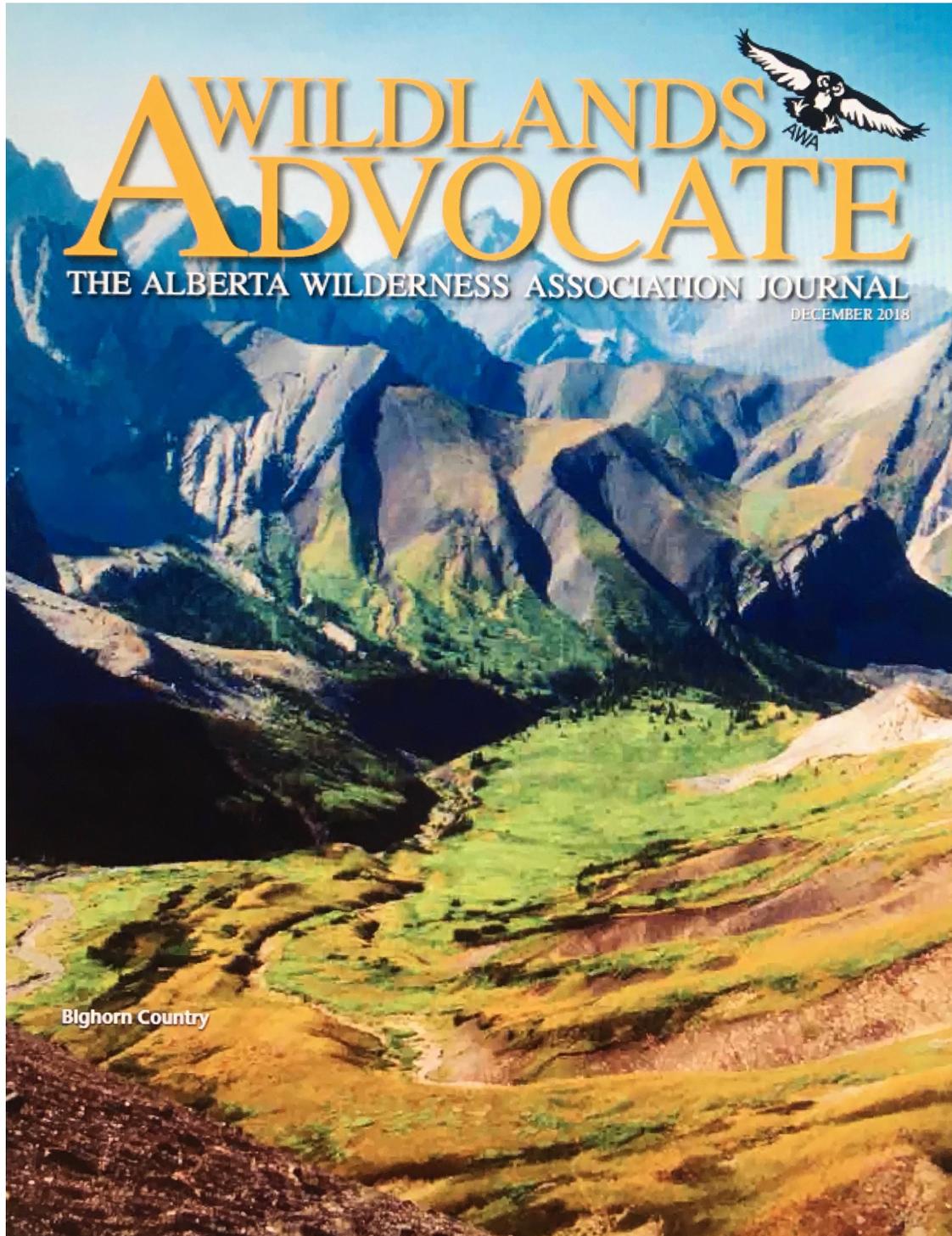


December Wild Lands Advocate Now Online

December 11, 2018



The December issue of *Wild Lands Advocate* is online and should make it on to Santa's sleigh

for a Christmas delivery. AWA's #WildSpaces2020 campaign animates the majority of the offerings in the Features section. There, cases are made for why Milk River Ridge (grasslands), the Parkland Dunes (parkland), and the Bistcho (boreal) all merit protection from the steel of plows, drill bits, and chainsaws.

But, if your efforts to find me the perfect Christmas gift are taking so much of your time that you won't be reading the Advocate until later this month, please find the time now to read two of the shorter pieces: Christyann's editorial and AWA's annual financial report.

Bighorn Country is the subject of the editorial. As you know, for decades now AWA has proposed creating a Wildland Provincial Park in the Bighorn and the government is following this advice. The editorial makes two vital points. The first should make you feel proud of your association with AWA. No conservation organization in Alberta has worked longer or harder to protect these lands than AWA. The second point asks for a donation - of your time. Take the time to answer the government's online survey and make it very clear there that Alberta must designate the Bighorn as a Wildland Provincial Park in the New Year.

The financial report also should make you feel proud to be part of AWA. You are part of a conservation association that has nearly 6,000 individual members, over 7,000 supporters in all. Fully 83 percent of our revenues comes from your donations and events such as the Climb for Wilderness. It's been a privilege for me to be associated with a conservation organization that is so well-supported by "the people." So when you celebrate the holidays later this month raise a glass to yourselves and toast the support you have given AWA, in the past, the present, and the future.

May you and yours enjoy some of the peace and goodwill that always should be at the heart of the Christmas season.

- Ian Urquhart, Editor

For more information contact:

Ian Urquhart, Alberta Wilderness Association, 403.283.2025



Dedicated to the conservation of wilderness and completion of a protected areas network, AWA inspires communities to care for Alberta's wild spaces through awareness and action.

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