

# Wilderness Act & Whitebark Pine Restoration

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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 seen from behind, walking away from the camera. The trail is rocky and surrounded by green grass and small shrubs. In the background, there are dense evergreen forests and rugged mountains 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)

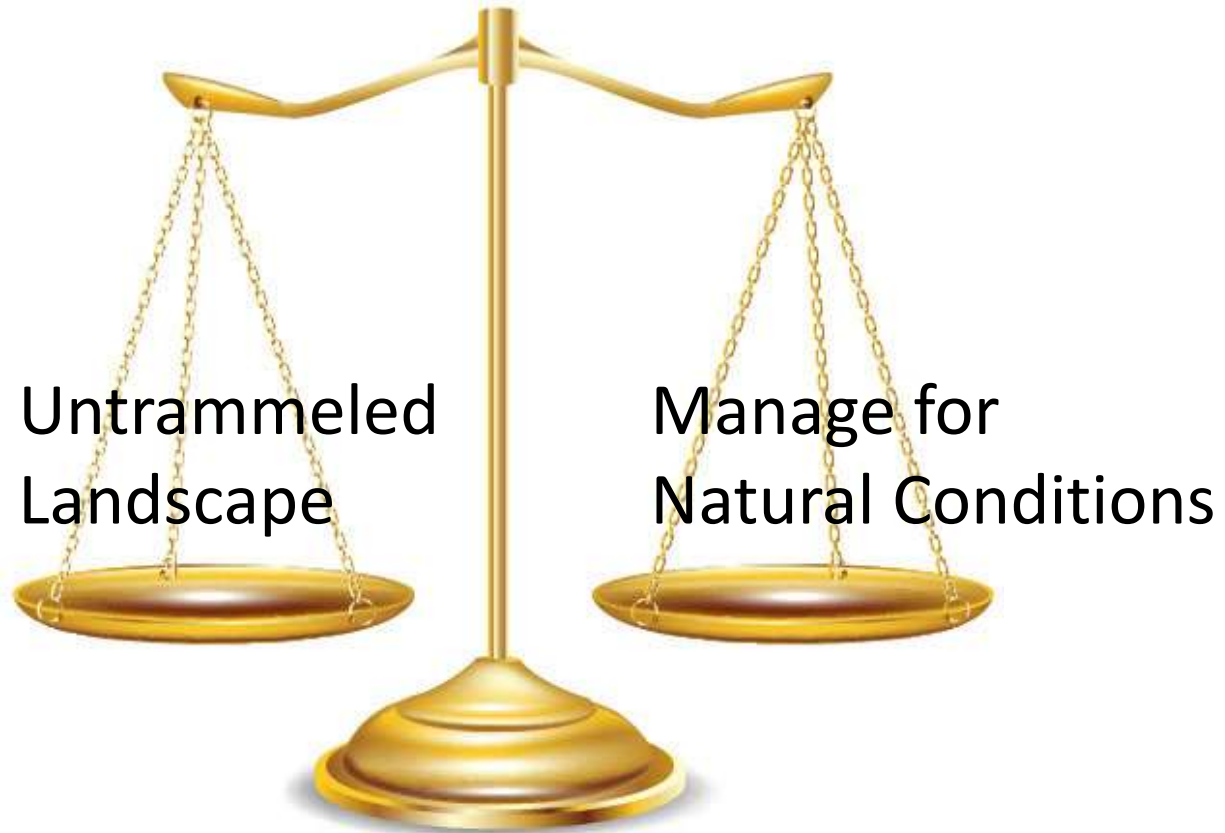
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“A wilderness... is... an area where the earth and its community of life are **untrammelled by man**.... land retaining its **primeval character and influence**, without permanent improvements... which is **protected and managed** so as to preserve 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

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# Why Do We Care?

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



# Our Panelists

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## TRAVIS BELOTE

- Research ecologist
- The Wilderness Society



## BETH HAHN

- Ecologist
- Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute

