

# **Back Country Horsemen of Utah (BCHU)**

## **2024 Annual Chapters Activity Report**

Here is a consolidated 2024 Annual Report for the Back Country Horsemen of Utah (BCHU), combining chapter summaries from Wasatch Front, Central, San Rafael, Uintah Basin, Mountain Ridge, Southwest, and Canyonlands:

### Wasatch Front Chapter

Jan: New Year's Ride at Antelope Island – ~30 attendees, 20 volunteer hours.

Apr: Built six 12'x12' corrals at North Fork Park – \$5,300 in materials, 800+ volunteer hours.

Jun: Youth Camp (3-day, 2-night) – 11 youth, 10 volunteers, 100+ planning hours.

Aug: Provided parking on horseback at Weber County Fair – 240 hours, 4,000+ cars parked.

Sep: Fall Social and burdock removal – 24 man-hours, filled a 4-yard dumpster.

Oct: Four members re-certified in chainsaw use.

Nov: Holiday dinner – 35 attendees, awards for volunteer recognition.

## Central Chapter

White Hills WMA: Ongoing trail maintenance, signage, and posts.

May: Community GPS scavenger hunt with dinner – funded by \$500 BCHA grant.

Canal Canyon: Equestrian signage and tie rail installed, lot regraded.

Media: Featured in "Hooked on Utah" – showcased BCHU impact.

Community Engagement: Christmas dinner cleared \$600 and raised local awareness.

Grants: Secured \$500 BCHU grant for White Hills signage.

#### San Rafael Chapter

Trail Clearing: Major cleanup on Manti LaSal National Forest trails.

Bridge Retreading: Improved Josephite Trail bridges.

Chainsaw Certifications: 5 members certified; trained Forest Service crews.

Partnerships: Working with Goblin Valley SP and BLM for highlines and campground signage.

Projects:

Moore Trail – highline/tie rail.

Goblin Valley – welded materials for upcoming install.

Indian Springs – improved road access.

Volunteer Metrics:

63 trail miles cleared.

834 volunteer hours, 4,900 miles driven, 57 power equipment hours.

\$51,523+ estimated value (additional hours pending final tally).

## <u>Uintah Basin Chapter</u>

May-Oct: Trail recon, cleanup, and signage projects across Baby Shoe Rock, Dry Fork, Leidy Peak, and Lake Shore Basin.

July: Partnered with USU for trail maintenance.

Oct: Major bridge repair on Dry Fork trail.

Challenges: Low participation; injuries and personal setbacks limited activity.

Leadership: 2025 officers yet to be elected.

#### Mountain Ridge Chapter

Service Projects:

Dimple Dell brush cleanup (Earth Day).

Trail repairs at Butterfield, Yellow Fork, and Millcreek Canyon.

Partnered with Sheriff's Posse for Camp Hope Children's Day.

Trail clearing at Franklin Basin with Bridgerland Chapter.

**Education:** 

Monthly meetings on trail safety, weed control, hoof care, equine first aid.

Fundraising:

\$4,500 raised at Christmas silent auction.

\$500 BCHU and \$500 BCHA Youth Program grants applied for.

## **Southwest Chapter**

Monthly Meetings & Rides: Held nearly every month with average 10–22 attendees.

Work Projects:

Trailhead cleanups (Harrisburg, Red Mountain).

Corrals repaired at Pine Valley Equestrian Campground.

"Clean up Your Manure" signage posted.

Outreach & Education:

Presentations by park rangers, CSU, and trail experts.

Branded merchandise for new member gifts.

**Special Events:** 

Participation in Three Peaks Obstacle Course Grand Opening.

Hosted Halloween Contest with 4H.

Grand Opening of Grapevine Crossing Trailhead.

Fundraising:

Annual December fundraiser raised over \$15,000.

## Canyonlands Chapter

Membership: 72 individuals (46 memberships).

Volunteerism: 766 hours, 5,947 miles driven, \$7,250 donated.

Major Projects:

Trail maintenance across La Sal Mountains.

2 endurance rides (Moab Canyon Spring and Fall) – 200+ miles flagged.

Hitching posts and gates installed on USFS lands and Onion Creek Corrals.

Bears Ears ride and site assessments.

Outreach:

Produced promotional videos for trail sites.

Moab Horse Expo – info booth and tack donations.

Assisted filming of Navajo Highways Show.

Advocacy:

Active in BLM, Grand County Trail Mix, and DNR-ORI meetings.

#### Conclusion

2024 was a year marked by incredible volunteerism, successful partnerships with federal and state agencies, community outreach, and impactful trail maintenance across all regions of Utah. BCHU chapters collectively upheld their mission of preserving backcountry access for equestrians, while promoting education, safety, and stewardship across Utah's treasured landscapes.

# **Backcountry Horsemen of America Volunteer Hours Report**

UTAH 2024

		Rate per	
	Totals	hour/mile/day	Total Value
Total Basic Hours	4708	\$33.49	\$157,670.92
Total Skilled Hours	623	\$50.24	\$31,299.52
Non-Trail Hours	3358	\$33.49	\$112,459.42
Travel Time	1707	\$33.49	\$57,167.43
Total Hours	10396		\$358,597.29
Personal and Stock Use	0	\$1.00	\$0.00
Total Travel Miles	0		\$0.00
Power Equipment	270	\$35.00	\$9,432.50
Heavy Equipment	152	\$140.00	\$21,280.00
Total Equipment Hours	422		\$30,712.50
Total Stock Days	922	\$125.00	\$115,250.00
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Total Donations	18010		\$18,010.00
		Total	\$522,569.79

CHAPTER TOTALS	Ind	Fam	Pat	Youth	Total
Bridgerland	10	10	0	0	20
Canyonlands	21	21	5	1	48
Central Utah	13	13	1	0	27
High Desert	6	12	1	0	19
HiLine & Hobbles	26	26	1	0	53
High Uintah	6	8	0	0	14
Mountain Ridge	46	29	0	0	75
San Rafael	3	12	1	0	16
Southwest	56	34	2	4	96
Uinta Basin	4	4	0	1	9
Wasatch Front	25	28	1	14	68
Unaffiliated	0	0			
2024 TOTALS	216	197	12	20	445
2024 Number of <b>Members</b>	198	394	12	20	624