

# KATHY VOTH



I love the challenge of finding creative solutions to problems and the process of sharing ideas with people in ways that encourage them to work together and try new things. These passions are what tie together the many different paths I've followed in my career.

## EXPERTISE

Writing/Editing

Translating science into everyday language to make it useful to non-scientists

Short videos with a message - from filming to editing to voice overs and music

Brochures, flyers and marketing materials

Making presentations that change people's minds.

## TECH SKILLS

Wordpress and Dreamweaver Website Development

Desktop publishing

## CONTACT

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## WORK EXPERIENCE

### FOUNDER, AUTHOR AND EDITOR

On Pasture (<http://onpasture.com>) 2013 - present

It's not easy for farmers and ranchers to translate science or someone else's experience into practices they can use on their own farms or ranches. So Rachel Gilker and I created On Pasture to do just that for them. Each week we publish 7 articles to help farmers and ranchers manage livestock on pasture more profitably and sustainably. I research and write articles, edit content from authors, create ads for clients and publish everything on the Wordpress website. The publication is read by almost 40,000 people each month.

### OWNER/OPERATOR

Livestock for Landscapes, LLC (<http://livestockforlandscapes.com>) 2004 - present

In 2004 I invented a method for teaching cows to eat weeds in just 8 hours over 7 days. The steps are based on animal behavior principles and are so easy that anyone can use them. A small group of trainees will train offspring and herd mates and they never need to be retrained. This gives farmers and ranchers an easy, effective, and inexpensive tool for managing their weeds, while also providing additional forage for their livestock. For the past 10 years, I've traveled the U.S. and Canada doing workshops and teaching cows, bison, sheep, and people. I developed my own website, made a video of the training process and published a book, "Cows Eat Weeds."

### UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY LIAISON

Bureau of Land Management 1996 - 2003

#### *"Tehabi" Education Program Co-Founder and Director*

This program bridged the gap between college curriculum and realities of life as a land manager to solve new employee retention problems for federal land management agencies. Included a two-week field course and summer-long internships. I raised \$200,000 in funding, developed a web site, and worked with my team to create college field course and summer curriculum, recruit students and coordinate and mentor BLM, USFS, and NPS internship positions in 5 western states.

#### *Fire Research*

I was the fire information officer on duty when 14 firefighters died on Storm King Mountain in 1994. After spending a year working with the families to create the memorial trail, I wanted to find ways to help firefighters be safer. I wrote a successful proposal for and managed a 7-year, \$240,000 research project on using goats to create firebreaks and reduce fire danger for homes in fire-prone areas. The final product is a handbook on CD for goat graziers and land managers on the logistics of managing goats and models of potential fire behavior so firefighters can use firebreaks as safety zones.

EDUCATION

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Masters of Business Administration  
American Graduate School of International  
Management, (Thunderbird)

Bachelor of Arts, Russian  
University of Colorado

SOME OF THE NICEST THINGS  
EVER SAID ABOUT ME

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“If Kathy says something is going to  
happen, you know it’s going to happen.”  
Claudia Merluzzi,  
6th grade teacher, during one of our  
organizational meetings for that year’s  
6th grade outdoor ed classes.

“I loved the gentle, out of the box,  
paced nature of today. Wonderful work.  
You are a gifted teacher.”  
a participant at one of the workshops I  
gave on teaching cows to eat weeds.

“You are an innovator. I am so inspired!”  
Audience member at the Manitoba  
Grazing School

PUBLIC AFFAIRS/INTERPRETIVE SPECIALIST

Bureau of Land Management 1991 - 1996

*Public Affairs*

Primary local, state-wide and national media contact for BLM’s Grand Junction District office, conducting media field trips and appearing regularly on local TV and radio. My relationship with the media resulted in my office being called first on controversial issues or to provide a story on “slow” news days.

Encouraged public participation in and understanding of land management issues by organizing presentations, hikes, cleanups, potluck dinners, and dedication events for from 50 to 300 people and including Washington-level dignitaries.

*Interpretation/Environmental Education*

Project lead for the Storm King Fourteen Memorial Trail interpretation and construction and its dedication with 3 days of tours and activities. The trail honors 14 firefighters who lost their lives fighting a fire.

Created program for 6th graders and middle school mentors to provide outdoor skills, stewardship ethics, and familiarity with local flora and fauna. The semester-long program ran from 1993 to 1999 and included monthly classes, three field trips and a three day camping trip for 50 students at a time.

*Writer/Editor*

Used desktop publishing software to develop annual reports, brochures, flyers, fact sheets and other informational materials. Assisted staff specialists in making technical documents understandable for the public.

VOLUNTEER WORK

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COORDINATOR - KOKOPELLI’S TRAIL

Volunteer with the Bureau of Land Management 1989

I received a National Conservation Service Award from the Department of the Interior for my work leading a group of volunteers building a 150 mile mountain bike trail from Grand Junction, Colorado to Moab, Utah. I created signing, t-shirts, hats, and coordinated work days, media events, meetings, and the Grand Opening Ceremony.