



Kathy Welt

CLUB 20 Public Lands Chairman

As for my background, my degree from CSU was in forestry and natural resources management and the majority of my 25-year career in the coal mining industry was in environmental permitting and compliance work. A great deal of that work involved leasing federal minerals, and obtaining permits and maintaining compliance of various mining operations on public lands, including exploration drilling activities. For the past two years I have expanded my vocation into the health and safety field, as well as external affairs work for Oxbow Mining's affiliate company, Gunnison Energy Corporation. My family and I raise a small herd of beef cattle on our ranch near Hotchkiss, CO, and we are familiar with the challenges of grazing on public lands as well. As chair of BLM's Southwest Resource Advisory Council for the past four years and a long-time member of the Public Lands Partnership, I have been involved with a wide range of public lands issues over the years.

The Public Lands Subcommittee has and will continue to enlist expertise from the private sector, as well as from local, state and federal agencies, to provide and present the most up-to-date and accurate information for our subcommittee's discussions. With several million acres of public lands in Colorado, the majority being the state and federally managed lands in the western half of the state, lobbying for and representing the Western Slope's interests to our state and national legislators and leaders is imperative. The Public Lands subcommittee will maintain a close watch on emerging issues and those that have and continue to be important to our western slope communities and families. These issues include potential endangered species listings for the Gunnison Sage grouse, among other species; the treatment and management of beetle-killed spruce, fir, pinyon and juniper stands; management of inventoried Roadless areas; travel management and wildfire and fuels management plans; as well as Forest and resource management plans. There are numerous other multiple use issues that are important to us all in western Colorado.