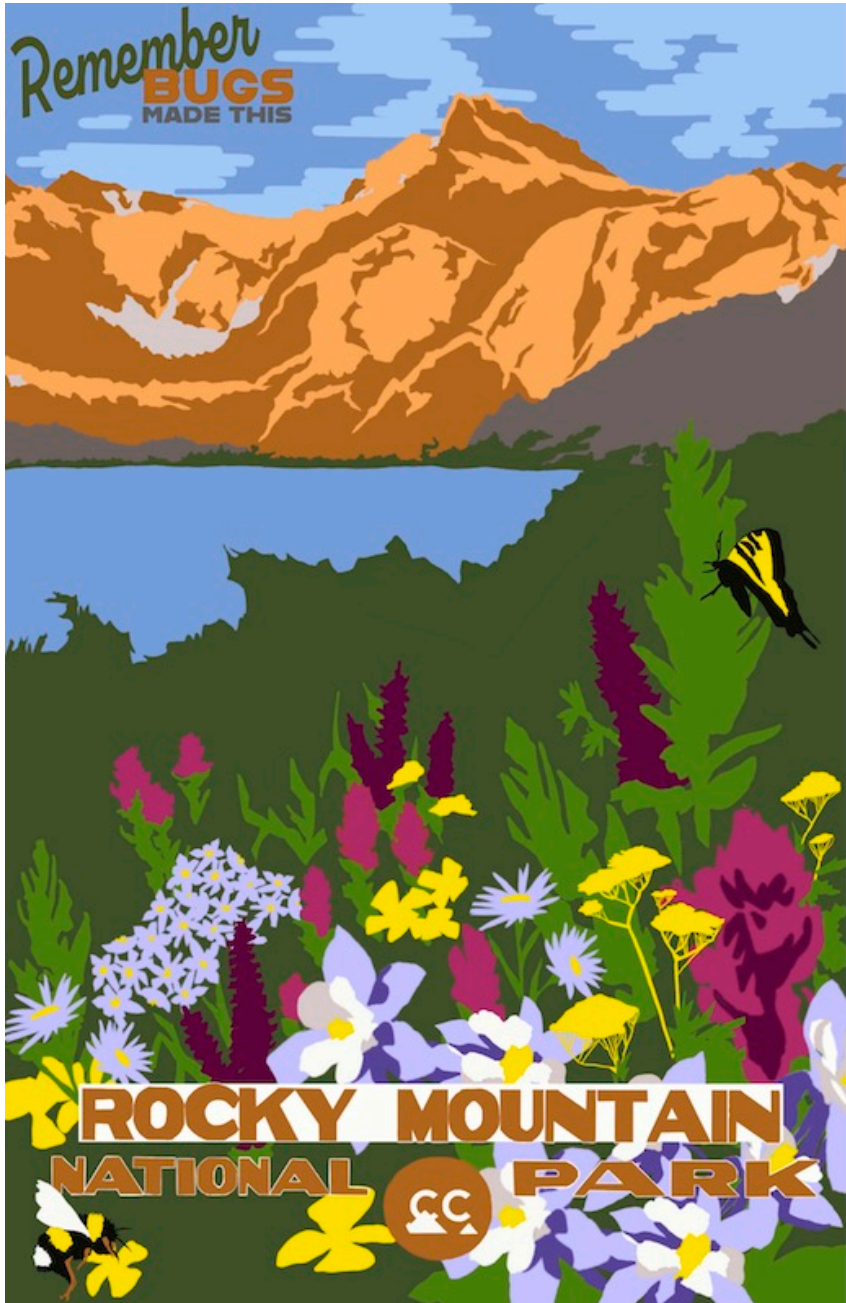




Canyonlands National Park is truly sublime. Its harsh climate lays on a color wheel of canyons twisting and turning for miles. Its future is threatened by the effects of climate change including raging fires, air pollution, and drought. Our actions matter and visiting our parks we are voting with our feet. Our attendance signals lawmakers, big corporations, and most importantly ourselves that conservation is a verb, an action we must take to affect our future. Canyonlands and the resources it holds can offer us solutions to address climate change and renew a respect for nature. Conservation of Canyonlands and our future begin with taking a trip to the desert.

By Andrew Little



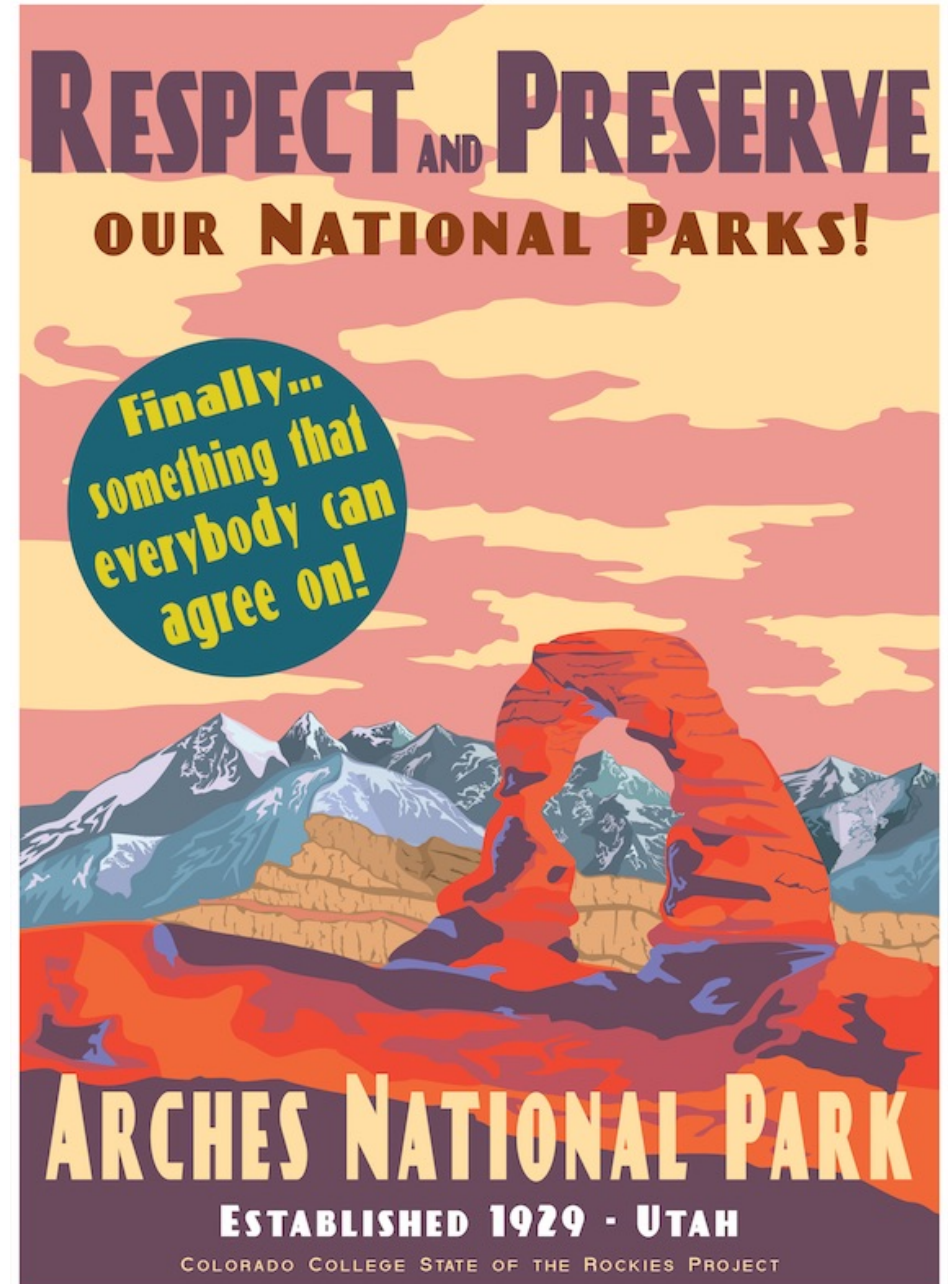
The purpose of the original national Parks Posters was to motivate people to travel and visit national parks. The art showed these places as idyllic and pristine with incredible landscapes and wildlife - and no bugs. The survey revealed that “**63 percent** of voters in the West believe the loss of pollinators is an extremely or very serious problem” which proves a greater understanding of pollinators as architects of our greenspace. This poll serves to reveal a social understanding of our climate crisis and establishes our priorities of preserving the natural world. Protecting pollinators is an act in curbing atmospheric carbon emissions which is a potential resultative effort to carbon emissions. I chose a national park I am familiar with and specifically displayed Bluebird Lake as it is a great place to see the beautiful product of pollinators, wildflowers. I included bugs in my motto and image to be explicit about what is at stake with their disappearance.

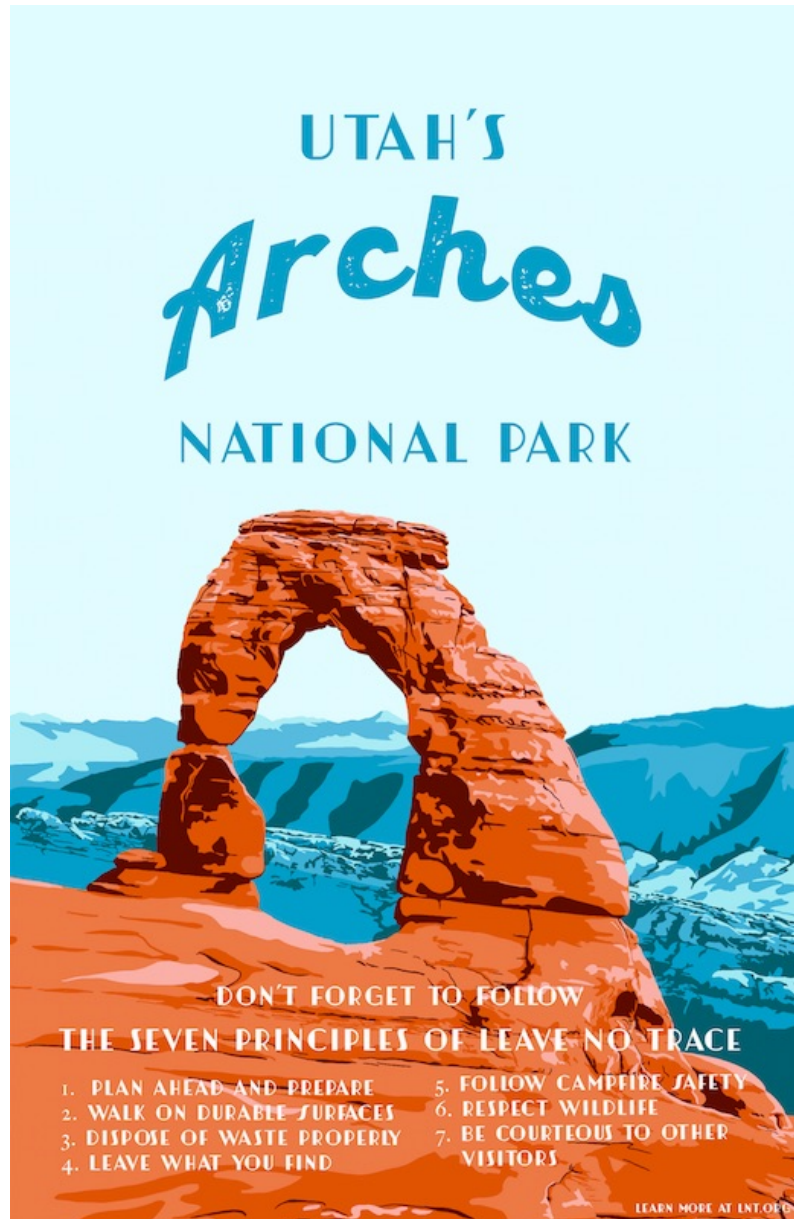
By Casey Millhone



I chose Arches National Park as my subject. I've visited several times and am awed by both the beauty and complexity of the area. It's an important site because it's so well-known and easily accessible, and therefore busier and more prone to destruction. By suggesting respect and preservation of the land, I hope to remind and enforce the idea of leaving no trace. Since climate change has become a politicized issue, it is important to stress that preservation and conservation are supported by "everybody". Furthermore, by presenting this as common knowledge, people should feel more obliged to partake in the effort. While issues like drought, use of public land, and indigenous rights are in the Utah climate change conversation, a simple reminder to respect the land and leave no trace can go a long way for the over one million annual visitors of the park, especially the new ones.

By Charlie Bragg





The Conservation in the West 2021 poll reflects that Americans have a growing desire to protect natural spaces. The Leave No Trace (LNT) organization's goal is to empower people to take conservation into their own hands. The seven principles of LNT are easy and simple steps people can take to protect wildlife, maintain trails and campsites, and preserve the natural beauty of America's landscapes for generations to come. LNT has become an integral part of my experience in the outdoors, so I wanted to share it in this poster. My goal was to create an eye-catching image that would draw in people's interest to the poster's message. I chose Arches National Park because the Delicate Arch is easily recognizable to most Americans, and it worked well with the composition I was going for. I chose contrasting colors to draw attention to the poster without it being overwhelming.

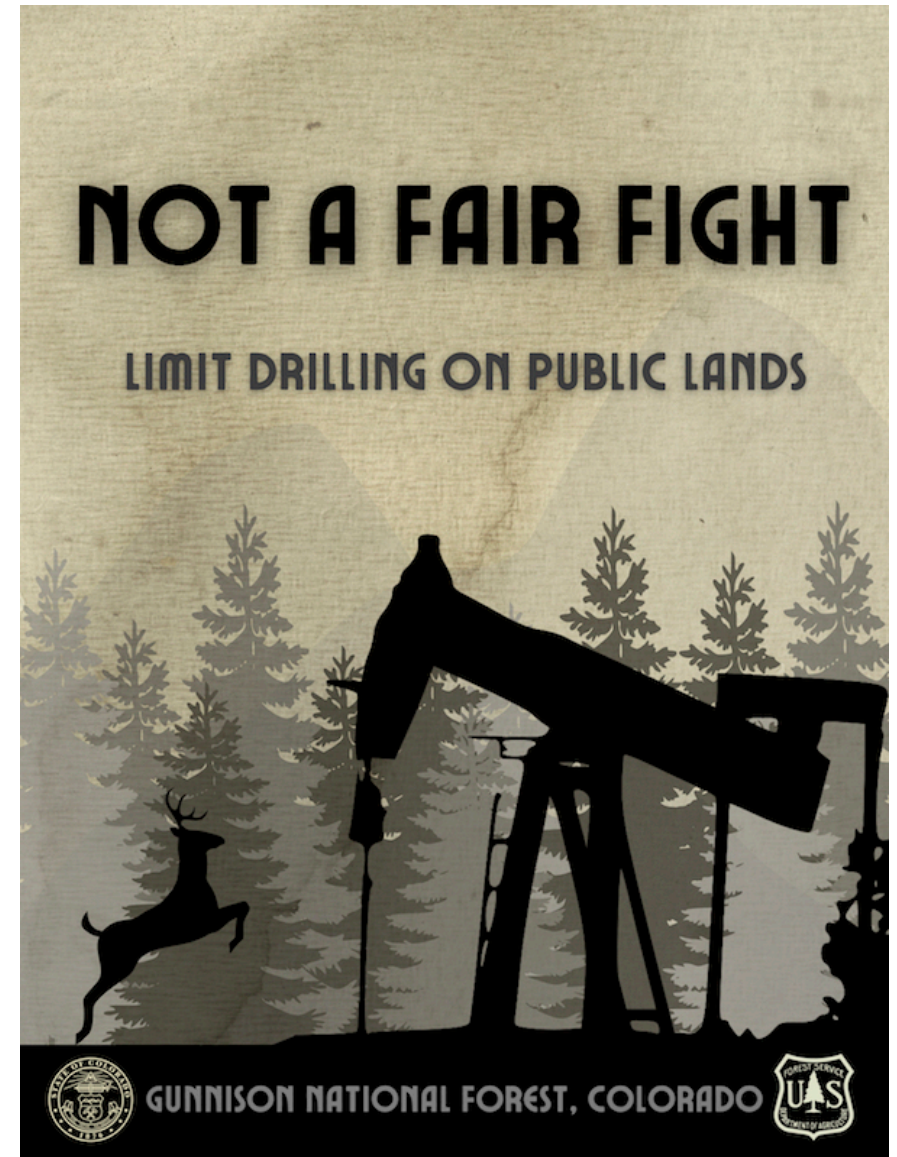
By Fiona McLaughlin

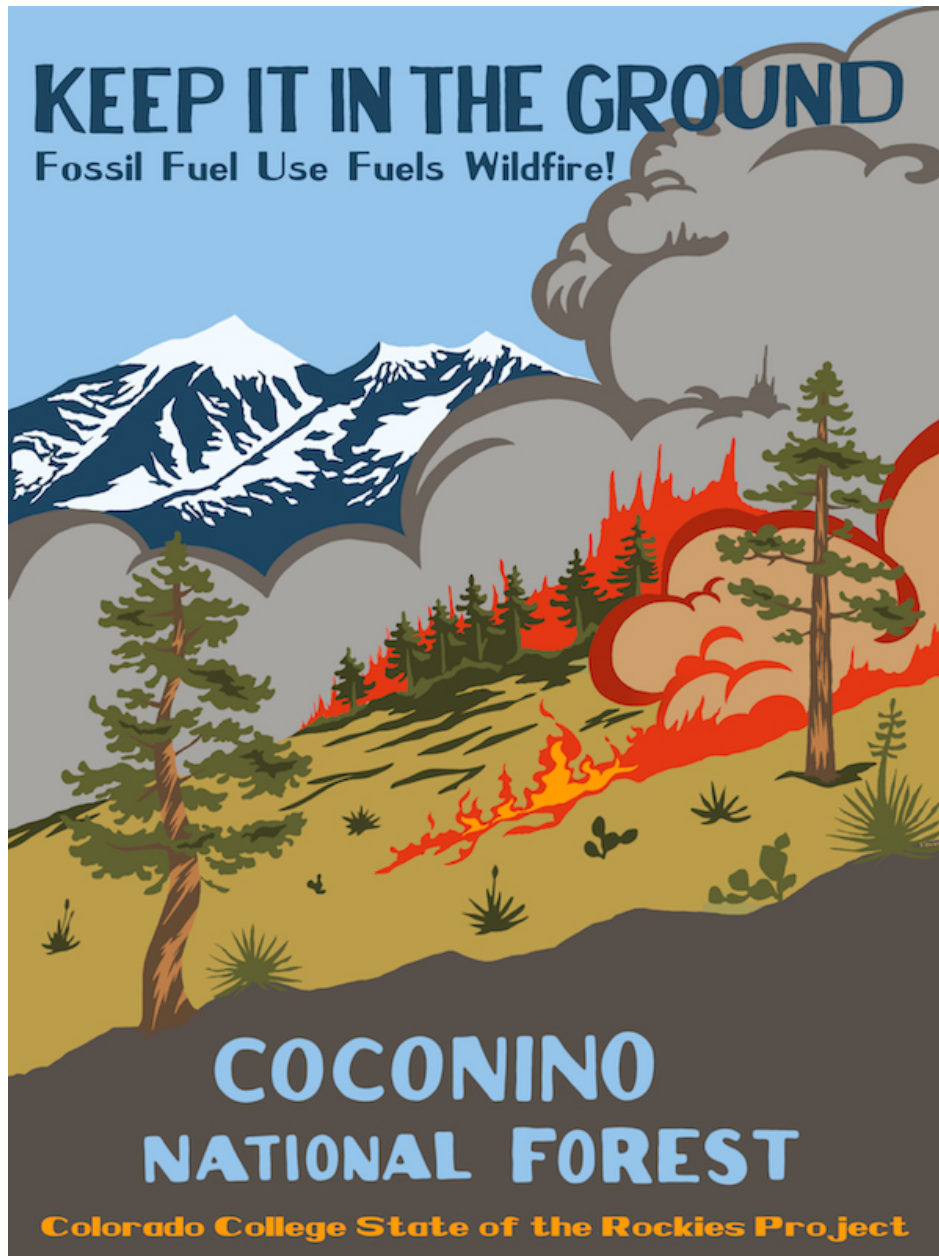


In Gunnison National Forest, there are many authorized oil and gas leases as well as a high potential for future developments to be approved. Created in 1905, the Gunnison National Forest is home to a plethora of wildlife, including mule deer, rocky mountain elk, and extremely vulnerable American pika. It is also frequently visited by outdoor recreation enthusiasts, providing spaces for nearly all the activities that Westerners love so dearly.

In keeping with the results of the 2020 State of the Rockies poll, I have created a new, vintage-style poster with a message that many Westerners would agree with: The fight between industrial development and wildlife is not a fair one. The majority of westerners in every kind of community support specifically limiting industrial activities that could harm threatened wildlife on public lands. A place as special as this one is a good place to start.

By Gracia Seeley





I interned for the National Park Service near Flagstaff in 2021 and spent weekends hiking and camping in the Coconino National Forest. I chose this view of ponderosa pine forest below the San Francisco Peaks to illustrate wildfires, perhaps the most serious impact of climate change on public lands in the Rocky Mountain West. Coconino and many forests are experiencing prolonged drought and higher incidence of severe wildfires. These impacts threaten not only biodiversity and protected species, but millions of visitors' ability to recreate. The public supports transitioning away from fossil fuels and making our public lands a net-zero source of carbon emissions. The State of the Rockies survey found that 72% of Arizonans support prioritizing recreation and conservation over fossil fuel extraction. "Keep It In the Ground" is a national campaign by NGOs to advocate for the cessation of all new oil, gas and coal development on public lands.

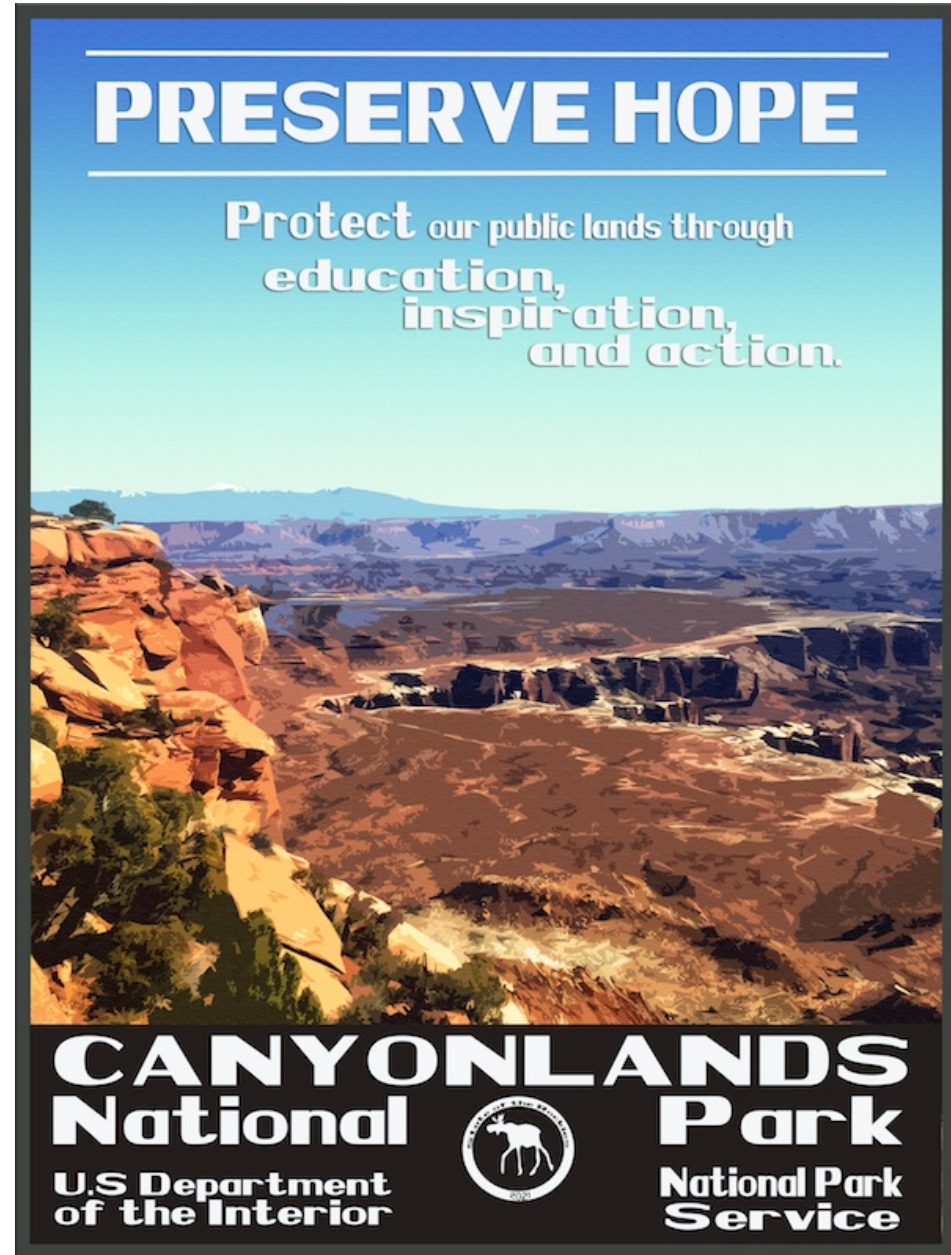
By Isabel DeVito

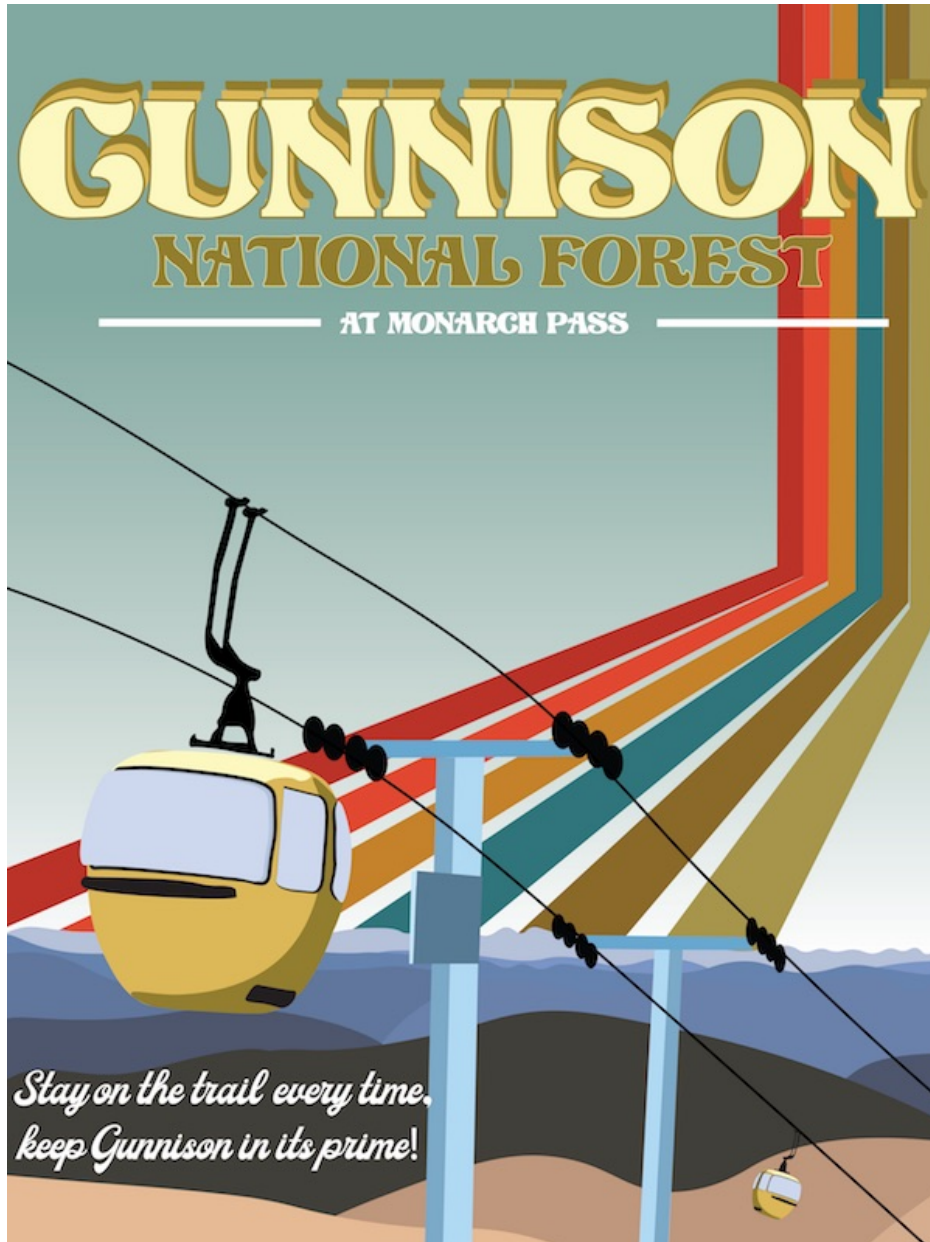




Based upon the 2021 poll, many Americans in the West have become less hopeful about the future of our public lands and protection for habitat and wildlife. I think this can lead to inaction because people feel overwhelmed and want to give up. Having hope is what sparks people into action and gives them purpose. My motto, “Preserve Hope”, is an idea that fosters optimism and generates tangible and impactful change. I wanted a motto that spoke to conserving all habitat and wildlife, no matter the location, and addressed the need for more education and sustainable practices. Inspiration is motivation, and I believe if you visit a place, learn about it, and become inspired, you can change the world.

By Kate Nelson

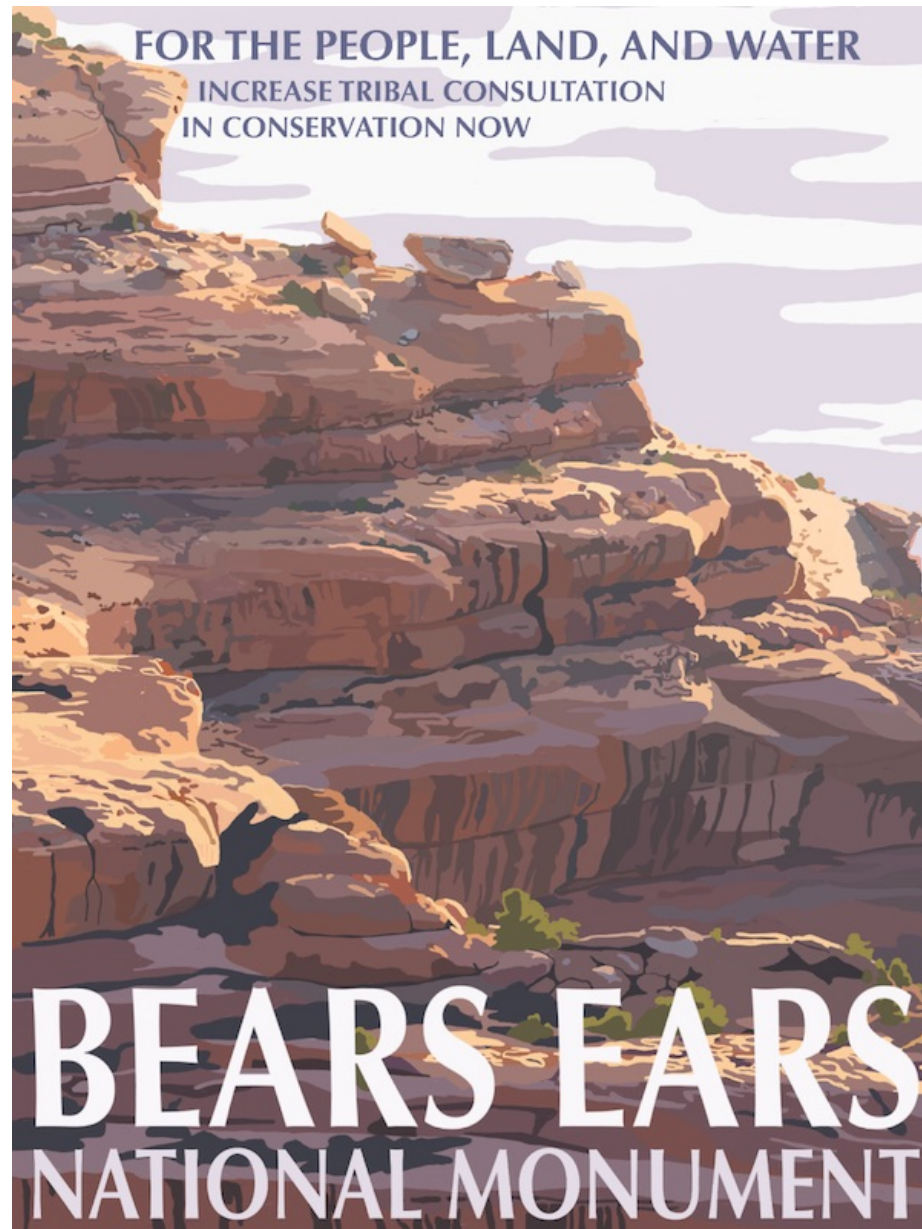




Golden foliage adorns Gunnison National Forest's lush expansive of mountains. The natural beauty and flourishing ecosystems are in danger due to tourists venturing away from the trails. The motto on this poster is representative of the importance of sticking to the trails in order to keep Gunnison National Forest's natural habitats and ecosystems intact. The Conservation in the West poll shows that 94% of people agree that we should find money to protect the state's land, water, and wildlife. Additional funding must be put into the enforcement of guidelines and rules regarding tourism in Gunnison National Forest's national parks and lands. The bottom line is that tourists are straying from designated trails, inhibiting new plant growth and disrupting fragile ecosystems. It's crucial for tourists to be conscious and mindful of their environment and of how their individual actions impact the natural world around them.

By Kira Zizzo





Bears Ears National Monument is the first monument to be designated due to an intertribal committee proposing its designation to the president. Overgrazing and extractive industries put the land that is now Bears Ears at risk and in need of federal protections. As of right now, the five sovereign nations that have connections to the Bears Ears landscape— Hopi, Zuni, Ute, Ute Mountain Ute, and Dine Peoples— are working with executive agencies to draft a management plan that takes into account the ecological and cultural significance of the area. The Rocky Mountain West has made it clear that we need bold action on conservation efforts.

Increasing consultation of Sovereign Nations in conservation plans could be the bold action that people say they want and need. These Nations have a historical, cultural, and spiritual connection to this land and have important insights into the best ways in which to conserve it.

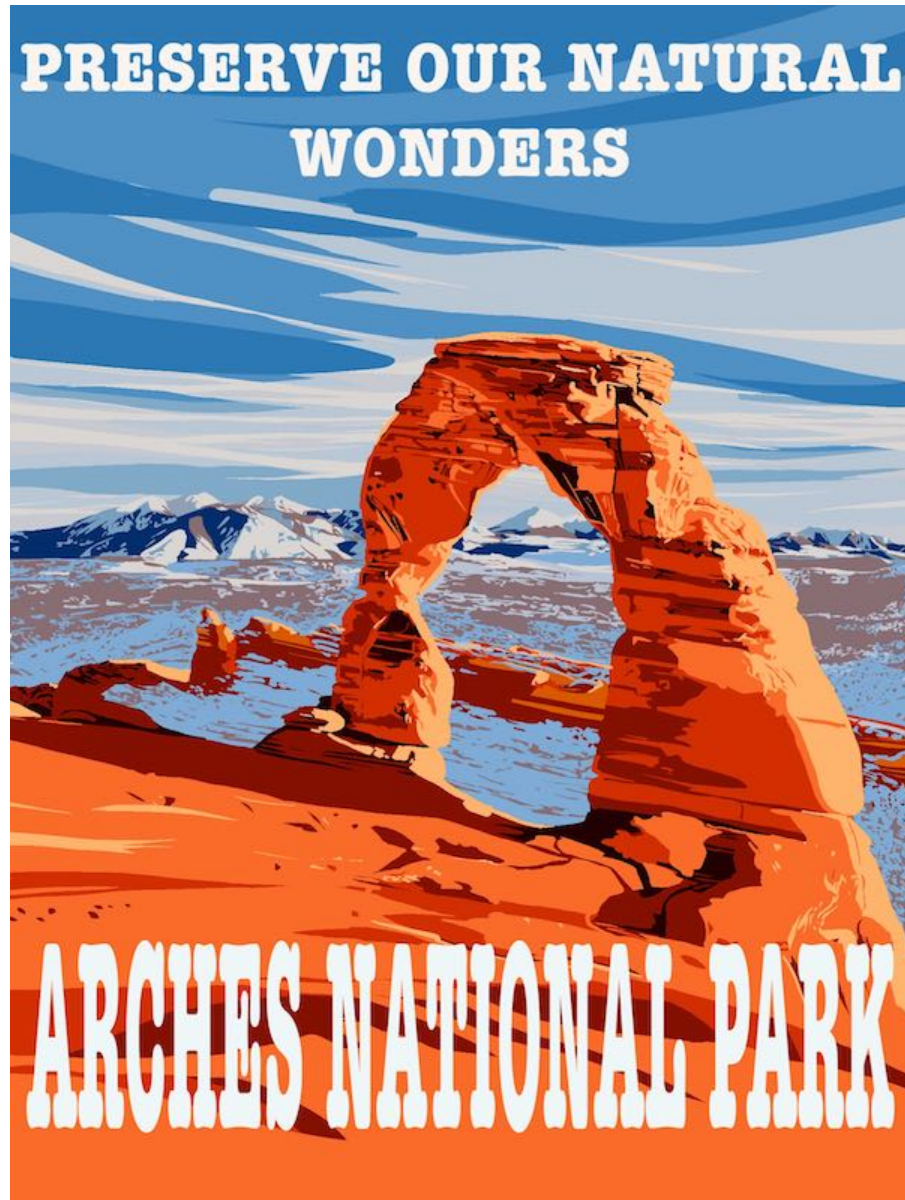
By Natasha Yskamp Long



I believe contemporary conservation is more than a natural landscape, but how we, as humans, interact with and use the space. While our National Parks and other public lands have complicated histories, conservation in the 21st century must acknowledge the intersection of equality and environmental protection. My poster chooses a modern take of the classic outdoor recreation icon: the water bottle. The motto “Treat Your Rivers Right” highlights the importance of clean water, a theme based on the statistics from the poll about water quantity and quality. The “I Voted” sticker reflects the importance of participating in environmental policy along with expressing concern around voter rights and representation. The State of the Rockies and the Dead-Horse Point stickers illustrate a sense of place and a shared appreciation for the natural spaces that surround us. As we create new ways to engage in conservation, the symbols we use to express our values should also change.

By Olivia Coutre





Arches National Park, home of the famed Delicate Arch, is one of the most visited National Parks in Utah since its founding in 1929. The landscape and surrounding areas are very fragile due to the nature of sandstone and the presence of biological soil. According to the State of the Rockies Conservation in the West 2021 Poll, Utahans highly support continued funding to protect the state's land, water, and wildlife, regardless of budgetary restrictions. Recently, preservation efforts have implemented required timed reservations to visit the park to combat overcrowding and its associated detriments such as increased air, noise, and water pollution. With the increased number of people visiting the park, it has become even more important to preserve this one-of-a-kind natural wonder through crowd control, emphasis on staying on designated trails, and increased education of the land's significance to protect the land, water, and wildlife for its hopefully everlasting future.

By Olivia Fortner

I chose Rocky Mountain National Park because recently it has had massive wildfires. In 2020 alone, 10% of the park, 30,000 acres, was burned. The wildfires in the west are worsening rapidly due to climate change. Despite this, only 71% of the poll's voters think fires are worse now than 10 years ago. Only 42% of those voters attribute it to climate change. Fires are worse for many reasons, but they all have to do with climate change. This is why I chose the motto "conserve water, it's getting hotter." My hope is that the motto, combined with my image, will speak to people no matter what they believe. Everyone understands the connection between heat, fire and water. Even if they disagree on the specific connection, I hope that they will at least try to conserve some water because that's an easy step that helps reduce the burning.

By Silas Howe







I chose to do a vintage comic format because it gave an urgency and loudness to the composition that I really liked. It's definitely not like the streamline vintage posters, but I think it works well to get the point across. I chose the Grand Canyon in Arizona because of the large fire that happened there in 2020. According to the polls, Arizona was one of the lowest states that didn't think wildfires were an issue. I think that highlighting this catastrophe, in conjunction with the beauty and amazing colors the canyon exudes is a great way to draw attention to this. The bluntness of the title (motto) with the playful comic book layout is meant to draw you in to learn more of the story.

By Sofie Miller

As highlighted in the Conservation in the West 2021 Survey, climate change is seen as one of the most serious problems facing the rocky mountain region, and support to reduce human contributions to climate change is high. Because of these attitudes, I chose to center the message of this poster around bringing awareness to some of the ramifications of a warming climate, as well as encouraging a feeling of responsibility to join the fight against climate change. What better way to present this than through Glacier National Park? Glacier has not only seen a dramatic increase in tourism since the pandemic, but also has one of the most tangible examples of the impact of climate change: rapidly melting glaciers. The future of Glacier is ever so tied to the future of climate change, and how we might all take steps to minimize its consequences.

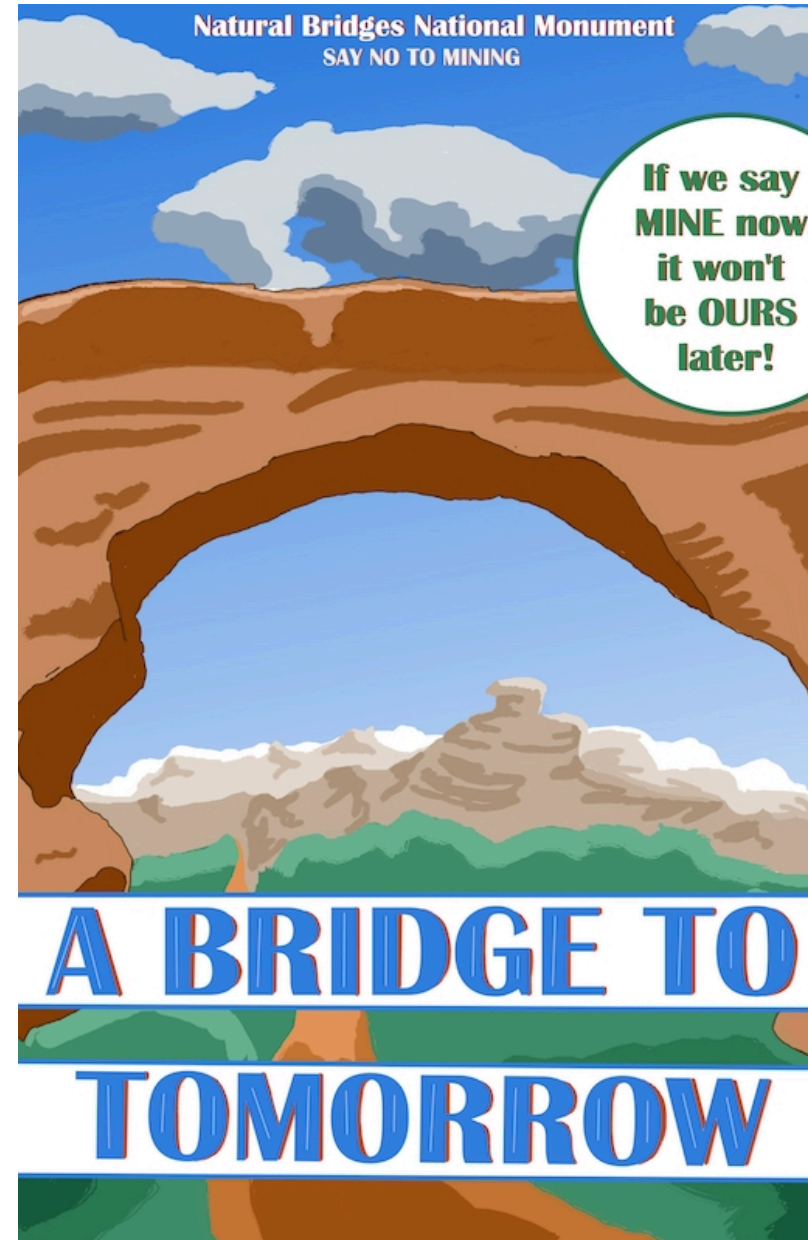
By Sophie Dua

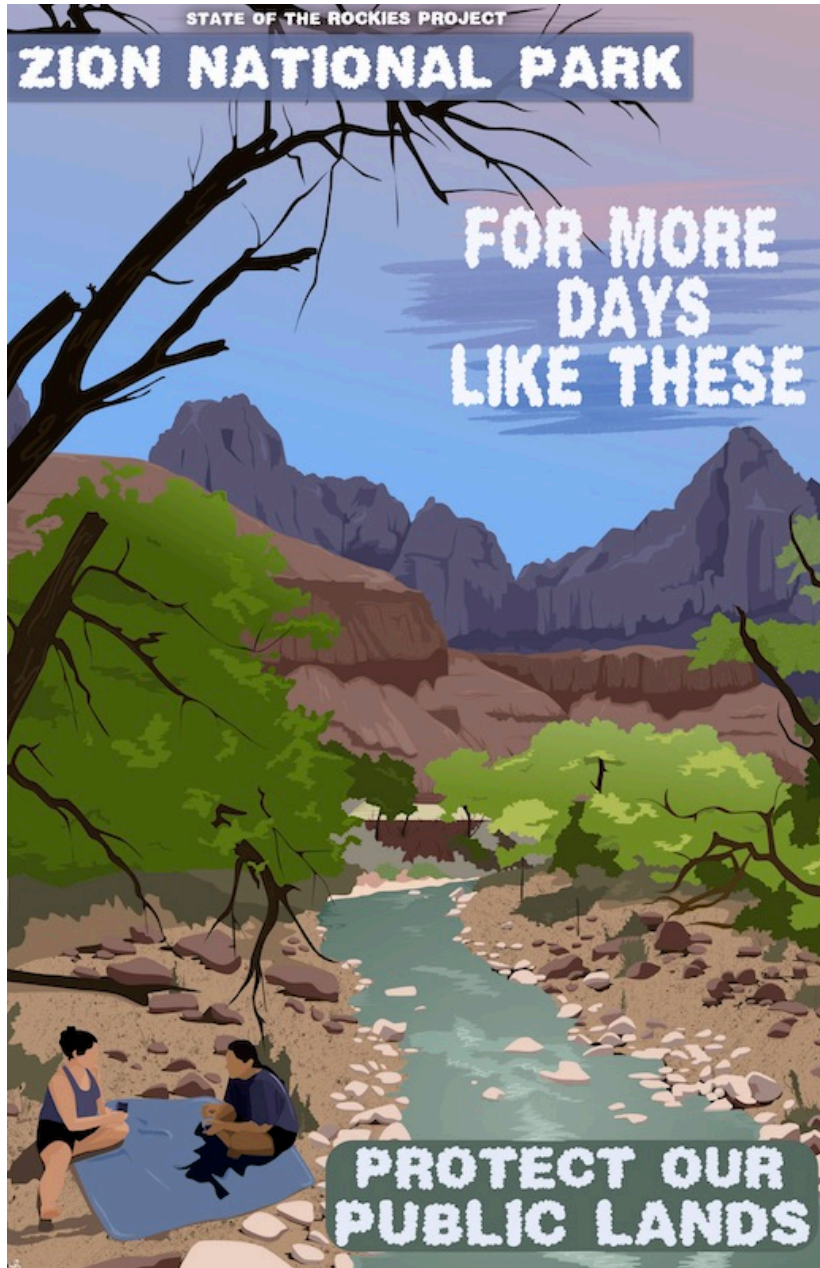




I chose Natural Bridges National Monument as a striking vista that encapsulates the importance of conservation when it comes to the question of carbon pollution. One of the major themes of the Conservation in the West Poll this year was the emphasis on conservation rather than using land for resources like oil and gas or through mining. Mining and oil and gas development was highlighted by the National Parks Service's Natural Resource Report as a threat to Natural Bridges; I wanted to bring these topics to the fore. I chose the motto "A Bridge to Tomorrow" and the tagline "If we say MINE now, it won't be OURS later" to emphasize the importance of conservation as an investment in a collective future rather than a loss of natural resources. I hope that Natural Bridges can serve as a space of wonder not just for us, but for future generations.

By Tia Vierling





The phrase: "For more days like these, Protect our public lands" was to reflect the poll result I found most resonating. People want to continue enjoying the outdoors and take it as it is, but for that to happen protection of public lands (from multiple outside factors) needs to be stressed. The poster is set in Utah, based off a camping trip I went on with my friends. While we were there, all I could think about was, "Wow I want more days like this, where I can sit in nature and be with people I care about."

The fact that over two thirds of western voters preferred more emphasis on public land protection made me inspired to combine my own anecdote and the poll results to create this poster.

By Sierra Romero