



2025

Utah

BCHA

In Utah,
there are no limits
to the majesty of nature



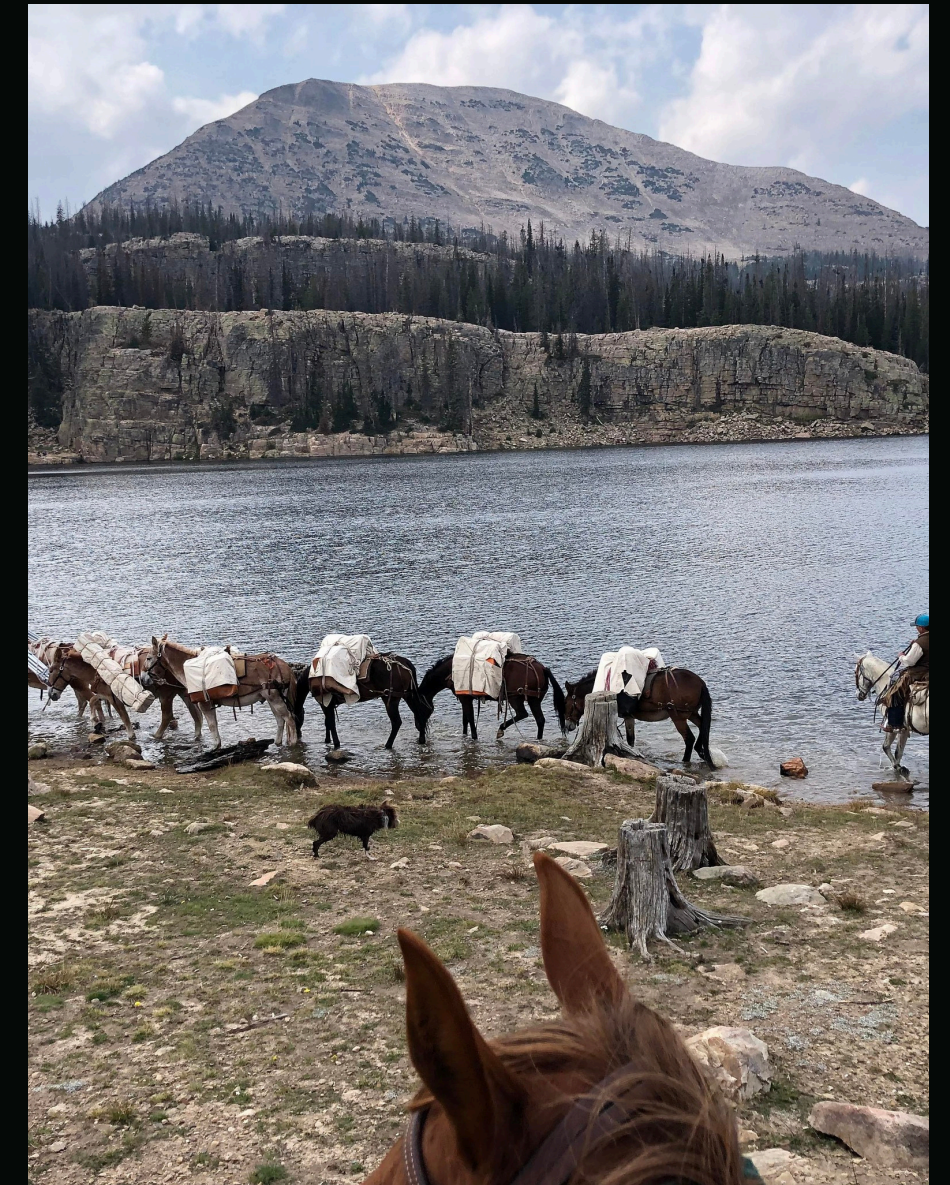
From the beautiful red rocks of Southern Utah to the high elevation alpine lakes of Northern Utah our 11 chapters have had quite the year.



Who is *BCHU*

We thank our 418 members and the positive impact they have made. Bridgerland, Canyonlands, Central, Hi-Line and Hobbles, High Desert, High Uintas, Mountain Ridge, San Rafael, Southwest, Uintah Basin, and Wasatch Front.

2025



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BCHU *Service*



- 9,792 basic, education and administrative hours

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- 716 skilled hours

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- Worked on 3090 miles of trails with 689 stock

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- Total value of Service \$559,078





BCHU represented equestrians at the Utah Trails Conference in Kanab teaching the benefits of partnering with equestrian service groups, The history and purpose of BCHA and Light on the Land principals.



BCHU partnered with the USFS and held 4 Sawyer certification classes with 17 certified.

Education
BCHU



In 2025 Bridgerland Chapter provided trail maintenance, infrastructure support, and agency collaboration. Keeping the trails clear in the Cache National Forest, corral maintenance at Franklin Basin, and partnering with other volunteer groups for sign installation. USFS employees from the Logan Ranger District mounted up with the chapter for much needed trail surveying.



Bridgerland *BCFU*



The Bridgerland Chapter is known for their hospitality hosting other chapter throughout the summer season and their summer and fall socials, guiding rides, pack clinics and work projects.

Canyonlands Chapter is a great online and referral resource to many who travel with their stock from all over the US, providing information on lodging and trails. They work closely with the BLM, USFS and Grand County in the famous Moab area.



They made significant contributions this year with new corrals, high-lines, and hitching posts and participating in various councils, committees and community events. Improvements were made to Courthouse Rock, Onion Creek, Lone Mesa and Ken's Lake and they adopted a trail in the nearby La Sal Mountains.



Canyonlands

BCFWU



In 2025, the Central Utah Back Country Horsemen focused on trail maintenance in the White Hills Wildlife Management Area and hosted a well-attended community GPS scavenger hunt. They also held a successful Christmas party to support the chapter and partnered with the Fish Lake National Forest Service to secure funding for improving the Salina 2nd Crossing Campground.



Key initiatives included coordinating \$10,000 in donations for the Second Crossing campground project and organizing community events to boost local engagement.



Central Utah *BCFHU*

In 2025, the Hi-Line and Hobbles chapter combined backcountry education with active trail riding and community service. Members participated in specialized clinics on first aid and packing with search and rescue and veterinary experts, alongside lessons in geology, water filtration, and wildlife safety.



These educational efforts were paired with rides to the San Rafael Swells and Fish Lake, as well as vital service projects like corral maintenance at Payson Guard Station and bridge planning at Big Spring.



Hi-Line & Hobbles

BCFU



In 2025, the High Desert Back Country Horsemen completed extensive stewardship projects, including debris removal on the Cottonwood Trail and the installation of a 12-foot Powder River gate on the Shinarump Plateau using state grant funding. Their efforts extended into the summer with maintenance at Coral Pink Sand Dunes and concluded with critical post-fire trail assessments in the Kaibab National Forest to document wildfire impacts on the Arizona Trail.



Beyond physical labor, the chapter bolstered its technical capabilities by hosting a chainsaw certification course, resulting in four newly certified members. They remained deeply integrated into the community by volunteering at the Little Rascal Rodeo, organizing group rides, and holding a quilt raffle fundraiser. These initiatives, paired with a donation to a local nonprofit veterinary program, successfully balanced their mission of trail preservation with active community support.



High Desert *BCFHU*

High Uintas

BCFU

Located at the gateway to the High Uintas, this chapter cleared 105 miles of forest and wilderness trails last year. Their commitment to technical skill is evident, with four members recently achieving sawyer certification and two more slated for cross-cut certification this year.

The chapter's veteran packers are recognized leaders in the field, having shared their expertise with other chapters and at the Utah Trails Conference. Looking ahead, they are set to lead a premier workshop at the 2026 Mountains West Trail Conference, further establishing their reputation for excellence in backcountry education.





In 2025, the BCHU Mountain Ridge chapter focused on trail preservation and community outreach. Members completed maintenance at Dimple Dell, Butterfield, Yellow Fork, and Franklin Basin, while also finishing the Payson Canyon Corral.



MountainRidge BCHU



Beyond trail work, the chapter fostered local relationships through youth events and mountain bike team collaborations, supported educational watershed repairs, and fund-raised nearly \$1,800 for future projects through their annual silent auction.

In 2025, the San Rafael chapter demonstrated exceptional commitment to trail stewardship, contributing over 400 labor hours and \$71,300 in value to maintain 103 miles of trails across BLM, National Forest, and State lands. Key achievements included establishing equestrian facilities at Goblin Valley State Park, repairing erosion on the San Rafael River Trail, and completing major packing and restoration projects at Gentry Hollow, Horse Canyon, and Flood Canyon. Additionally, the chapter collaborated with the Forest Service on the Scad Valley trailhead expansion and continues to advocate for equestrian access within the Wedge Management Plan.



Packed and loaded, a gas powered jackhammer with fuel and trail tools.

San Rafael

BCFHU



In 2025, the Southwest Chapter maintained a consistent presence in St. George through monthly meetings and a robust schedule of trail rides across Utah, Nevada, and Arizona. These rides served as vital monitoring missions, allowing members to clear downfall and remove trash from popular areas like Babylon, Pine Valley Mountain, and Navajo Lake. The chapter demonstrated its commitment to safety and agency support by certifying eight members in CPR and donating financial support to restroom maintenance supplies to the BLM during a federal budget freeze. They also funded and provided essential trailhead signage for Snow Canyon State Park and Grapevine Crossing

Southwest *BCFHU*



2025

The chapter's year was significantly impacted by the Forsyth Fire, which scorched over 15,000 acres in the Dixie National Forest and severely damaged critical equestrian campgrounds. Looking forward, the group is mobilizing for long-term restoration efforts while continuing their strong fundraising traditions. Their annual auction remains a cornerstone of their operations, having previously raised significant funds through the support of local vendors and over 125 attendees, ensuring they have the resources needed to tackle the extensive fire recovery projects ahead.

In 2025, the Uintah Basin Chapter launched the year with a newly elected leadership team. The chapter prioritized community outreach by hosting a booth at the Home and Garden Show in Vernal, where members spent two days distributing flyers and educating the public on the BCHA mission.



On the trails, the chapter focused its efforts on the Sink Ridge area. Following a planning ride in July, a seven-person crew successfully cleared eight miles of forest service trails, removing downed trees, widening overgrown sections, and clearing garbage. The year also included recreational group rides and fostering fellowship among members and guests.



Uintah Basin

BCHA

Wasatch Front

BCFW



The Wasatch Front Chapter is currently spearheading a major renovation of the North Fork Park corrals in partnership with Weber County. Leveraging a \$10,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Northern Utah, volunteers cleared the site by removing existing corral panels, allowing for excavation and the creation of a level 70x100 foot pad. The project included significant site improvements, such as building up the foundation with four feet of fill-dirt and roughing in a trailer-friendly road. The chapter is now pursuing a R.A.M.P. grant to fund a permanent pole-barn shelter that will provide shade and snow protection for equestrian users.

In addition to this infrastructure project, the chapter maintained a high level of community engagement through diverse fundraisers and educational events. Their financial stability was bolstered by multiple donations for managing parking at the Weber County Fair and a chapter garage sale, while their outreach included trail etiquette presentations for youth mountain bikers and participation in three local parades. Throughout the year, they also hosted multiple group rides to Bryce and Zion, conducted a youth camp with national grant support, and invested in trail signs and maps to enhance the North Fork Park trail system

BLM 2025 Outstanding Volunteer Group Award



San Rafael Chapter

The San Rafael Back Country Horsemen dedicate hundreds of hours annually to trail maintenance, campground improvements, and public education in the San Rafael Swell. In 2025, they improved trail access along the San Rafael River, installed new signage at Swinging Bridge Equestrian Campground, supported Off Highway Vehicle projects, and enhanced day-use areas for hikers, among other volunteer projects. Their success in securing grants and leading outreach reflects a deep commitment to multi-use recreation and stewardship.

The San Rafael Back Country Horsemen helped BLM promote sustainable recreation, foster stewardship, and enhance public lands access for diverse users.

Public Lands Foundation 2025 Landscape Stewardship Award

Stephen Schultz



The Public Lands Foundation has awarded Stephen Schultz the 2025 Landscape Stewardship Award for his fifteen years of dedicated service to public land conservation. As a key advocate for the Old Spanish National Historic Trail and a leader within the Grand County Canyon Country District, Stephen has been instrumental in the planning and construction of essential equestrian infrastructure, including trails, corrals, and mobile mapping projects.

By bridging the gap between Back Country Horsemen organization and the BLM, his leadership has fostered a culture of community involvement and shared responsibility, ensuring the sustainable management of America's public landscapes.

Thank You

2025

