

Wilderness Act & Whitebark Pine Restoration

BALANCING WILDERNESS WITH ECOLOGICAL VALUES



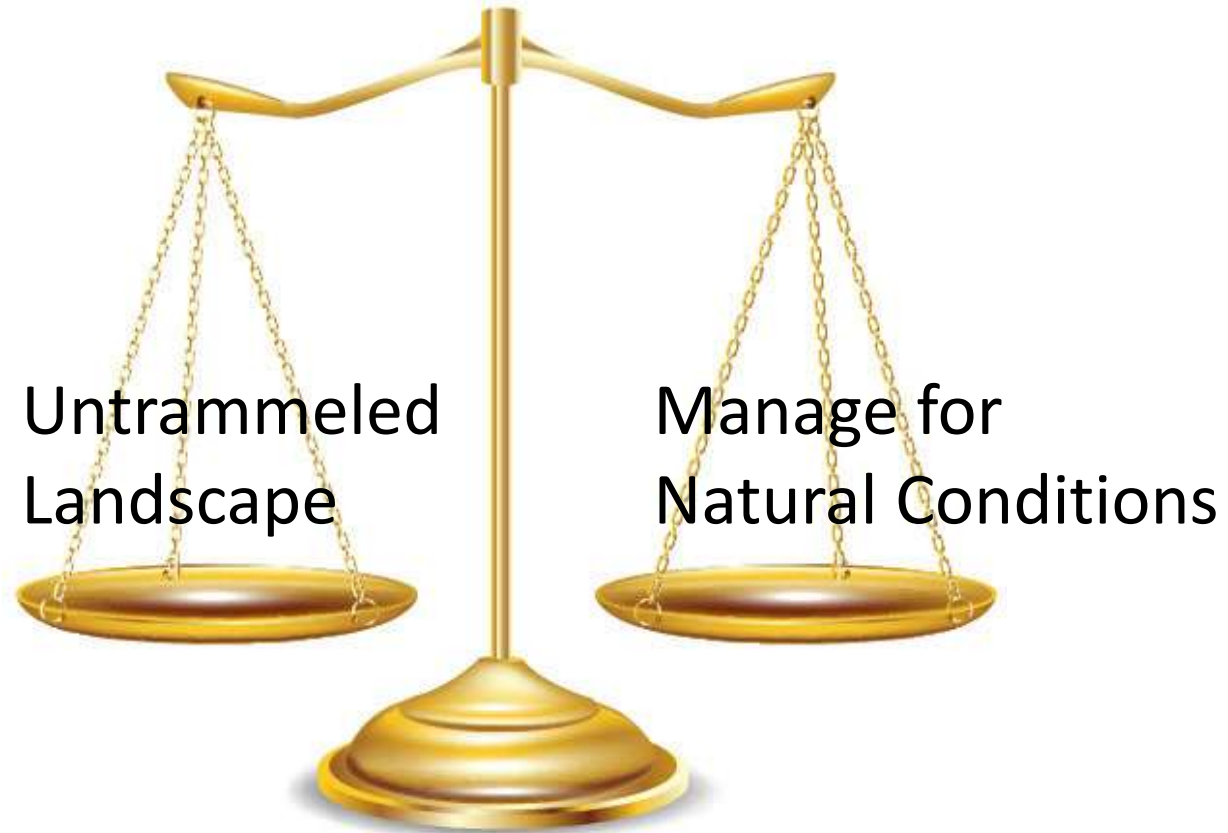
A photograph of a hiker on a rocky mountain trail. The hiker is wearing a blue shirt, dark pants, and a hat, and is walking away from the camera. The trail is surrounded by green grass and rocks. In the background, there are evergreen trees and a mountain range with patches of snow. A large, gnarled tree trunk is visible on the left side of the frame. The sky is clear and blue.

“The clearest way into the Universe is through a forest wilderness.”
— John Muir

Wilderness Act of 1964: §2(c)

“A wilderness... is... an area where the earth and its community of life are **untrammelled by man**.... land retaining its **primeval character and influence**, without permanent improvements... which is **protected and managed** so as to preserve its **natural conditions** and which... **generally appears** to have been affected **primarily by the forces of nature**, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable...”

The Paradox of Wilderness Management



Why Do We Care?

- ~40% of U.S. whitebark range occurs in Wilderness Areas
- Quarter of which have blister rust infection rates of over 50%



Our Panelists

TRAVIS BELOTE

- Research ecologist
- The Wilderness Society



BETH HAHN

- Ecologist
- Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute

