



*Back Country Horsemen of America
New York State Meeting
September 10th, 2014*

Jim McGarvey

Chairman

Back Country Horsemen of America

Back Country Horsemen of America

1. *What we do...*
2. *How we got here...*
3. *Where are we now...*
4. *What are the challenges...*
5. *Why we want New York to join*



BCHA

1. What we do...

Purposes of Back Country Horsemen

- **TO PERPETUATE** the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and Wilderness areas.

Purposes of Back Country Horsemen

- TO PERPETUATE the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and Wilderness areas.
- TO WORK to insure that the public lands remain open to recreational stock use.

Purposes of Back Country Horsemen

- TO PERPETUATE the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and Wilderness areas.
- TO WORK to insure that the public lands remain open to recreational stock use.
- TO ASSIST the various government and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.

Purposes of Back Country Horsemen

- TO PERPETUATE the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and Wilderness areas.
- TO WORK to insure that the 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 and sustaining use of the back country...

Purposes of Back Country Horsemen

- TO PERPETUATE the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and Wilderness areas.
- TO WORK to insure that the 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 and sustaining use of the back country...
- TO FOSTER and encourage the formation of new state Back Country Horsemen's organizations.

Purposes of Back Country Horsemen

- TO PERPETUATE the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and Wilderness areas.
- TO WORK to insure that the 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 and sustaining use of the back country...
- TO FOSTER and encourage the formation of new state Back Country Horsemen's organizations.



To more simply put it...

**We keep America's
Trails open for
*Everyone***



**We keep America's Trails
open for *Everyone***

Three Ways...

1) Hooves and Boots on the Ground

- Clearing Trails of deadfall, debris and erosion and more
- Trail maintenance and design
- Maintaining trail heads
- Packing in equipment and supplies
- And so much more...

2) Education

- Trail maintenance safety
- Trail maintenance and design
- Chainsaw and crosscut saw certifications
- Packing with horses and mules
- Leave No Trace

3) Advocacy

- Working with federal, state and local
 - Forest and NPS Management Plans
 - Wilderness Stewardship Plans
 - Legislative Actions – HR 4886
 - Court Actions



In 2013, BCCHA volunteers performed 373,000 hours

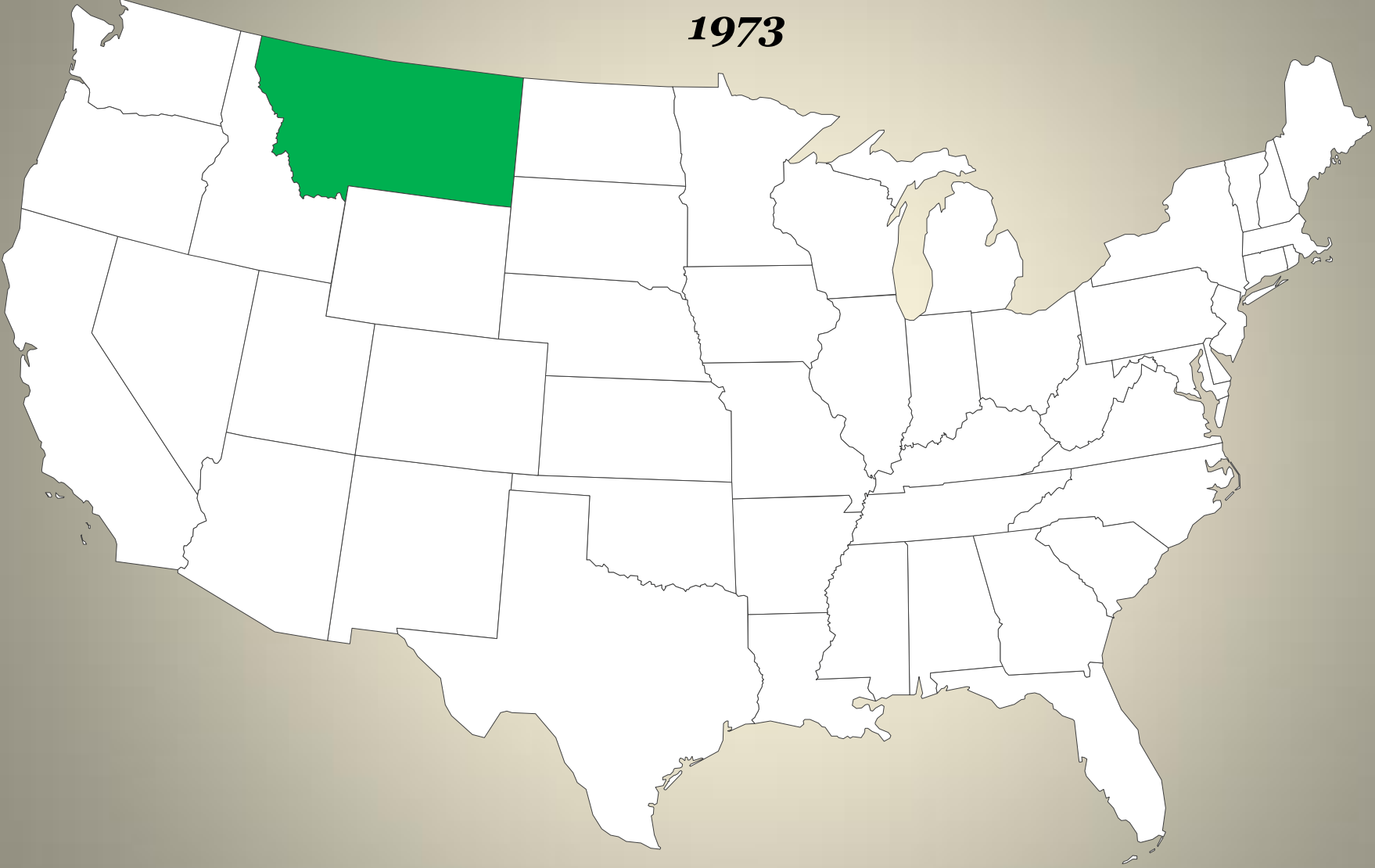
2013 BCCHA volunteer hours valued at \$14 million plus \$4 million out of pocket for **\$18 million*



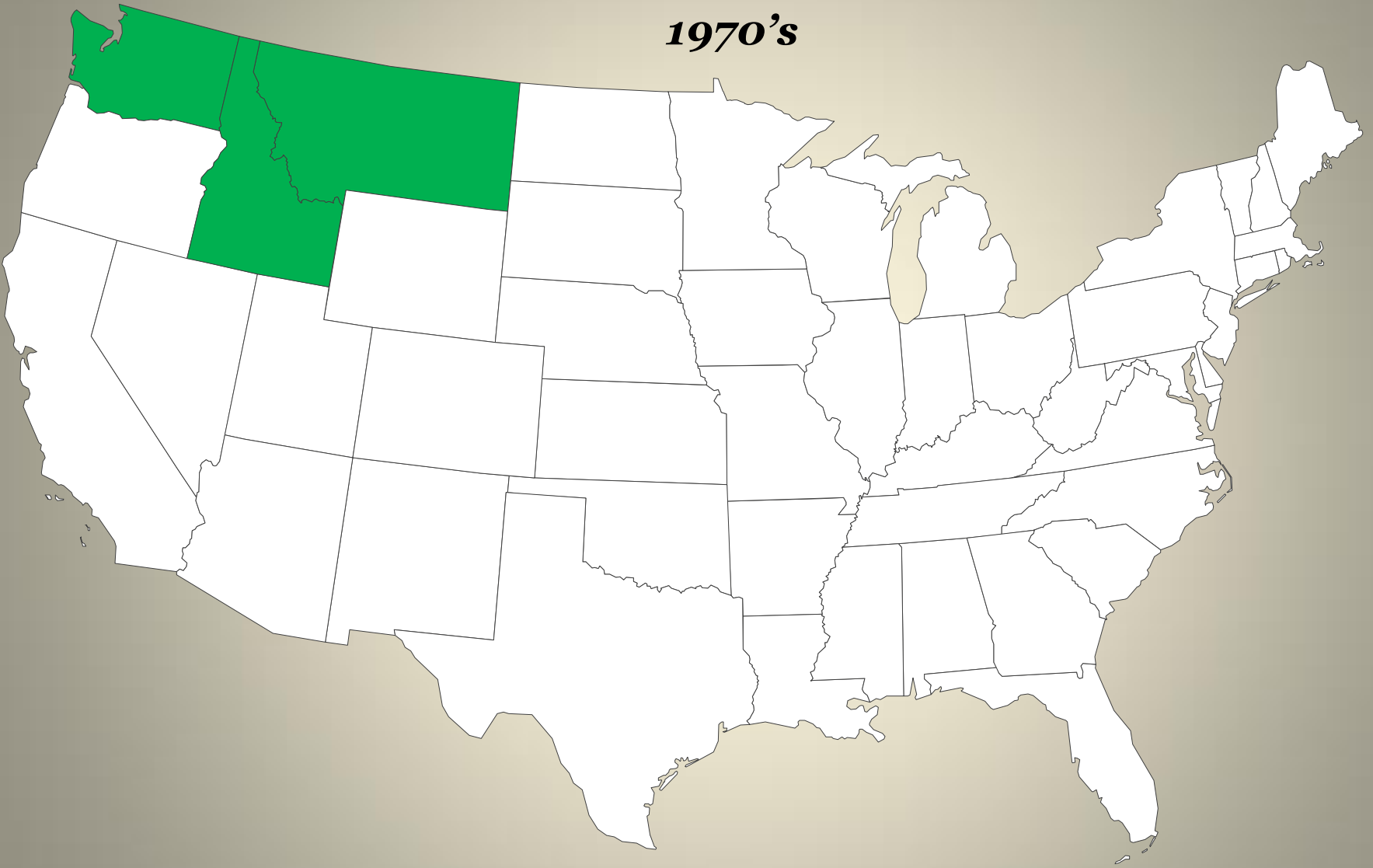
BCCHA

2. How we got here...

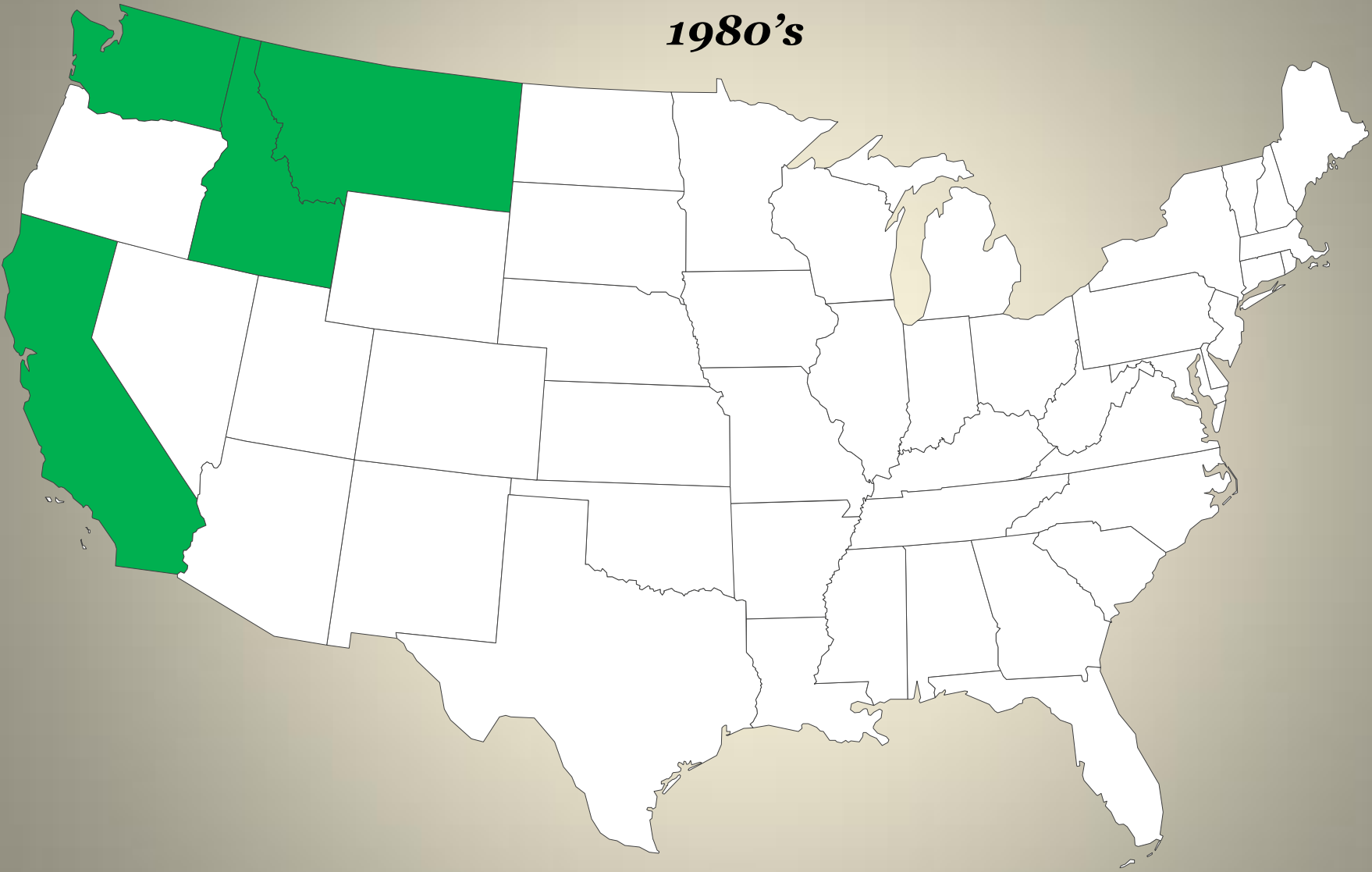
Lone BCHA Member
1973



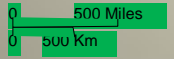
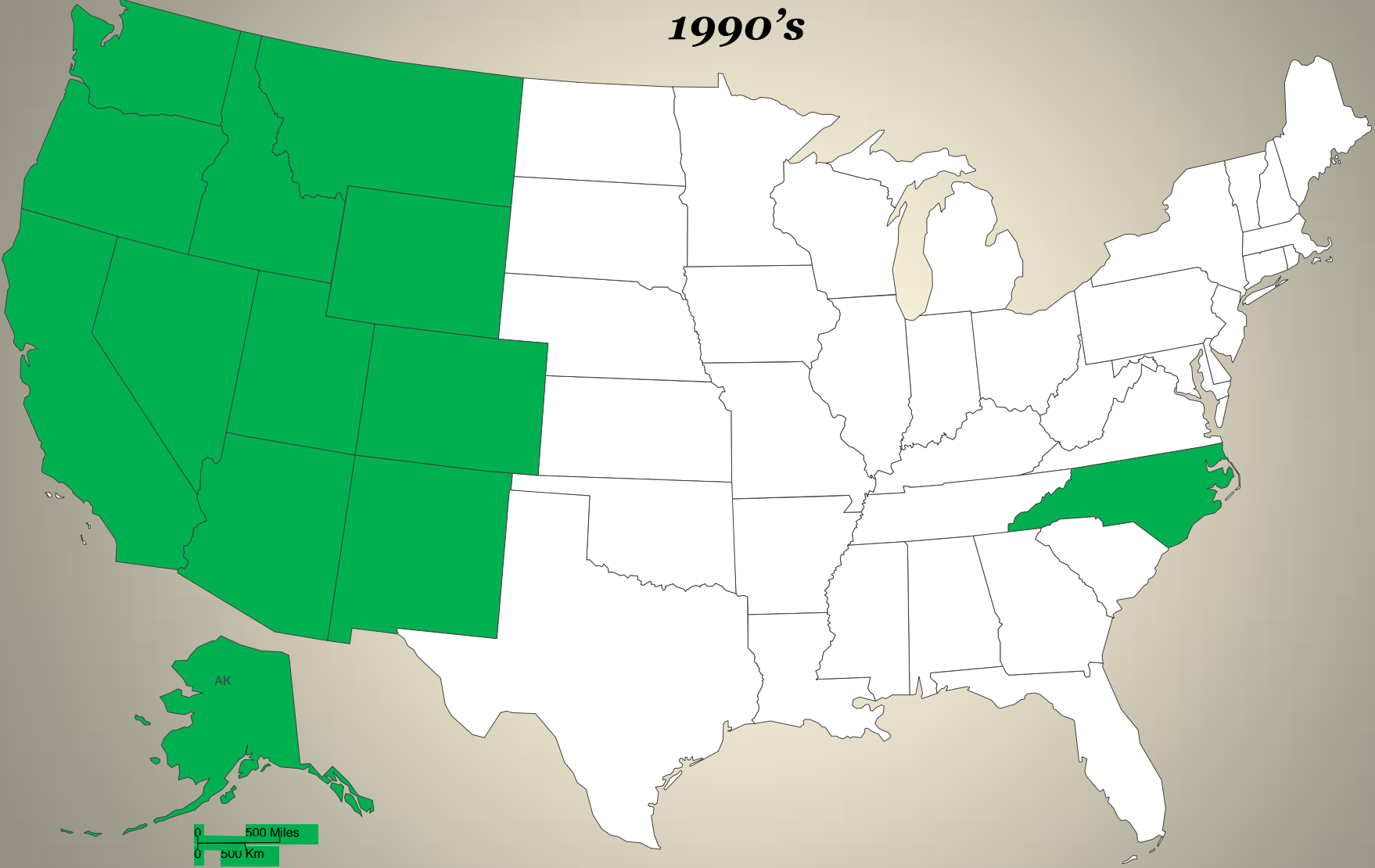
BCHA Members 1970's



***BCHA Members
1980's***



BCHA Members 1990's



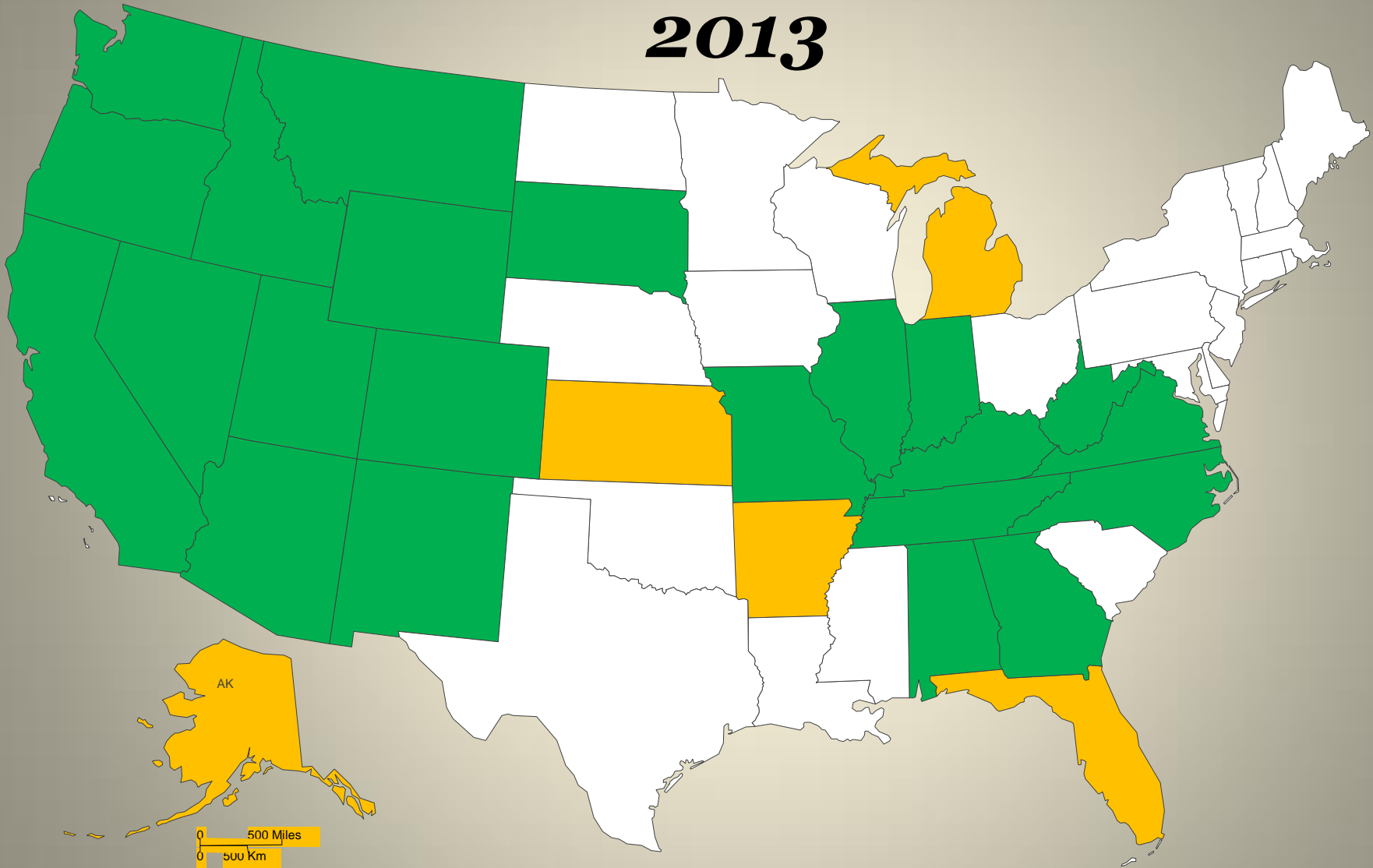


BCHA

3. Where are we now...

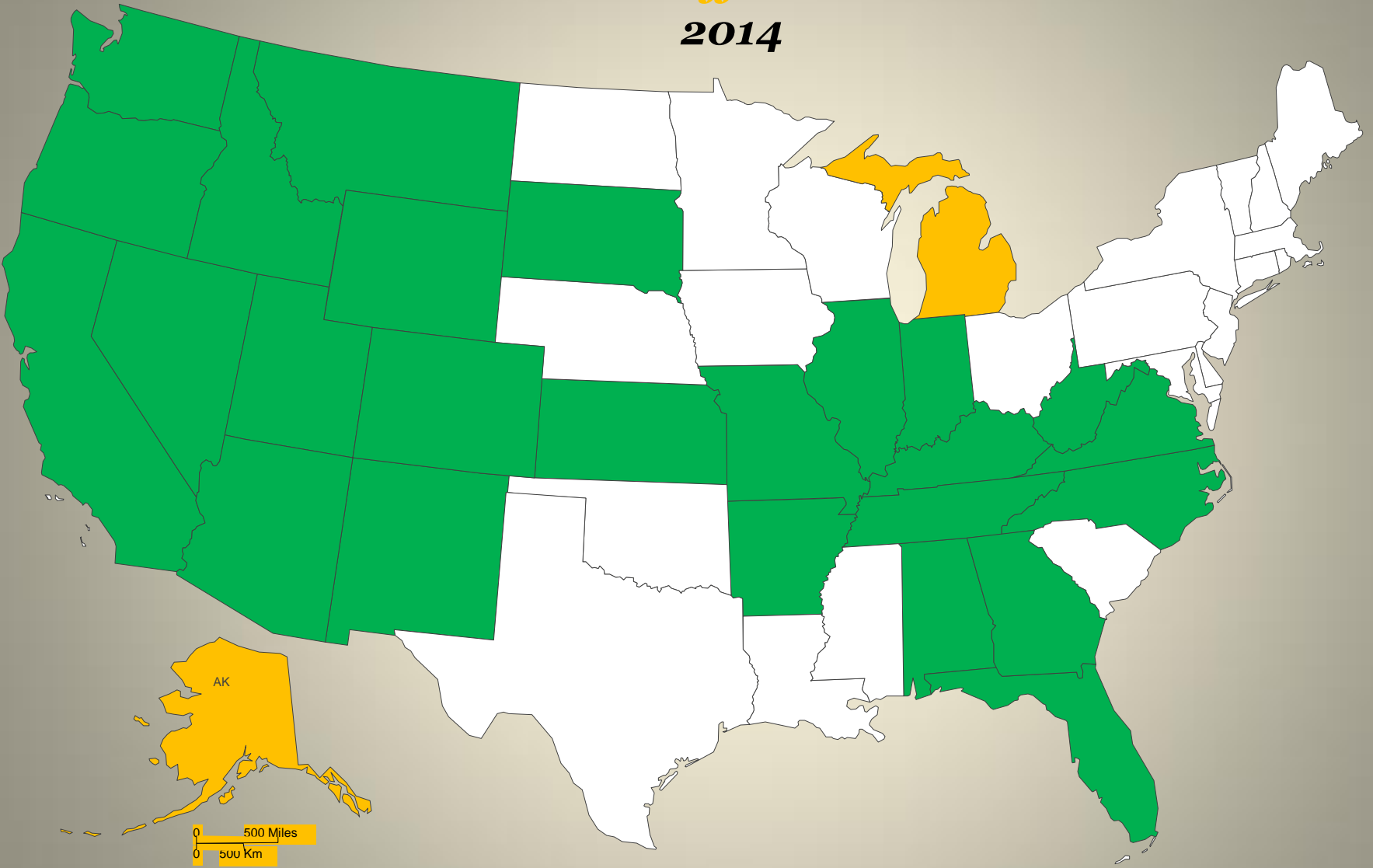
Current and Affiliate Members

2013



0 500 Miles
0 500 Km

Current and Affiliate Members **2014**



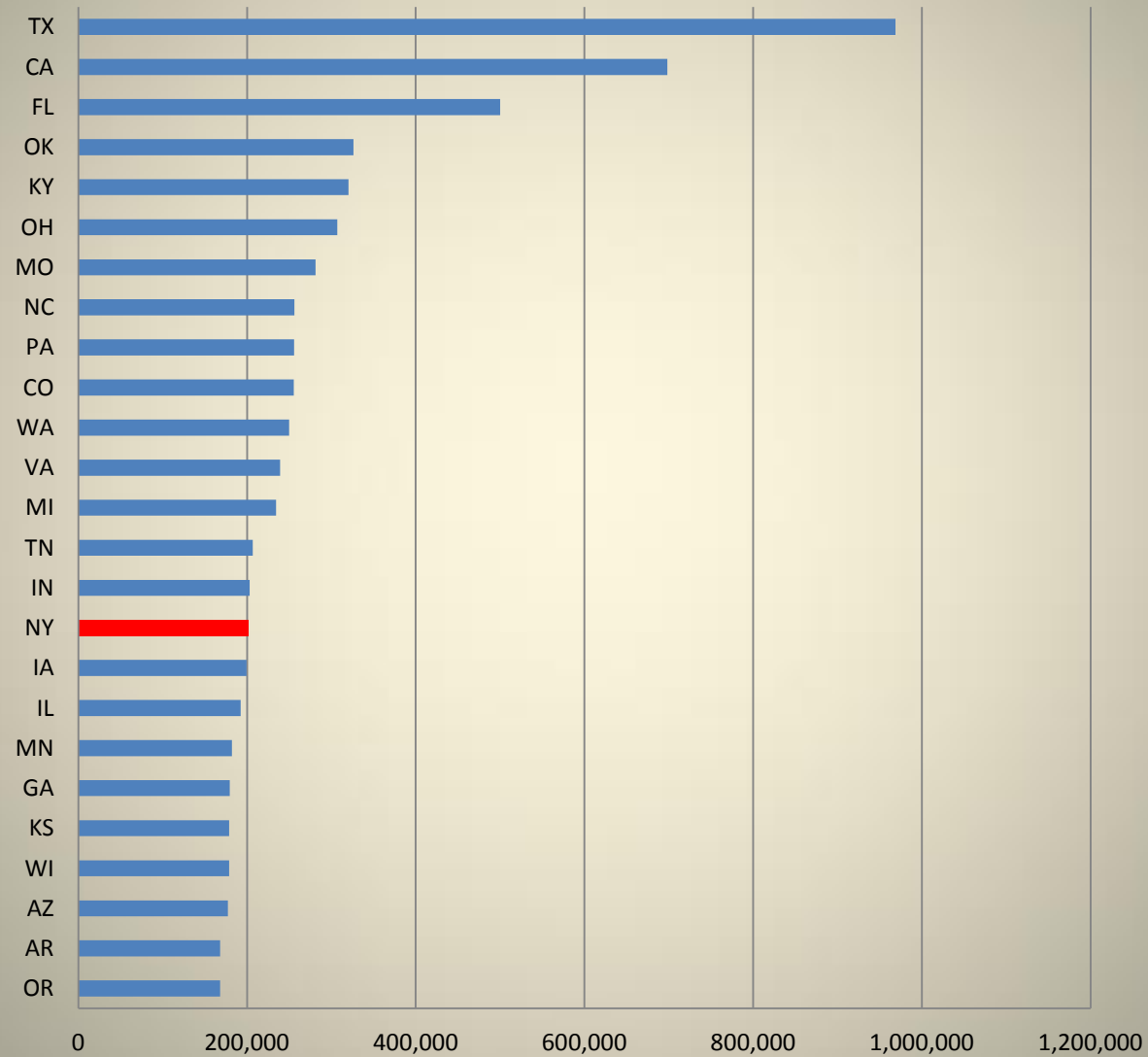


OK, that's where the BCCHA members are, but...

Where are the horses?

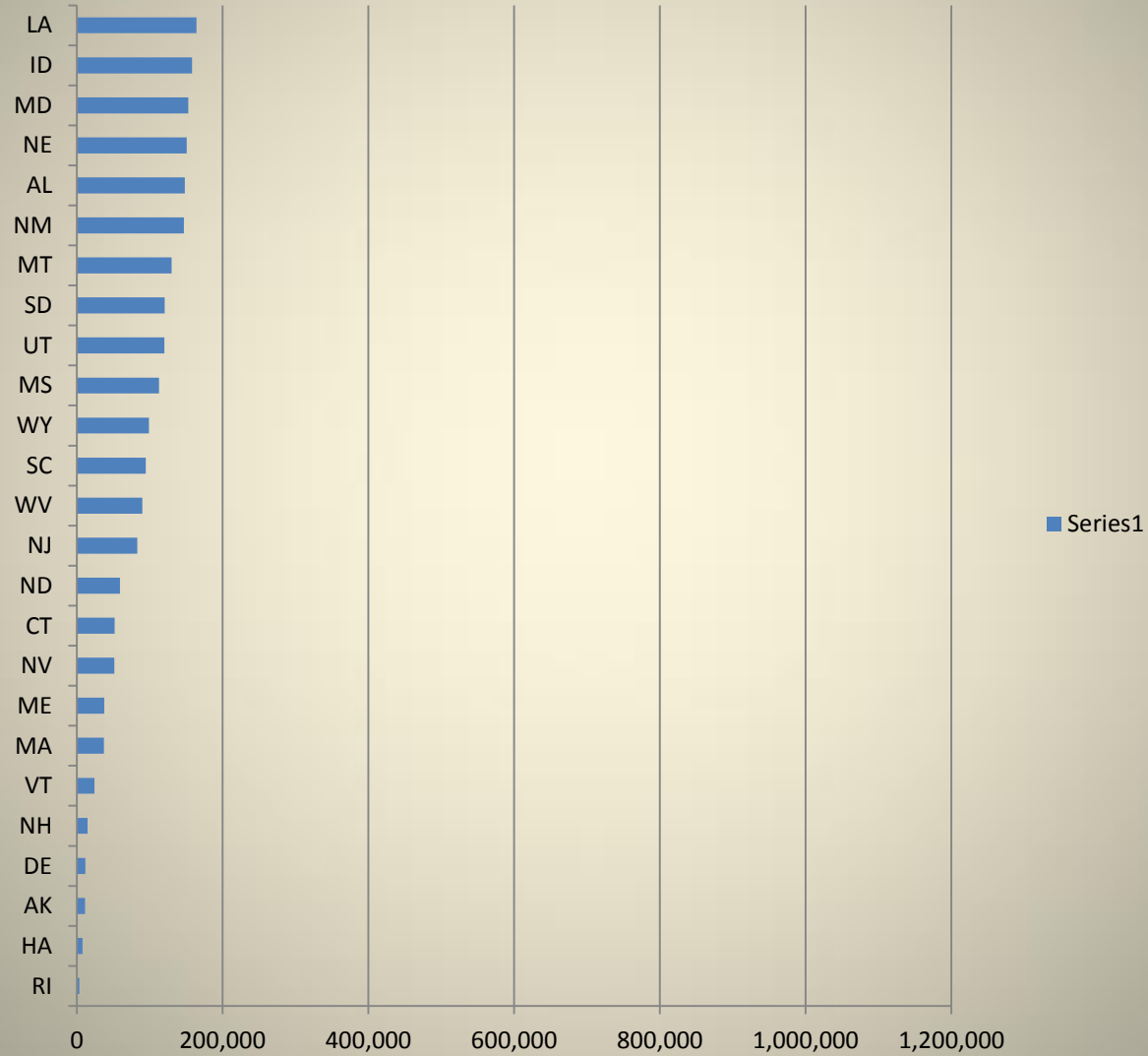
Horses By State – Top 25

American Horse Council 2005 Study



Horses By State - Next 25

American Horse Council 2005 Study

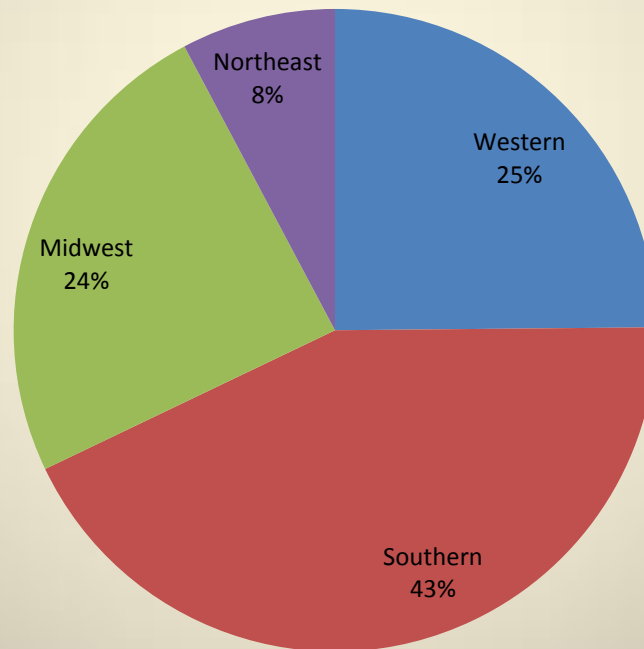


America's Horse Population

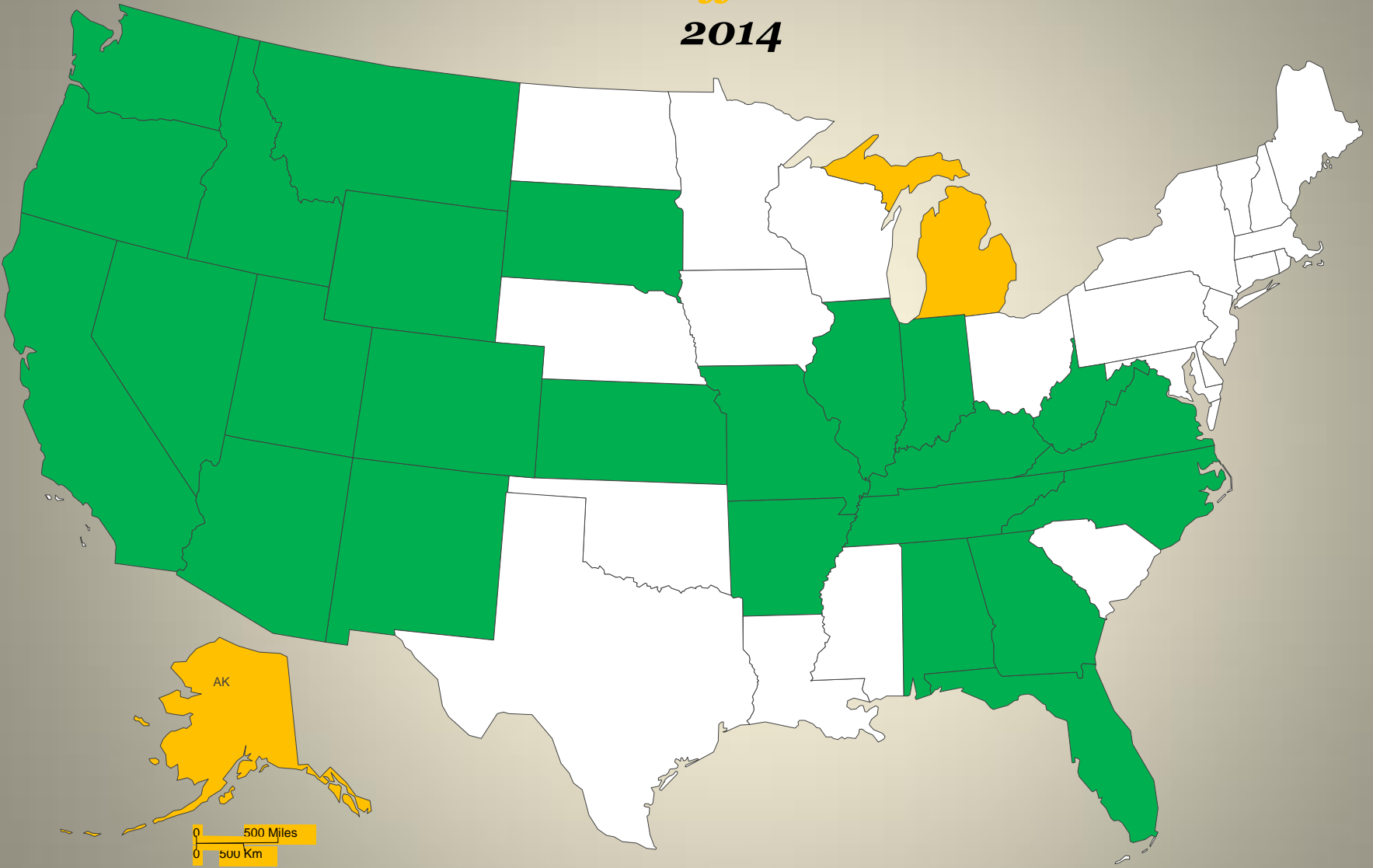
9,200,000

American Horse Council 2005 Study

By Region

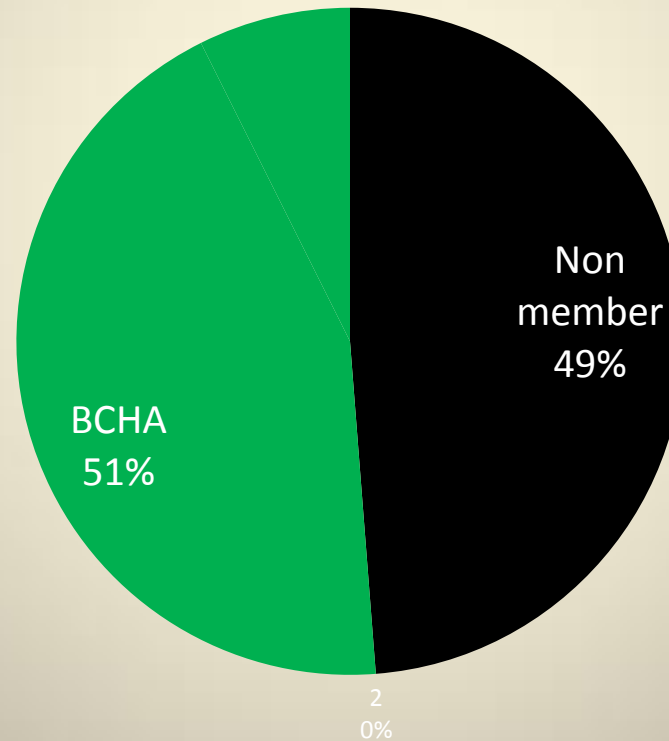


Current and Affiliate Members **2014**



America's Horse Population

By BCHA Member and Non Member States





BCCHA

4 First consider the *Big, Bigger*
and *Biggest* Challenges then
consider joining...



The *Big* Challenge

The Trail Users

Why can't we all just get along...

Sometimes we can and sometimes
we can't just get along...





The ***Bigger*** Challenge...
Management of Public Lands

*Budgets, Rules, Regulations,
Policies, Procedures, Personnel
and all of us...*

Memorandums of Understanding The “MOU”

- National Park Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- The Wilderness Society
- American Horse Council
- Public Lands Service Coalition -21st CSC
- Numerous Local Agreements



The ***Biggest*** Challenge...

The Land and The Trails

Lots of Land and Lots of Trails



Lots of Land in acres

BLM	245 million
USFS	193 million
NPS	84 million
State Parks	14 million



Lots of Trails in miles

BLM **16,000**

USFS **158,000**

NPS **18,000**

State Parks **42,000**



BCHA

*5 Why we want New York riders
to join*

To be a Part of a Bigger Cause because BCHA...

- keeps the trails open for everyone...
- brings over 40 years of experience...
- has been there and done that...
- helps to resolve some of the Challenges.
- And finally *“Be part of a larger movement to save the trails for the horses and riders.”*



BCCHA

Thank You

www.backcountryhorse.org

Next Steps...



Back Country Horsemen of America

Go to: www.backcountryhorse.org

- **Requirements to Become a BCH Organization**
- **[Click here to download handbook\(pdf\)](#)**
- Forming a BCH organization is not difficult; however, there are a number of requirements. First, those interested in creating an organization must subscribe to the objectives and the purposes of the Back Country Horsemen of America as outlined on page 7. Those purposes do not preclude other interests, but a saddle club that may take an occasional trail ride is not a BCHA organization

There are two organizational classifications under the BCH mantle.

- A state organization is one or more membership chapters within a state, **with a minimum of 40 members and no less than 15 members in any one membership unit.** To become an official BCHA state organization, the members must ban together, approve by-laws, make application and receive formal acceptance from the National Board of Directors of BCHA. State organizations have voting rights on the National Board of Directors of BCHA.

There are two organizational classifications under the BCH mantle

- An affiliate organization is a single membership organization within a state which does not have an official BCH state organization. **An affiliate must have a minimum of 15 members.** To become an official BCH affiliate, a membership organization must make application and receive formal acceptance from the National Board of Directors of BCHA. Affiliates have a voice but no voting rights on the National Board of Directors.

But Most Importantly...

- Contact **Ms. Freddy Dunn** BCHA National Treasurer and Chairperson of BCHA Expansion Committee.
- Freddy Dunn freddydunn@gmail.com
- 435-862-6181 St. George, UT



BCCHA

Thank You

www.backcountryhorse.org