

## Hoosier Back Country Horsemen Annual Report for 2023

The Hoosier Back Country Horsemen finished the year 2023 with 215 total volunteer hours.

We continue to have issues getting our members to participate in workdays despite adding a day during the week to our monthly Saturday workday.

We were successful in certifying active members for chainsaw use (2), ATV use (2) and CPR (4). We consider this a MAJOR accomplishment! It has also made our work much easier and more effective. Our goal is to work on one trail until we get it done and use this as an example of what we would like the remaining trails to look like in the future.

Indiana only has 4 percent of its land base in public lands and that includes the federal and state properties for recreation. This creates a lot of use on the trails since we can only ride on designated trails and cannot ride cross country without getting fined. Fifty percent of the trails in Indiana are multi-use (biking, hiking and horseback riding) creating a lot of user impact on the trails. Even if we wanted to ride on natural surface trails only it is not feasible to do that without a lot of damage to the resources. With the emphasis on watersheds and elimination of erosion and sedimentation in the streams and waterways we must harden trails with stone.

Included are pictures of the main project we worked on and completed in 2023. This was a downhill stretch about 100 yards in length with a small spring erupting above the trail and running down and across the trail. It had remained a “slick”, hock-deep mess nearly year-round, despite repeated annual maintenance prior to this renovation. We cut and dug rolling grade dips and installed a French drain under the trail to alleviate the spring’s run-off then hardened the trail on the upper side with gravel. Because riders had been “skirting” the mud the trail had become wider than needed so we narrowed the trail and brushed in the area off the newly hardened area to keep them on the trail. Unfortunately, we were not allowed to use our gravel hauler and Vermeer skid steer on this project. Our certifications were not completed until after this project was finished. On the bright side, we feel that all of this manual labor, working side-by-side with our new USFS staff, has been beneficial in building a better relationship than we had previously had with them in 2022 when they were new in their positions. We are looking forward to a better year in 2024 and will already have had our first workday by the time the National Board Meeting takes place.

# Backcountry Horsemen of America

## Volunteer Hours Report

Indiana Hoosier BCHA 2023

Date Range (Oct 2021-Sept 2022) or (Jan-Dec 2022)

		Rate per		
	Totals	hour/mile/day	Total Value	
Total Basic Hours	119	\$31.80	<b>\$3,784.20</b>	Calculated per hour
Total Skilled Hours	16	\$47.70	<b>\$763.20</b>	Calculated per hour
Non-Trail Hours	32	\$31.80	<b>\$1,017.60</b>	Calculated per hour
Travel Time	48	\$31.80	<b>\$1,526.40</b>	Calculated per hour
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>215</b>		<b>\$7,091.40</b>	
Personal and Stock Use	1000	\$1.00	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	Calculated per mile
<b>Total Travel Miles</b>	<b>1000</b>		<b>\$1,000.00</b>	
Power Equipment	0	\$30.00	<b>\$0.00</b>	Calculated per hour
Heavy Equipment	0	\$110.00	<b>\$0.00</b>	Calculated per hour
<b>Total Equipment Hours</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>	
<b>Total Stock Days</b>	<b>0</b>	\$100.00	<b>\$0.00</b>	Calculated per day
			<b>\$0.00</b>	
<b>Total Donations</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,091.40</b>	





