

# **2026 BCHA National Board Meeting**

**Kansas City, Missouri**



**April 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**Hilton Embassy Suites International Airport**



# 2026 BCHA National Board Meeting

## Agenda At a Glance

### Sunday

- 11:00AM Registration Opens
- 11:00AM Drop off Silent Auction Items in Conference Room
- 2:00PM Volunteer Hours Presentation
- 3:30PM National Director Orientation
- 4:00PM Committee Chair Meeting

### Monday

- 8:00AM BCHA Branded Merchandise Store
- 8:30AM** National Board Business Meeting
- 12:00PM Lunch
- 1:00PM National Board Business Meeting Resumes
- 5:30PM Happy Hour

### Tuesday

- 8:00AM BCHA Branded Merchandise Store
- 8:00AM Public Lands
- 12:00PM Lunch
- 1:00PM Tuesday events resume
- 4:00PM Conclusion
- 5:00PM Happy Hour

### Wednesday

- 7:30AM BCHA Branded Merchandise Store
- 7:30AM Reconvene National Board Business Meeting
- 12:00PM Lunch
- 1:00PM National Board Business Meeting Resumes
- 4:00PM Conclusion of National Board Business Meeting
- 6:00PM Reception (Cash Bar In Banquet Room)
- 6:30PM Dinner
- 7:00PM Banquet & Auction



## Daily Agenda

### Sunday – April 12th, 2026

- 11:00AM Registration Opens
- 11:00AM Silent/Live Auction Item Drop Off in the Conference Room
- 2:00PM Volunteer Hours Presentation in the Conference Room
- 3:30PM National Director Orientation in the Conference Room
- 4:00PM Committee Chair Meeting in the Conference Room

#### Store

Opens 8:00AM Monday Morning  
Closes 1:00PM Wednesday

#### Silent Auction

Opens 8:00AM Monday Morning  
Closes 1:00PM Wednesday

#### Live Auction

Dinner at 6:30PM  
Auction 7:30PM



Monday – April 13th, 2026

**8:30AM** Call to Order & Welcome  
 Honor Guard & Pledge of Allegiance  
 Roll Call & Quorum  
 Reading of Mission Statement  
 Approval of Consent Agenda  
 Departed Members Memorial  
 State of BCCHA

**10:00AM Break**

**10:15AM** Committee Reports

Chapter Support Grants	Partnership
Education	Public Lands
Expansion	Saw
Fundraising	Volunteer Hours
Marketing & Media	Youth
Nominating	

**11:45AM** Treasurer Report Presentation

**12:00PM Lunch**

**1:00PM** Executive Administrator Report

**1:05PM** Director of Public Lands Report

**1:15PM** Contract Review (Ad Hoc) Committee Report

Treasurer Report Acceptance

2026-2027 Proposed Budget Presentation

**3:00PM Break**

**3:15PM** Governance Policy Compliance Review

Other New Business

**4:00PM Adjourn**

**4:30PM** Find a Committee – In the Atrium

**5:00PM** Happy Hour At The Bar



## Tuesday – April 14th, 2026

8:00AM	Agenda Breakdown
8:10AM	Director of Public Lands & Recreation
9:15AM	Public Lands Structure
<b>9:30AM</b>	<b>Break</b>
9:45AM	Public Lands Strategic Planning - Breakouts
10:45AM	Future National Board Meetings
11:45AM	Youth Committee
<b>12:00PM</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
1:00PM	Open Panel with Officers & Public Director – Ask us anything.
2:00PM	Saw Structure
<b>2:45PM</b>	<b>Break</b>
3:00PM	Cross Cut Saw Demo
<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Conclude</b>
4:45PM	Happy Hour At The Bar

## Wednesday – April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026

<b>7:30AM</b>	Reconvene National Board Business Meeting Unfinished Business Strategic Business Plan Recap & Update-
<b>12:00PM</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
1:00PM	Proposed Budget Approval Final Nominations Elections
<b>2:30PM</b>	<b>Break</b>
2:45PM	State Accomplishments (Good of the Order) Election Results 2027 National Board Meeting – Kansas City, MO.
<b>3:30PM</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>
6:00PM	Reception (Cash Bar In The Banquet Room)
6:30PM	Dinner
7:00PM	Banquet, Awards & Auction



## **BCHA Mission Statement**

Back Country Horsemen of America is a 501(C) 3 non-profit organization dedicated to the following mission.

- To perpetuate the commonsense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness.
- To work to ensure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use.
- To assist the various government and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.
- To educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage.
- To foster and encourage the formation of new state Back Country Horsemen's organizations.



## 2025-2026 Executive Committee

Craig Ferdig	Chairman	Arizona
Latifia Rodriguez	Vice Chairman	Colorado
Heather Schultz	Treasurer	Wyoming
Mark Himmel	Past Chairman	Montana
Brad Pollman	Director	Montana
Jim Allen	Director	South Dakota
Heather Cox	Director	North Carolina
Greg Schatz	Non-Director	Montana
Darrell Wallace	Non-Director	Washington

### Committee Chairs

Lexi Studebaker	Youth Committee
Mark Himmel	Partnerships
Open	Marketing & Media
Connie Long	Chapter Support Grants
Colleen Fisk	Education
Mark Himmel	Public Lands
Misty Valdez	Expansion
John Chepulis	Volunteer hours

### Staff

Randy Rasmussen	Director of Public Lands & Recreation
Michelle Wade	Executive Administrator

# LIGHT ON THE LAND



## PRIMARY GUIDELINES FOR STOCK USE ON TRAILS



### Plan Your Trip

Thoughtful preparation will provide the means to ensure safety and enhance the experience while minimizing the impact on natural and cultural resources.



### Use Trails Responsibly

Responsible use of trails will allow travel through areas without detriment to resources, maintain consideration for others, and increase the overall experience.



### Minimize Camp Impacts

Minimizing camping impacts are challenging and careful consideration is required to multiple components.



### Minimize Wildlife Impacts

Minimizing wildlife impacts makes your trip safer and reduces environmental impact.



### Preserve the Integrity of Wilderness, Front Country, and Backcountry



Learn more at [BCHA.org/light-on-the-land](http://BCHA.org/light-on-the-land)



## **BCHA 2026 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

4.12.6 Nominating Committee appointed by National Chair (policy adopted 1997).

- Must consist of members from at least three state organizations.
- Eligible candidates for director positions are supplied by the Chair of the Nominations Committee and included in NBM agenda.
- Slate of candidates will be presented on first day of NBM.

### **SLATE OF CANDIDATES**

*Chairman	Craig Ferdig, AZ
*Vice Chairman	Latifia Rodriguez, CO
*Treasurer	Heather Schultz, WY
*Executive Committee Director (2 Positions)	Heather Cox, NC Keith Holley, TN
**Executive Committee Non-Director (1 Position)	Darrell Wallace, WA

\*Must be a member of the National Board of Directors

\*\*Must be a member in good standing and must not be a member of the National Board of Directors



FOREST SERVICE

# Organizational Realignment

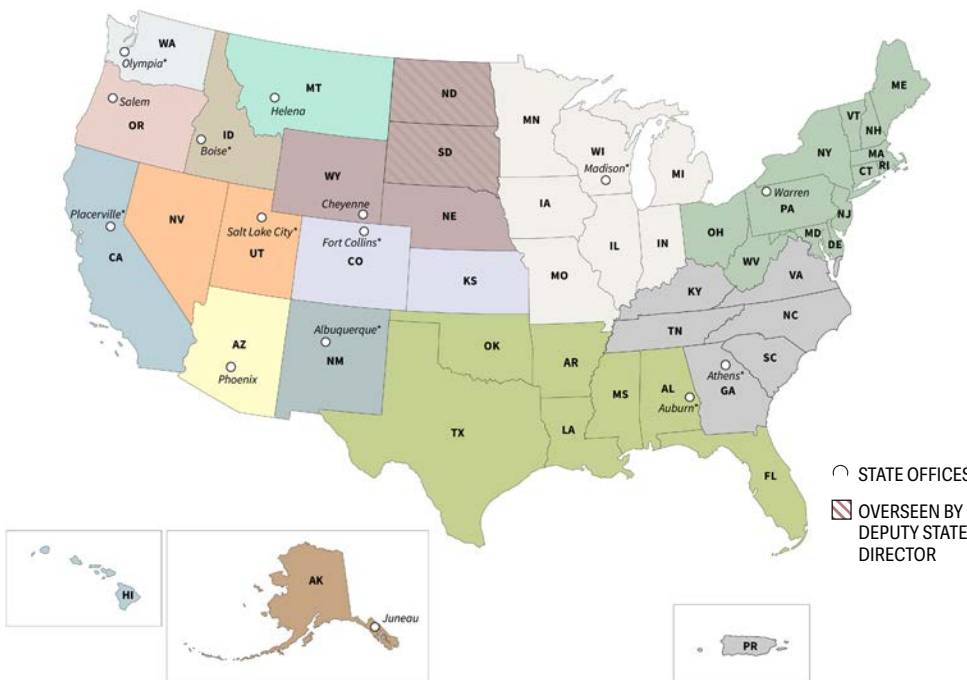
The Forest Service is implementing a sweeping restructuring to move leadership and decision making closer to the forests and communities it serves. The changes implement direction from Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins to modernize U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) agencies, reduce bureaucracy, and place more employees outside Washington, DC. For an agency whose lands, partners, and operational challenges are overwhelmingly concentrated in the West, this shift represents a structural reset and a common-sense approach to improve mission delivery.

The Forest Service will officially move its headquarters west to Salt Lake City, UT, where the Chief of the Forest Service will reside. About two-thirds of National Capital Region positions will relocate from Washington, DC, with some moving to Salt Lake City and others to various

Operations Service Centers. One-third of positions, including the Associate Chief, will remain at the Yates Building to support departmental coordination, communications, congressional engagement, and interagency policy work.

The Forest Service is transitioning from a legacy regional structure to a State-based organizational model designed to simplify the chain of command, strengthen local partnerships, and give field leaders greater ability to respond to conditions on the ground. Under this model, 15 State directors will oversee Forest Service operations within one or more States and will serve as national leaders for forest supervisors, operational priorities, and relationships with States, Tribes, and partners. Each State Office will include a small leadership team responsible for legislative affairs, communications, and intergovernmental coordination.

## State Offices & Area of Responsibility



## State Offices & Area of Responsibility

<b>Auburn, AL*</b> Ozarks & Gulf Coast	<b>Salem, OR</b> Oregon
<b>Juneau, AK</b> Alaska	<b>Warren, PA</b> Mid-Atlantic & New England
<b>Phoenix, AZ</b> Arizona	<b>Olympia, WA*</b> Washington
<b>Placerville, CA*</b> California & Hawaii	<b>Madison, WI*</b> Great Lakes & Midwest
<b>Fort Collins, CO*</b> Colorado & Kansas	<b>Cheyenne, WY</b> Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, & Nebraska <i>(with deputy State directors support for North Dakota &amp; South Dakota)</i>
<b>Athens, GA*</b> Southern Appalachian	<b>Salt Lake City, UT*</b> Utah & Nevada
<b>Boise, ID*</b> Idaho	
<b>Helena, MT</b> Montana	
<b>Albuquerque, NM*</b> New Mexico	

## R&D Facility Locations

Flagstaff, AZ	Durham, NC
Placerville, CA	Delaware, OH
Riverside, CA	Corvallis, OR
Fort Collins, CO	La Grande, OR
Athens, GA	San Juan, PR
St. Paul, MN	Knoxville, TN
Missoula, MT	Olympia, WA
Lincoln, NE	Morgantown, WV
Durham, NH	Madison, WI
Asheville, NC	Rhineland, WI

## Operations Service Centers

Albuquerque, NM*	Madison, WI*
Athens, GA*	Missoula, MT*
Fort Collins, CO*	Placerville, CA*

## National Training Center

Vallejo, CA

## Business Support Service Center

Albuquerque, NM\*

(\*) Indicates a location that will serve more than one facility function.

As the agency transitions to the State-based model, many functions currently housed in regional offices will shift to a national network of Operations Service Centers. These centers will provide shared administrative, technical, and enabling support to State Offices and forests across the country, allowing leaders on the ground to focus more directly on improving the health, productivity, and resilience of the Nation's forests and grasslands. Centers will support highly technical and nonroutine activities such as forest plan revisions, bridge engineering, and land adjustments. Locations were selected based on existing USDA workforce presence, operational needs, efficiency considerations, and proximity to agricultural and natural resource stakeholders.

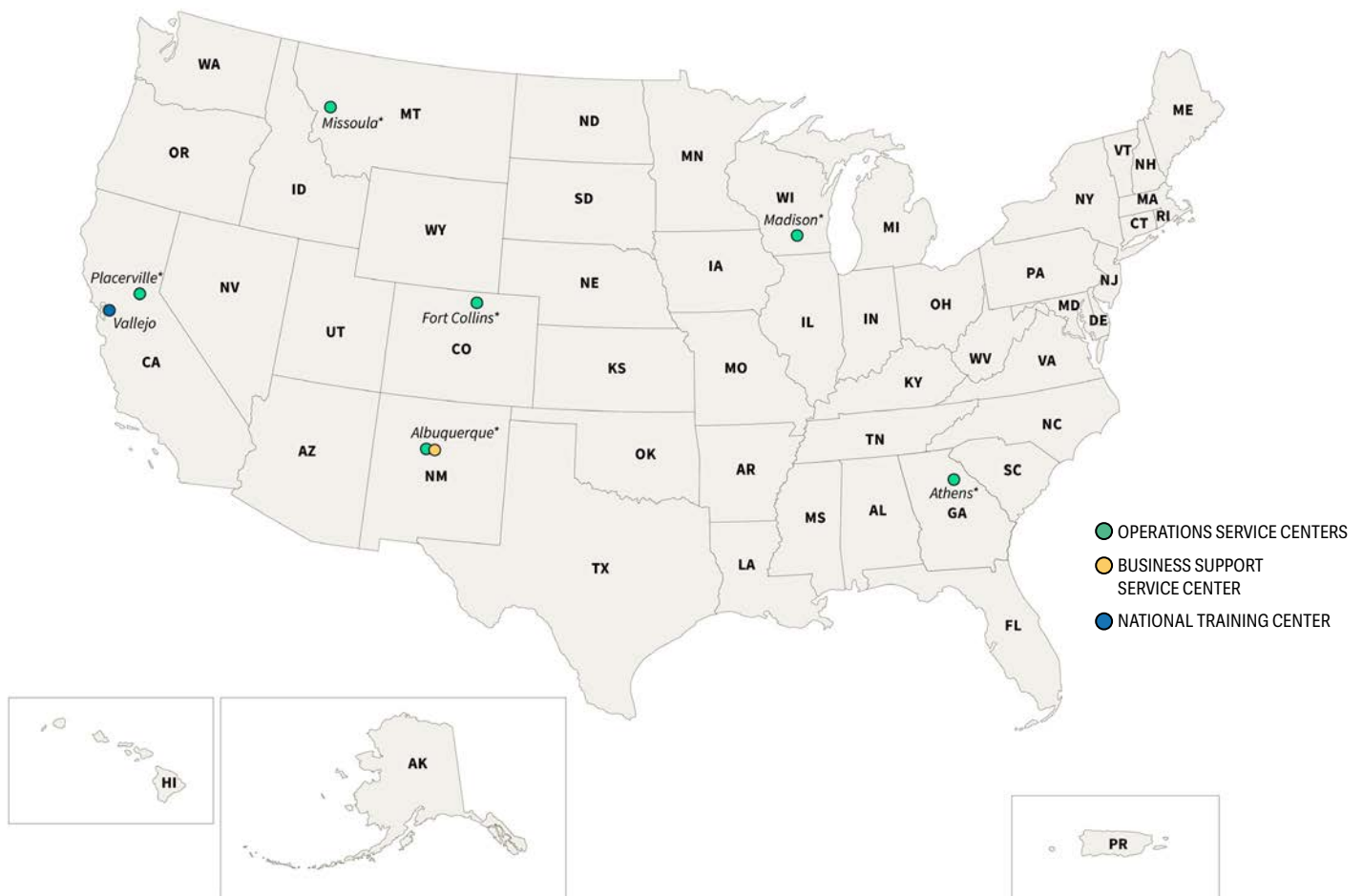
The Forest Service will consolidate its multiple research stations into a single, unified national Research and Development organization, headquartered in Fort Collins, CO, and led by one research director. This structure will unify research leadership, strengthen coordination of scientific priorities, accelerate the application of science to management decisions, and reduce administrative duplication. As the new model is implemented, the agency will consolidate and, where appropriate, co-locate research facilities to create a more integrated and efficient national research footprint.

The Forest Service's Fire and Aviation Management program will retain its existing Geographic Area Coordination Center (GACC) structure, which is essential for national incident coordination. The program will continue reporting to the Deputy Chief for Fire and Aviation Management at the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise, ID, ensuring ongoing, close coordination with the Department of the Interior and other interagency partners.

As part of the reorganization, all Regional Offices will close. A small number of locations will be retained to support ongoing mission needs: Juneau, AK (serving as the Alaska State Office); Vallejo, CA (repurposed as the National Training Center); and Albuquerque, NM (serving as both a business support center and the New Mexico State Office). Additional facility consolidations and closures aligned with the new organizational model are expected over the next 2 years, prioritizing efficiency while maintaining operational capacity.

Throughout the transition, frontline mission work will continue uninterrupted. This includes active forest management, wildfire response, forest and watershed restoration, recreation services, and sustained collaboration with States, Tribes, and communities.

## Operations, Business Support, and Training Centers





# BCHA 2026 VOLUNTEER HOURS

## Backcountry Horsemen of America Volunteer Hours Report

[Enter state or Affiliate Organization]

Date Range (Oct 2024-Sept 2025) or (Jan-Dec 2025)

Edit this column  
to change the  
published values

	Totals	Rate per hour/mile/day	Total Value		Current Rate per hour/mile/day:
Total Basic Hours	76533	\$33.49	\$2,563,090.17	Calculated per hour	\$33.49
Total Skilled Hours	37666	\$50.24	\$1,892,339.84	Calculated per hour	\$50.24
Non-Trail Hours	64134	\$33.49	\$2,147,847.66	Calculated per hour	\$33.49
Travel Time	51765	\$33.49	\$1,733,609.85	Calculated per hour	\$33.49
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>230098</b>		<b>\$8,336,887.52</b>		
Personal and Stock Use	1163338	\$1.00	\$1,163,338.00	Calculated per mile	\$1.00
<b>Total Travel Miles</b>	<b>1163338</b>		<b>\$1,163,338.00</b>		
Power Equipment	9612	\$35.00	\$336,420.00	Calculated per hour	\$35.00
Heavy Equipment	4516	\$140.00	\$632,240.00	Calculated per hour	\$140.00
<b>Total Equipment Hours</b>	<b>14128</b>		<b>\$968,660.00</b>		
<b>Total Stock Days</b>	<b>11460</b>	\$125.00	<b>\$1,432,500.00</b>	Calculated per day	\$125.00
			<b>\$1,432,500.00</b>		
<b>Total Donations</b>	<b>\$554,548.58</b>		<b>\$554,548.58</b>		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,455,934.10</b>		

The value of Volunteer time is determined by The Independent Sector each year.

Skilled labor is one and one-half times basic labor

[https://www.independentsector.org/volunteer\\_time](https://www.independentsector.org/volunteer_time)

# Back Country Horsemen of America

## Balance Sheet

As of March 31, 2026

	TOTAL
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
1101 Checking	201,116.81
1103 US Bank - Grants - 2432	12,907.97
1105 US Bank - Legacy - 8520	14,263.37
1107 US Bank - Savings - 8504	59,685.21
1109 US Bank Legal - 8546	1,520.82
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$289,494.18</b>
Accounts Receivable	
1200 Accounts Receivable	1,938.91
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>\$1,938.91</b>
Other Current Assets	
1500 2027 NBM Prepays	1,000.00
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$292,433.09</b>
Other Assets	
1114 CD - 6445	4,907.42
1115 CD - 1507	10,011.95
1580 Stifel Legacy Investments VALUE \$283,623.07	224,287.59
1581 Stifel Legal Fund Investments VALUE \$73,972.35	60,437.22
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>\$299,644.18</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$592,077.27</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Credit Cards	
Commerce Bank CC 3187	9,675.09
<b>Total Credit Cards</b>	<b>\$9,675.09</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$9,675.09</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$9,675.09</b>
Equity	
3800 Unrestricted Net Assets	240,740.50
3901 Restricted Youth Donations	7,912.30
3902 Restricted Legal Fund	62,645.73
3903 Restricted Legacy Fund	225,861.65
3904 Released Restricted Youth Assets	-4,450.00
3905 Restricted Chapter Support	6,535.00
3906 Restricted Disaster Relief Fund	625.00
3908 Released Restricted Legal Funds	-8,137.50

# Back Country Horsemen of America

## Balance Sheet

As of March 31, 2026

	TOTAL
Net Revenue	50,669.50
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$582,402.18</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$592,077.27</b>

# Back Country Horsemen of America

Budget vs. Actuals: BudgetvsActual\_FY2025\_FY2026 - FY26 P&L

May 2025 - March 2026

	TOTAL	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET
<b>Revenue</b>		
4100 Dues	147,045.00	161,429.00
4200 Donations	21,212.71	28,500.00
4204 Sponsors & Advocacy Partners	430.00	860.00
4600 National Board Meeting Revenue	27,225.00	30,000.00
4700 Misc. Income	68.55	500.00
4800 Promotional Items	4,631.20	2,200.00
8010 Interest Income	1,216.67	1,300.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$201,829.13</b>	<b>\$224,789.00</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$201,829.13</b>	<b>\$224,789.00</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
1582 Investment Expense	3,352.57	4,500.00
5000 Administration - General	3,690.49	6,600.00
5004 Shipping / Postage	902.38	0.00
5010 Bank/Merchant Processing Fees	1,398.96	0.00
5100 Software and Computer expense	2,218.14	1,110.00
<b>Total 5000 Administration - General</b>	<b>8,209.97</b>	<b>7,710.00</b>
5200 Public Lands Advisor		0.00
5210 Wages & Salary Expenses	81,119.50	88,500.00
5211 Payroll Taxes	6,151.57	8,500.00
5212 Payroll Processing Fees	579.00	552.00
5220 Travel Expenses	6,445.66	6,500.00
5221 Miscellaneous Expense	1,217.12	1,500.00
<b>Total 5200 Public Lands Advisor</b>	<b>95,512.85</b>	<b>105,552.00</b>
5202 General Travel	3,019.64	6,000.00
5500 National Board Meeting	2,867.64	30,000.00
5800 Promotional Item(s)	6,522.38	2,000.00
7000 Professional Services		0.00
7100 Executive Administrator	45,100.00	40,200.00
7800 Accounting/Audit/Tax Returns	492.99	11,000.00
<b>Total 7000 Professional Services</b>	<b>45,592.99</b>	<b>51,200.00</b>
Committee Expense		0.00
5301 Education	2,000.00	2,000.00
5303 Marketing/Media		300.00
5305 Partnerships	3,379.50	7,000.00
5308 Volunteer Hours & Awards		500.00
5311 Youth Committee		300.00
5312 Sawyer Training	3,247.09	6,000.00
<b>Total Committee Expense</b>	<b>8,626.59</b>	<b>16,100.00</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$173,704.63</b>	<b>\$223,062.00</b>
<b>NET OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>\$28,124.50</b>	<b>\$1,727.00</b>
Other Revenue		

# Back Country Horsemen of America

Budget vs. Actuals: BudgetvsActual\_FY2025\_FY2026 - FY26 P&L

May 2025 - March 2026

	TOTAL	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET
4201 Chapter Support Grants	6,280.00	2,500.00
4203 Legacy Donations	14,170.00	0.00
4211 Disaster Relief Fund	2,095.00	0.00
<b>Total Other Revenue</b>	<b>\$22,545.00</b>	<b>\$2,500.00</b>
Other Expenditures		
5309 Chapter Support Grants Expense		300.00
<b>Total Other Expenditures</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>
NET OTHER REVENUE	<b>\$22,545.00</b>	<b>\$2,200.00</b>
NET REVENUE	<b>\$50,669.50</b>	<b>\$3,927.00</b>

## 2026-2027 BCHA Draft Budget

Accounts	Actual 05/01/2025- 03/31/2026	Projected 04/01/2026- 04/30/2026	Total 5/1/2025 - 04/30/2026	Budget 05/01/2025- 04/30/2026	Proposed Budget 05/01/2026- 04/30/2027	Actual Budet
<b>Income</b>						
4000 Income						
4100 Dues	\$ 147,045.00	\$ 8,624.00	\$ 155,669.00	\$ 161,429.00	\$ 155,669.00	
4200 Donations	\$ 21,212.71	\$ 200.00	\$ 21,412.71	\$ 28,500.00	\$ 28,500.00	
4204 Sponsors & Advocacy Partners	\$ 430.00	\$ -	\$ 430.00	\$ 860.00	\$ 860.00	
4600 National Board Meeting Revenue	\$ 27,225.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 33,225.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 34,000.00	
4700 Misc. Income	\$ 68.55		\$ 68.55	\$ 500.00	\$ 100.00	
4800 Promotional Items	\$ 4,631.20	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 6,631.20	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,200.00	
8010 Interest Income	\$ 1,216.67	\$ 213.52	\$ 1,430.19	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,200.00	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 201,829.13</b>	<b>\$ 17,037.52</b>	<b>\$ 218,866.65</b>	<b>\$ 224,789.00</b>	<b>\$ 222,529.00</b>	
<b>Expense</b>						
1582 Investment Expense	\$ 3,352.57	\$ 1,117.40	\$ 4,469.97	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	
5000 Administration - General	\$ 3,690.49	\$ 700.00	\$ 4,390.49	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 6,600.00	
5004 Shipping / Postage	\$ 902.38	\$ 300.00	\$ 1,202.38			
5010 Bank/Merchant Processing Fees	\$ 1,398.96	\$ 400.00	\$ 1,798.96			
5100 Software and Computer expense	\$ 2,218.14	\$ 319.00	\$ 2,537.14	\$ 1,110.00	\$ 3,000.00	
<b>Total 5000 Administration - General</b>	<b>\$ 8,209.97</b>	<b>\$ 1,719.00</b>	<b>\$ 9,928.97</b>	<b>\$ 7,710.00</b>	<b>\$ 9,600.00</b>	
5200 Public Lands Advisor			\$ -			
5210 Wages & Salary Expenses	\$ 81,119.50	\$ 7,380.50	\$ 88,500.00	\$ 88,500.00	\$ 88,500.00	
5211 Payroll Taxes	\$ 6,151.57	\$ 589.79	\$ 6,741.36	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	
5212 Payroll Processing Fees	\$ 579.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 634.00	\$ 552.00	\$ 650.00	
5220 Travel Expenses	\$ 6,445.66	\$ -	\$ 6,445.66	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,500.00	
5221 Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 1,217.12	\$ 69.99	\$ 1,287.11	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	
<b>Total 5200 Public Lands Advisor</b>	<b>\$ 95,512.85</b>	<b>\$ 8,095.28</b>	<b>\$ 103,608.13</b>	<b>\$ 105,552.00</b>	<b>\$ 104,650.00</b>	
5202 General Travel	\$ 3,019.64	\$ -	\$ 3,019.64	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	
5500 National Board Meeting	\$ 2,867.64	\$ 36,773.03	\$ 39,640.67	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	
5800 Promotional Item(s)	\$ 6,522.38	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 8,222.38	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	
5900 Light On the Land			\$ -			
7000 Professional Services			\$ -			
7100 Executive Administrator	\$ 45,100.00	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 49,200.00	\$ 40,200.00	\$ 54,120.00	
7800 Accounting/Audit/Tax Returns	\$ 492.99	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,492.99	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	
<b>Total 7000 Professional Fees</b>	<b>\$ 45,592.99</b>	<b>\$ 6,100.00</b>	<b>\$ 51,692.99</b>	<b>\$ 51,200.00</b>	<b>\$ 57,120.00</b>	
Committee Expense			\$ -			
5300 Fundraising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	
5301 Education	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	
5302 Expansion	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
5303 Marketing/Media	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	
5305 Partnerships	\$ 3,379.50	\$ -	\$ 3,379.50	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	
5308 Volunteer Hours & Awards		\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	
5311 Youth Committee			\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	
5312 Sawyer Training	\$ 3,247.09	\$ -	\$ 3,247.09	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	
<b>Total Committee Expense</b>	<b>\$ 8,626.59</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>	<b>\$ 9,126.59</b>	<b>\$ 16,100.00</b>	<b>\$ 16,100.00</b>	
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>173704.63</b>	<b>\$ 56,004.71</b>	<b>\$ 229,709.34</b>	<b>\$ 223,062.00</b>	<b>\$ 239,970.00</b>	
<b>Total Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 28,124.50</b>	<b>\$ (38,967.19)</b>	<b>\$ (10,842.69)</b>	<b>\$ 1,727.00</b>	<b>\$ (17,441.00)</b>	

# BCHA Key Public Lands Activities

April 2025 through March 2026

## Key Correspondence Agency Actions and Legislation

**April 9, 2025** – BCHA was signatory to a coalition letter, led by the Coalition for Recreational Trails (**CRT**), thanking Senator Amy Klobuchar for her longtime advocacy for America's trails and for guiding the bipartisan introduction of S. 811, the Recreational Trails Program (**RTP**) Full Funding Act of 2025. RTP returns federal tax on fuel used for non-highway recreation to the states for trails-related projects and development. The bill, if passed, could more than triple the amount of RTP funding to states.

**April 23, 2025** – CRT issued a press release celebrating the introduction of S.811. It included a quote from BCHA's chairman and other CRT member organizations.

**April 28, 2025** – BCHA was signatory to a coalition letter, led by CRT and directed to the US House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure, emphasizing its support for S.811 and expanded funding for the RTP.

**May 8, 2025** – As it does each year, BCHA worked to shape the national trails community's request to Congress regarding funding for, and adequate staffing of, the four primary federal land management agencies that oversee outdoor recreation, wilderness and trails. The request is submitted to Congress as Witness Testimony during hearings held by the House Committee on Appropriations.

**July 31, 2025** – BCHA signed onto a coalition letter, led by the Outdoor Alliance, that voiced opposition to a Final Rule (issued without prior public notification) that is intended to severely curtail public engagement and comment on Environmental Assessments and Environmental Impact Statements issued by both the US Forest Service and Department of Interior agencies (e.g., BLM, National Park Service).

**Aug. 26, 2025** – BCHA crafted and submitted a public comment letter to the Secretary of Agriculture in response to the proposed reorganization of the US Forest Service. The letter emphasized: 1. The need for a robust and well-resourced agency workforce; 2. The need for Challenge Cost-Share Agreements to cover multiple national forests (versus solely individual forests); and 3. The need to retain and support pack stock related staff and facilities.

**Sept. 2025** – BCHA crafted and submitted a public comment letter to the Secretary of Agriculture in response to the proposed repeal of the 2001 Roadless Rule. Our comments asked that the forthcoming Environmental Impact Statement: 1. Include alternatives in addition to outright repeal of the Rule; 2. Identify existing recreation trends in Roadless Areas and impacts of the Rule; and 3. Address impacts to non-motorized recreational opportunities and experiences. BCHA also joined a coalition comment letter, headed by The Wilderness Society, expressing opposition to the Rule's repeal.

**Jan. 30, 2026** – BCHA coauthored a letter, submitted by American Trails, to the US Forest Service voicing opposition to the (pending) proposal to repeal the agency's 2005 Travel Management Rule (TMR). The TMR represents a foundational framework for managing recreation access, protecting natural resources, and reducing user conflict by limiting off-road vehicle use to designated roads and trails. The coalition letter encouraged the Forest Service to work collaboratively with a broad coalition of recreation, conservation, industry, and community partners to modernize and improve the TMR so that it better meets shared goals.

**March 6, 2026** – BCHA signed onto a coalition letter, led by Oregon Wild, that voiced opposition to changes proposed to the public notification and objections process of the US Forest Service. Such changes would: 1. Make it more challenging to learn about agency proposals subject to public review; 2. Significantly shorten the timeframe provided for public input; and 3. Make it more difficult for members of the public to file objections, including shorter time frames for the submittal of objections.

## BCHA Action Alerts

**May 15, 2025** – Issued Action Alert asking membership to contact their representative in Congress regarding the proposed wide scale sell off of federal public lands contained within the Budget Reconciliation Bill.

**Result:** The public land sale was withdrawn from the bill after widespread public outcry that public lands should not be viewed as quick cash to offset proposed tax cuts. Several members of the House of Representatives formed the Public Lands Caucus, whose purpose was to prevent the wide scale sell off of public lands.

**June 11, 2025** – Issued Action Alert asking membership to contact their US Senators regarding Senator Lee’s revival of the public lands sell off proposal that could have affected up to 3.3 million acres of US Forest Service and BLM public lands.

**Result:** The Senate Parliamentarian ruled that Senator Lee’s proposal did not meet the requirements of the reconciliation bill.

**June 19, 2025** – Issued Action Alert asking membership to contact their US Senators regarding Senator Lee’s modified proposal to sell only BLM public lands in order to provide affordable housing.

**Result:** Senator Lee again withdrew his proposal after widespread public outcry.

**July 9, 2025** – Issued Action Alert thanking membership for contacting their members of Congress regarding the potential sale of federal public lands and articulated BCHA’s general support for the transfer of discrete parcels of federal public lands to local governments where such lands are vital to community growth and the provision of affordable housing.

**Dec. 18, 2025** – Issued Action Alert to National Directors to contact their US Senators regarding Senator Lee’s proposed language in the long-delayed FY’26 appropriations bill that could have allowed for the transfer of the management of National Park System units to local or state governments.

**Result:** Senator Lee withdrew his proposal after widespread public outcry.



## Contract and Employee Review Committee Report

April 2026

Committee: Latifia Rodriguez, Craig Ferdig

### **Administration Contract: Lakeside Administrative Services (Michelle Wade)**

Contract Status: Contract dated March 15, 2025, has an initial term of two years, commencing May 1, 2025, through April 30th, 2027. After the initial term, the contract will automatically be renewed for one year beginning May 1, 2027, unless terminated with ninety (90) days notice by either party with proper notification.

Contractor continues to provide consistent, acceptable services.

There was built into the March 15, 2025, contract a 10% (\$410 per month) increase for fiscal year 2026-2027, plus expenses outside of contracted expenses.

**Recommendation:** Continue under the current contract with quarterly review for the next year.

### **Bookkeeping: Lakeside Administrative Services (Michelle Wade)**

Full bookkeeping including accounts receivable, accounts payable, general ledger, maintain QuickBooks, financial reports each month and work closely with the accountant of BCHA's choice.

Reconciliation of all bank accounts. Payroll processing and work with payroll company.

Contractor continues to provide consistent, acceptable services with accountant Gents Warner. Accountant does quarterly reviews/audits of processes and yearly tax filings.

**Recommendation:** Continue under the current arrangement with quarterly review for the next year.

### **Employee Review: Randy Rasmussen, Director, Public Lands & Recreation**

#### **Positive Aspects:**

- Well-known and well versed in congressional issues and processes.
- Contributions to trails community's annual appropriation request to Congress.
- Continued familiar visibility for advocacy and its value to trail users.

#### **Challenges:**

- Communications/identification at the state and chapter levels.
- Timely reporting of requested information.
- Seemingly in conflict with other partners, thereby reducing positive and effective BCHA representation.
- Difficult to communicate pertinent information in a timely manner.
- Lack of assistance in conjunction with Public Lands Committee on the chapter/membership level.
- Underrepresentation of BCHA specific achievements to public and partners.

#### **Goals:**

- Engage with other national trail user groups aligned with BCHA's mission to shape and develop cooperative, educational and beneficial opportunities directly benefiting horsemen.
- Data collection needed and necessary prior to Hike The Hill for proper positive BCHA representation, highlighting BCHA's accomplishments (i.e., volunteer hours, NS&HT miles worked, states represented, RTP funding, other grants awarded to states/chapters, etc.).
- Develop BCHA's own "gold sheet" of hours and dollars contributions, as well as funding received nationwide, to agencies and the public for yearly distribution by BCHA.
- Assist in grant funding for BCHA programs.

**Recommendation:** Continue under the current arrangement with quarterly review for the next year.

**Contract Status:** Job duties and Standard Operating Procedures are in place and approved February 2025; review quarterly for compliance and needed adjustments.

There is no contract term, employment can be terminated upon 30 days' notice by either party.



**BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF AMERICA**  
**ANTI DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT POLICY**  
**POLICY # \_\_\_\_\_**

The BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF AMERICA (BCHA) organization is committed to fostering an environment where every individual is treated with dignity and respect. Discrimination, harassment, and disrespectful behavior of any kind undermine our values, our community, and our ability to work together effectively. This policy affirms our responsibility to maintain an inclusive environment that upholds fairness, equity, and mutual respect in all interactions.

***POLICY AGAINST DISCRIMINATION and HARASSMENT***

BCHA supports the principles and spirit of equal opportunity. It is our intent to continue to administer volunteer opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, marital status, military or veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by applicable law. We utilize positive recruitment to foster the principles of non-discrimination to ensure that all elections and volunteer opportunities are made on the basis of qualifications and merit.

Discrimination and harassment in any form is strictly prohibited and won't be tolerated of any individual working for, or volunteering for, BCHA.

***ENFORCEMENT***

This policy applies to national representatives of BCHA. States and chapters are welcome to implement this policy, to include amendment of their bylaws if needed. Concerns about BCHA employees, contractors, national directors, national committee chairs, or other national-level leadership individuals should be brought to the BCHA Chair or another member of the Executive Committee (EC) within 30 days of the incident. The BCHA Chair or EC member has the responsibility to handle the complaint promptly and in a confidential manner.

Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Date adopted \_\_\_\_\_

**BCHA Non-Discrimination Statement**

At BCHA, we are committed to fostering a culture of equity, respect, and inclusion. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, marital status, military or veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by applicable law.

We believe that diversity strengthens our organization and the communities we serve. We strive to ensure that all individuals—whether employees, contractors, volunteers, partners, or members of the public—feel welcomed, valued, and empowered to contribute to our shared mission.

BCHA actively promotes inclusive practices in our policies, programs, and daily operations, and we hold ourselves accountable to upholding the principles of fairness, dignity, and equal opportunity for all.



<b>BCHA NATIONAL BOARD MEETING SURVEY RESULTS</b>	<b>Total Score</b>	<b>Average Score</b>
1. Should the annual budget include some level of funding for the annual meeting that is NOT expected to come from participants? Examples: National Chairmans's travel expense (required by Bylaws), committee chairs travel when chair is not a Director.	<b>181</b>	<b>5.3</b>
2. Should the Annual Meeting be held in a pavilion (very large tent) rented for that purpose?	<b>94</b>	<b>2.7</b>
3. Should the Annual Meeting seek a citing at a college with dorm rooms available for directors?	<b>140</b>	<b>4.0</b>
4. If the host facility allows, should the Annual Meeting provide sandwich materials, chips, cookies etc. for directors to make their own lunches?	<b>231</b>	<b>6.6</b>
5. Should directors purchase their own breakfasts?	<b>216</b>	<b>6.2</b>
6. Should the Meeting be shortened as much as possible?	<b>203</b>	<b>5.8</b>
7. Should the officers and committee chairs provide orientation reports via Zoom week before the Annual Meeting, cutting the length of the Annual Meeting?	<b>218</b>	<b>6.2</b>



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|--|------------|------------|
| 8. Should the Annual Meeting attempt to provide some sort of fun event (optional, with separate charge) to attract non-director members?   | <b>233</b> | <b>6.7</b> |
| 9. Should the Executive Committee seek hosting of the Annual Meeting by BCHA states, prioritizing bids by the lowest cost to participants and BCHA?  | <b>225</b> | <b>6.6</b> |
| 10. Should the Executive Committee seek opportunities to site the Board Meeting as a convention with vendors and a larger event (e.g., a Horse Expo, the National Western Stock Show in CO, EquiFest, or Equineaffaire) in order to attract more participants? | <b>268</b> | <b>7.7</b> |
| 11. Should the Annual Meeting be held at the same location each year, centrally located for all states, reducing costs, with same setup as has been done for the past many years, fly in, hotel stay, some meals, banquet, etc.?                               | <b>249</b> | <b>7.1</b> |
| 12. Should the Annual Meeting negotiate for better rates by meeting at the same location for two or three years, but rotate between western, central, and eastern states?  | <b>272</b> | <b>7.8</b> |

Very low scoring   Below average scoring   Above average Scoring   **Very High Scoring**

SUM of Scores	2530
Count of Scores	418
<b>Average Respondent Score</b>	<b>6.05</b>



