiday Greetings from your Broadband Leadership Team**

As 2024 fades away and 2025 is on our doorstep we wanted to take a moment to thank each and everyone of you for your efforts to protect wilderness and our public lands. As Broadband members we write letters, attend rallies, lobby legislators, participate in stewardship projects, read and study environmental issues, and have lots of fun in the process. We plan on continuing our advocacy to protect these unique and cherished places into the future!

### **Central Wasatch Symposium, January 9-10, Your Broadband will be There**

The Central Wasatch Commission announced the program for the inaugural Central Wasatch Symposium, a conference-style event that will bring together the various interests and stakeholders in the Central Wasatch for two days of expert panels, interactive workshops, and networking to take place on January 9th and 10th, 2025 at Millcreek City Hall. [REGISTER HERE](#)

During the Symposium, the CWC will be engaging the CWC's Board of Commissioners, Stakeholders Council, Youth Council, partner agencies, and the public for presentations from leaders and experts working in each of the four interdependent systems of the Central Wasatch that the CWC focuses on – economy (world-renowned ski resorts as well as small businesses), transportation (how people travel to and around the Central Wasatch), recreation (year-round biking, hiking, skiing, climbing, picnicking and other recreational opportunities in the Central Wasatch), and environment (the land, water, air, vegetation communities, and wildlife that underpin the other three systems) of the Central Wasatch.

### **Keynote Address**

Terry Tempest Williams has been called a citizen writer, a writer who speaks and speaks out eloquently on behalf of an ethical stance toward life. A naturalist and fierce advocate for freedom of speech, she has consistently shown us how environmental issues are social issues that ultimately become matters of justice. So here is my question, she asks, what might a different kind of power look like, feel like, and can power be redistributed equitably even beyond our own species?

Known for her impassioned and lyrical prose, Terry Tempest Williams is the author of the environmental literature classics *Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place*; *An Unspoken Hunger: Stories from the Field*; *Desert Quartet*; *Leap*; *Red: Passion and Patience in the Desert*; *The Open Space of Democracy*; *Finding Beauty in a Broken World*; *When Women Were Birds*; *Erosion: Essays of Undoing*; *The Hour of Land: A Personal Topography of Americas National Parks*; and *The Story of My Heart* by Richard Jeffries, as rediscovered by Brooke Williams and Terry Tempest Williams. She has collaborated with photographer Fazal Sheikh on *The Moon Is Behind Us*, with artist Mary Frank on *A Burning Testament*, and *What My Body Knows*, and she wrote the introductory essay for *A Wild Promise* by Allen Crawford. In 2024 she wrote text to accompany woodblock prints by Gaylord Schanilec for the fine press book *Oracle Bones* (Red Butte Press).

Following the keynote address, Symposium attendees will have the opportunity to attend presentations, expert panels, and breakout sessions covering the following topics:

- The Central Wasatch National Conservation and Recreation Area Act
- The Cottonwood Canyons Watershed
- Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest Plan 101
- Rock Climbing Across the Central Wasatch
- The Visitor Economy in Park City and Summit County
- Backcountry Skiing in the Central Wasatch
- An Introduction to the Biodiversity of the Central Wasatch
- Transportation Planning for the Central Wasatch
- The Unique Opportunities and Challenges of Leading a City Along the Central Wasatch Mountains
- The Current State and Future Outlook of the Ski Industry in the Cottonwood Canyons
- Forest Service NEPA and Public Participation
- Advancing Wildfire Mitigation and Defensible Space Initiatives in the Wasatch
- The History and Significance of Wilderness Designations within the Central Wasatch Mountains
- Avalanche Forecasting in the Central Wasatch Mountains
- A Crash Course in the State Legislative Process

#### When:

- Thursday, January 9th, 2025, 10:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.
- Friday, January 10th, 2025, 1:00 p.m. — 6:30 p.m.
- Doors open 45 minutes prior to start time each day.

#### Where:

- Millcreek City Hall, 1330 E Chambers Ave, Millcreek, UT 84106.
- Free parking is available on-site at Millcreek City Hall.

#### Cost Tiers for Entrance to Both Symposium Days:

- \$50, general entrance + food and drinks + access to all breakout sessions.
- \$10, student entrance + food and drinks + access to all breakout sessions.
- \$75, general entrance + tabling expo table reservation + food and drinks + access to all breakout sessions.
- *Free and discounted tickets are available to anyone who makes the request. Email [samantha@cw.utah.gov](mailto:samantha@cw.utah.gov) for the student code and to request free or discounted tickets.*



**From Our Friends at SUWA: Public Lands Rally to be held at the Utah State Capitol on Saturday, January 11, 2025**

*Watch for details about Broads participation in this important rally in the January newsletter.*

Contacts:

Grant Stevens, Communications Director, Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (SUWA); (319) 427-0260; [grant@suwa.org](mailto:grant@suwa.org)

Join fellow community members, activists, and environmental organizations for an event that will leave you feeling inspired and demonstrate unwavering local support for protected public lands and wild places across Utah, especially Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments. Additional details can be found below.

What: “Standing Together: Land Love & Hope” A Public Lands Rally

When: Saturday, January 11, 2025 at 12 p.m. A short program with speakers will begin at 12:15.

Where: South Steps of the Utah State Capitol

Registration: If you plan to come, please RSVP on [Facebook](#) or [here](#). Registration is not required.

Other details: We encourage you to walk, bike, take public transit, or carpool if possible. Parking is limited and can be found primarily on surrounding streets and the east side of the Capitol. The rally will be accessible to all abilities and up-close parking is also available.

Current threats to public lands in Utah include:

- Potential reductions to Grand Staircase-Escalante and Bears Ears National Monuments. Following illegal reductions in 2017, both Monuments were restored in 2021, but the State of Utah has [filed litigation](#) challenging these restorations.

- Governor Cox's attempted Land Grab Lawsuit. In an **unprecedented move**, the state has filed a lawsuit with the US Supreme Court, asking the Court to take up a case that would turn over 18.5 million acres of public lands in Utah to the state. The State is also spending **millions of dollars of taxpayer money on a propaganda campaign**
- Ongoing attacks on clear air, clear water, and common-sense conservation. Whether it's celebrating not having to **comply with the Good Neighbor Rule** to improve air quality, opposing **conservation efforts through the new Public Lands Rule**, or failing to **adequately address regional haze in national parks**, Utah's elected officials are working to make Utah a less healthy place for its growing population.

## **ACTION ALERT! Stop the Polluting Ports - Weber County Citizens Need your Help**

As we look ahead, you may be wondering what can we do about the proposed disastrous Weber County Inland Port? If you are working on your 2025 New Year's Resolutions, you can add one more - write to your elected officials! Here is a site where you can find all your representatives. Please write to your State Senator, State Representative, and Weber County Commissioners.

<https://www.commoncause.org/find-your-representative/change-your-address>

Here is a sample message that you can use. Please add your personal message. If you live near the proposed Weber County Inland Port, tell them about your concerns. What will greatly increased traffic, noise, and pollution do to your quality of life? What will it do to the value of your home?

Dear (Representative),

The Utah Inland Port Authority needs to be audited and have some accountability. Their plan is to develop 11 ports, the largest one in West Weber County! The original 900 acre site has now been enlarged to 9,000 acres! We do not need all these industrial areas. I am afraid that this level of development will create greatly increased 24 hour truck traffic, air pollution, and noise pollution. It will destroy my quality of life and affect the value of my home. It will also destroy the area's wetlands which are critical for the health of the Great Salt Lake.

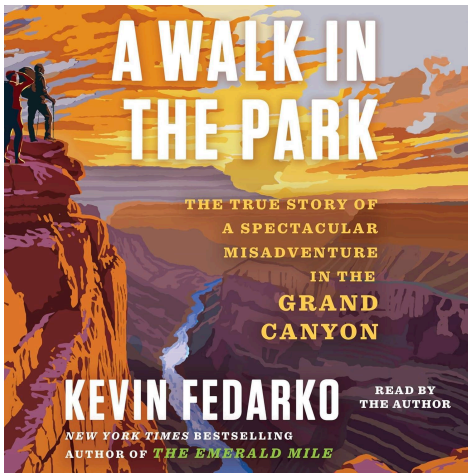
Please let me know what you are doing to stop this development.

Thank you for your response. If you have not already, please join our Facebook page - **Weber Inland Port Watch** - to find out what our group is doing to make a difference!

Weber Inland Port Watch Group

**January Broads Read, Thursday the 23rd, 6:30 p.m. MST**

**A Walk in the Park, by Kevin Fedarko**



Two friends, zero preparation, one dream. From the author of the beloved bestseller *The Emerald Mile*, a rollicking and poignant account of an epic 750-mile odyssey, on foot, through the heart of America's most magnificent national park and the grandest wilderness on earth. And a bonus: the Trails Foundation of Northern Utah is hosting Kevin Fedarko at the annual author's dinner in March! This will sell out fast so don't delay getting your tickets [HERE](#)

Wild and Broadly Yours

*Barbara, Di and Janifer*

Join us on [FACEBOOK](#) or [INSTAGRAM](#)