

National Director call began at 5:04PM Pacific

### **Financial Report**

- The treasurer provided an overview of the Balance Sheet and Budget vs. Actual.
- Value of the Legacy and Legal accounts provided.
- All restricted income account balances provided.
- Total assets, liabilities and equity provided.
- Nothing out of the ordinary in the Budget Vs. Actual and all the balances provided.
- Annual taxes have been paid.
- Committee expenses have not changed.
- Revenue provided.

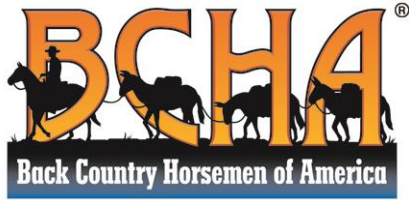
### **Public Lands**

#### [E-bikes and Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit \(LTBMU\), US Forest Service](#)

The LTBMU expects to release soon its Final EA and draft decision for the Basin Wide (e-bike) Trails Assessment, which would authorize the use of Class 1 e-bikes on over 106 miles of currently non-motorized trails that circumnavigate Lake Tahoe and connect lakeside communities. Members of local BCH chapters (both CA and NV) generally do not use the crowded trails located in the Basin, preferring instead to ride in the adjacent high Sierras, its wilderness areas, the Pacific Crest Trail and Tahoe Rim Trail. Nonetheless, the draft EA was highly flawed, biased toward e-bike use, and as such could be used by other national forests as a model for shoe-horning in e-bike use on non-motorized trails. BCHA will monitor this development and may choose to weigh in with allies who choose to object to the EA's approval.

#### [State of Utah lawsuit to wrestle away ownership of BLM public lands](#)

As noted in an email circulated to EC members on Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup>, the State of Utah is asking the US Supreme Court to allow the State to control 18.5 million acres of BLM lands (or 34% of land in Utah). Legal scholars state that the lawsuit has



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virtually no chance of success. *Note: BCHA passed national resolutions in 2015 and 2016 voicing its opposition to the transfer or sale of federal public lands to the states or private entities.*

### [Bikes in Wilderness bill \(S. 4561\)](#)

Rod Player secured the approval of all 11 BCH Utah chapter presidents to sign onto a letter to Senator Lee expressing opposition to his bikes-in-wilderness bill. AHC hopes that the Outdoor Recreation Roundtable will sign onto a similar letter or submit one on behalf of their members organizations.

### [Southern Appalachian Watershed Resiliency project, US Forest Service](#)

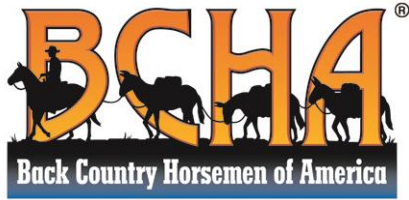
Randy Brown did an excellent job coordinating with BCH chapters in the five states where the FS has proposed to update Forest Plans to include emphasis on watershed health and resiliency. Each submitted public comment letters expressing their interest in engaging with the agency to identify trails important to equestrians, including currently unsanctioned "legacy" trails, and to develop an approach to formalize important trails while working with the agency to retire and restore unsustainable trails that threaten watershed health. BCHA intends to hold a series of webinars or workshops to better prepare affected chapters for such dialogue and related actions.

### Chairman Updates

BLM MOU: Past Chair and Chairman met with David and Corey regarding the new BLM MOU, most of those changes were to the saw section and notification today the changes have been made and it has been sent in for approval. Could take anywhere from 1 to 3 months.

### **National Board Meeting**

We do have a draft budget for the NBM, it is more expensive this year. The registration needs to be changed to \$400 per person to help cover costs and we still have a negative income for the National Board Meeting.



### **Saw Training**

Mark Himmel and John Chepulis went to Colorado for saw training as trainers. Latifia Rodriguez discussed issues with saw training in Colorado in the past and how well this recent training worked out for them.

### **National Challenge Cost Share**

Went before the regional forest service and they were not in favor of it, but they didn't say yes or no. Chairman was told we should look for something else such as a lesser cost share that is tied to saw, for example. Chairman has a meeting in 2 weeks with the regional saw person and Brenda to discuss a possible pilot saw program.

### **USFS Data Upload**

Speaking with the forest service, they do not have the capacity to upload the sawyer information on their database. BCHA has the ability to do this. Question to C trainers, are they doing the updates or is the forest service doing the updates? Brad, is sending it into the forest service. Randy, sending it into the forest service. Mike Kinsey, also sends to the forest service.

Contemplating starting a saw committee that will also work with the database, which was requested by the USFS. The BCHA Saw Committee will consist of C trainers. Chairman would like to start it this fall so next spring we will be up and running and ready for the saw season.

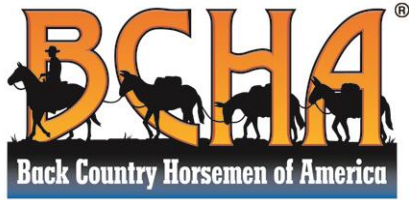
How many states are actively applying for Recreational Trails Program grants?

- Washington
- Utah partners with an organization for RTP

### **Questions or Comments from National Directors**

Is BLM going to recognize the USFS Saw Curriculum? Yes, they will be utilizing the USFS curriculum.

Wyoming: Shout out for having a great rendezvous this year.



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Campground has a BCH meeting the night Randy got there in the Smokey Mountains. According to this group the policy of time frame to go in and work on trails was created by the Superintendent. Is there a better route to use to change that time frame or do they need to go to the Superintendent. They would like to go year-round like they used to be able to.

- They should ask, but suggested not to be surprised if it is turned down.

Can we incorporate into Light on the Land how to work around impacted areas, such as water bars? Chairman to discuss this with Mack Long.

National Park/Chainsaws; National Park Superintendent has more leeway to look the other way or bend the rules to assist with trail work. Be cautious when you are asking for more from parks, you could also lose what you already have.

The Smokey Chapter is a new chapter, it was started by a gentleman who was frustrated with another chapter so he started this chapter and is already up to 70 members in a month.