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## EARTH ELDER

Cecelia Hurwich, a founder of Earth Elders and delegate to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging, is one of 50 older environmentalists profiled in the new Sierra Club book *Legacy: Portraits of 50 Bay Area Environmental Elders*. (See story on page 5.) According to the book, Hurwich, who completed her doctorate in gerontology at age 70, “mingles her causes, green and gray and green.”

One group she participates in is called Great Old Broads for Wilderness (GOBs), which formed in 1989 to protest a plan by the federal Bureau of Land Management to build roads into a wild area of Colorado. Hurwich explains that one of the agency’s rationales was to enable older people to see the area’s natural beauty. She told *Legacy* author John Hart that only a group of environmental elders could credibly rebut such an argument. Hurwich joined a group of about 20 GOBs and backpacked into the area with TV cameras and major media in tow. Each year since successfully halting construction on that road, Hurwich said, GOBs has chosen “an area to defend.” Among their other triumphs, she said, has been to persuade Conoco to drop its oil-drilling lease in Utah’s Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. ❖