A Wet and Memorable Rendezvous

We're experiencing a drought across Wyoming. Each day many of our members search the sky, scrutinizing every wisp of cloud, hoping for rain. However, as we all know, the good Lord has a sense of humor. On July 15, 2026, the day before the official start of the Shoshone Back Country Horsemen Rendezvous, the sky opened up and poured on Sunlight Basin. Buckets of rain turned the campsite into a gigantic mudhole.

Being an optimistic, can-do chapter, we went ahead and set up pens, marked trailer spaces, and stacked swag bags at the registration table. It rained some more. It rained so much that on the official opening of the event, a few people looked at the quagmire and opted to leave before pulling in. Several others got stuck and had to be pulled out. Shane, who buried his rig up to the axles, chose to look at the situation differently. He mentioned that being pulled out was one of the highlights of the rendezvous.

In spite of the cloudbursts every afternoon and evening, those who remained had a wonderful time. Besides Wyoming, nine other states were represented. These included Colorado, Arizona, Washington, Missouri, Texas, Montana, Oklahoma, South Dakota and Wisconsin. When

asked about their favorite part of the event, participants were quick to point to the sense of fun and camaraderie that prevailed.

“This is my first time to Wyoming,” Kristen said. “I love the state because I’ve met the kindest, most generous people here.”

Clint echoed this sentiment when he said he met people he never expected to find. Despite a few washouts, riders enjoyed the Shoshone National Forest’s breathtaking scenery. Ruth said the ride on Elkhorn was her favorite part of the Rendezvous. Others mentioned the meals, packing contest, obstacle course, campsite decorating, evening music and cowboy church on Sunday morning.

Special thanks to Kandy Christian who headed up the rendezvous committee. Thanks also, to everyone else who pulled on their muck boots, shook out their slickers and had a truly memorable back country time.