

# BCHU State Board Meeting

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When: 0900 23 March

Where: Days Inn Richfield

333 North Main Street Richfield, Utah 84701

+1-435-896-6476

Info: Hotel has restaurant. Room rate includes breakfast. Lunch will be brought in and we will pass the hat.

See you all there

The primary purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the upcoming National Board Meeting and to instruct Utah Delegates as to the consensus opinions on upcoming NBM resolutions and actions. Meeting Agenda will also cover any other old and new business as it comes before the BCHU State Board.

## **Draft Agenda**

as of 23 Jan 2019

Call to Order – Wayne Ludington

Acceptance of Agenda (Adds, deletes etc) – Wayne Ludington

Minutes of last meeting: Craig Allen

Financial report Bev Heffernan

Volunteer Hours report Wayne Ludington

Chairman's Report

Excused Absences: Jeff Nichols and Canyonlands Chapter

Old Business:

Committee Reports

Membership Report - Bev Heffernan

Public Lands – Rod Player

Communications – Craig Allen

New Business:

New Central Utah Chapter Application (vote required for approval)

Need an Education Chairman

Saw Program Status

Horse council request: All Horse and Hitch Parade on May 4th in Brigham City.

Utah state organization's charitable solicitations permit renewal

National Business:

Officer Training posted

YM training posted

Facebook training posted

Seeking Utah Rep to Public Lands Region Subcommittee

## **NBM Resolutions for consideration and advisement of State Delegates**

Be it Therefore Resolved, that the Back Country Horsemen of America

immediately begin its constitutional process to amend its Constitution so that each

state is entitled to one voting director at the BCHA National Board Meeting

[https://bcha.site-ym.com/resource/collection/5893A31B-CE5D-4F69-A52B-133BFC86F71B/BCHW\\_resolution\\_on\\_BCHA\\_Constitution.pdf](https://bcha.site-ym.com/resource/collection/5893A31B-CE5D-4F69-A52B-133BFC86F71B/BCHW_resolution_on_BCHA_Constitution.pdf)

Therefore, let it be resolved that BCHA requests of the US Forest Service that within two years of the following catastrophic events that render a trail unusable by pack and saddle stock (when such use has been identified as appropriate in previously established Trail Management Objectives), a Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) process be initiated to restore the affected trails to an

acceptable Design Parameter as established in the Forest Service Directives System.

- a. A wildland fire has closed portions of a wilderness trail.
- b. A wind event has closed portions of a wilderness trail.
- c. Any natural event has occurred and closed portions of a wilderness trail.

Further let it be resolved that BCHA requests that a similar process be initiated if a wilderness trail has not been maintained for a period of two years and is effectively closed to pack and saddle stock use.

And also let it be finally resolved that BCHA strongly suggests that the US Forest Service Washington DC Office consider all reasonable actions to remove cultural barriers that interfere with the timely and efficient analysis of all legally acceptable methods of maintaining and reconstructing wilderness trails, complying with the mandate of “administering [wilderness] for the use and enjoyment of the American people in such manner as will leave them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness” (P.L. 88-577), and “narrowing the gap between program needs and resources” as recommended by the General Accountability Office Report (GAO-13-618).

[https://bcha.site-ym.com/resource/collection/5893A31B-CE5D-4F69-A52B-133BFC86F71B/BCHO\\_&\\_BCHW\\_Joint\\_MRA\\_Resolution.pdf](https://bcha.site-ym.com/resource/collection/5893A31B-CE5D-4F69-A52B-133BFC86F71B/BCHO_&_BCHW_Joint_MRA_Resolution.pdf)

#### Brief Explanation of the BCHO & BCHW Joint MRA Resolution

The MRA process is part of the original Wilderness Act as it was approved by the United States Congress in 1964. The MRA process is a tool in the wilderness managers tool box that allows the use of modern tools to be used in extraordinary circumstances in the care and maintenance of our wildernesses.

The current culture that exists within much of the leadership of the Forest Service has prevented consideration of MRA’s in most cases, and has approved very few.

In the last decade we have seen many catastrophic events such as wildfires and wind storms that have rendered many of our wilderness trails unusable for pack and saddle stock. We are losing more miles of wilderness trail every year due to lack of maintenance.

The resolution only asks that the Forest Service use the MRA process as a tool that will allow us to get our wilderness trails open, especially those trails not usable by stock for more than two years. The resolution does not in any way change the Wilderness Act that Congress approved and expected the Forest Service to obey. The resolution does not in any way ask for unrestricted chainsaw use in the wilderness. The only Wilderness trails that need chainsaws to clear them are those not passable to stock.

Set time and place for next meeting (Apr 20 or 27)

Adjourn