

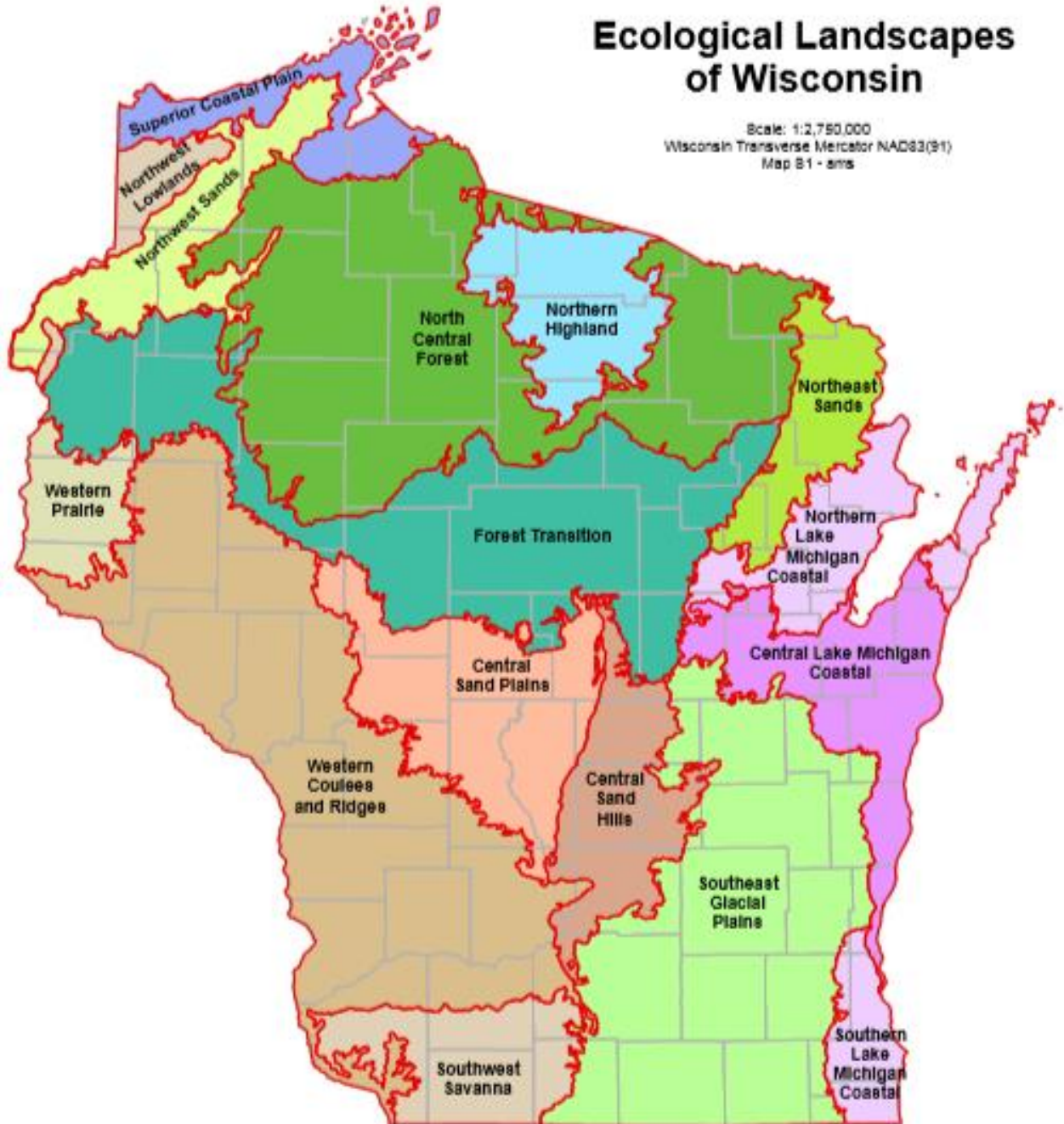


Back Country Horsemen of Wisconsin State Report

National Board Meeting
Asheville, NC
April 7-10, 2019

Ecological Landscapes of Wisconsin

Scale: 1:2,750,000
Wisconsin Transverse Mercator NAD83(31)
Map 81 - enr



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WISCONSIN (BCH-WI)

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Organization & Outreach

We started this State Organization a little more than a year ago with a group of people that had never met in person. Briefly, our membership for 2018 was 30 Members, 2019 so far we have 40 Members and have added an Associate Membership with strong interest. The year in review is outlined under “Accomplishments.” Our first year, 2018 was the year of the firecracker, we are looking forward to 2019 to be the year of building foundations.

2019 Asheville, NC National Board Meeting will be attended by:

Lisa Docter BCH-WI President, and Julie Hawbastin BCH-WI At-Large Director.

Accomplishment

Membership Recruitment. We gathered enough members to ratify Wisconsin as a State Organization. And have currently exceeded those initial numbers. We included a “time and talents” portion on our Membership form; which has been helpful in Membership development and building a team.

2 National Delegates (Heidi Hochhausen & Lisa Docter) from our state went to Spokane in April for **BCHA National Meeting**. At this meeting we were ratified as a State Organization, we made some key connections at a national level, we participated in round tables to push our state issues up, and received training as a new Organization. A summary slide show presentation was sent to members and is available.

In 2018, these **National Delegates** acted as **liaisons** to BCHA from our state by: attended BCHA President’s calls and represented our state. They also worked with BCHA mentors Craig Allen and Sherry Copeland, to move BCH-WI along in our first year.

In regards to our **Education Committee** work: We had our **Leave No Trace** presentation at our Annual General Membership Meeting weekend. The 7 Principles of Leave No Trace is a cornerstone of Back

Country Horsemen's outdoor ethics. In addition two of our Members, Lisa Docter and James Verdouw, attended and received a **Trail Master Certificate**. Which were the only 2 to ACE the test! From that, we wrote the "**Trail Project Application**" and implemented as a mechanism to gather Public Trail information, make connections, and field future Trail Projects in a democratically through the Public Lands committee.

Our **Public Lands committee** made contact with numerous Land Managers throughout our state with a letter writing project introducing our group. They are continuing that work.

We did a **Trail Project** at the Eau Galle trails to help maintain their trail. Eau Galle is managed by the Army Corp of Engineers. James Verdouw led that project successfully for a day of work and fun; as we rounded out our work day with a fantastic ride through the Eau Galle Recreational Area and a pot luck dinner in camp. Several of us stayed the next day to ride again. This began our process of working together as a boots on the ground team. Thank You James for leading that.

We worked with **local Wisconsin groups** to advocate for our horse trails in 2018. For the soon to be new trails in **Door County**, Lisa Docter attended DNR meetings; and many of our BCH-WI members wrote letters thanking the DNR and in support of these trails and work. There is also new horse trails on the west side of the state not yet announced, that we worked with the local Saddle Club that does much of the maintenance on the trails; along with Randy Rasmussen (BCHA Public Lands Advisor) and Mike Riter a trail contractor, in order to help make this new trail extension a reality.

Public Relations. We gave presentations to 3 Saddle Clubs / Trail Associations in 2018. In mid-November we launched an official Public BCH-WI **Facebook** page. And currently at over 700 followers in 2 months' time.

In regards to the **Business** of our Organization and **Treasurer's** work. That is always a challenge starting out an organization. We established our organization for banking, and taxes. After quickly getting By-Laws put together to be ratified at the Annual BCHA Board Meeting, we rewrote our By-Laws to more accurately reflect our State Organization and passed that at our Annual General Membership Meeting in January.

Lastly rounding out the year, we organized the **Annual Meeting and Open House**. At the meeting; we were blessed to have a special guest, Craig Allen, President of BCH-Utah and Education Committee Chair of BCHA. He gave a talk in the morning on Leave No Trace, spoke at the meeting, and facilitated a Leadership Roundtable for the new BCH-WI Board after the meeting. We raised \$640 at the Silent Auction organized by Lisa Braun. We had an attendance of 40 guests that joined. Leading up to the Annual Meeting and elections, we assembled a team of candidates for the 2019 Board.

Issues & Problems

BCH-WI has a Board Meeting scheduled for March 23rd to do an internal SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) evaluation. This was scheduled for before the report was due but rescheduled due to weather.

Issues & Problems that have been identified so far:

- Volunteer Hours Under-reported.
- Member recruitment to continue.
- Solidify new fledgling Organization. (communication, team building)
- Member engagement.
- More in person events and meetings. Membership is spread out.
- Additional Trail work.
- Activate Committees
- Continue to work on relationships with Land Managers.

Projects & Plans

Projects and Plans will be solidified at the Board Planning Meeting on March 23rd.

Projects & Plans that have been identified so far:

- We have targeted 3 types of events:
 - **TRAIL BLAZ'N** with Back Country Horsemen of Wisconsin
This will be a Work Day to include: Project work day, ride the trails, food, and casual BCH-WI talk if we have public.
 - **TRAIL MIX'ER** with Back Country Horsemen of Wisconsin
Which will be a Social Event, with trail riding, food around a campfire, cowboy poetry
 - **TALK'N TRAILS** with Back Country Horsemen of Wisconsin
Which will be Talks/public speaking Events (Presentation format, with discussion for outside groups, associations, etc)
- Establish a budget.
- We will be continuing to work on our Policy and Procedure Manual.
- Member Engagement and Recruitment primarily through events, and social Media.
- Website
- Solidify Committees. Among other work we need a strong Volunteer Hour leader.
- Continue to establish relationships with Land Managers
- Other:
 - 2 Members are going to a Trail Master Class
 - Lisa Docter (Pres) will be attending the International Trail Symposium in Syracuse NY

Organizational Details:

Our 2019 Board of Directors is

President: Lisa Docter (Delegate)

Vice President: Nora Hitchcock

Secretary: Jeanne Hilger Fox

Treasurer: Heather McGregor

3 At-Large Board Members:

Julie Hawbastin (Delegate)

Jenny Stoiber

James Verdouw

Dues Structure:

Single: \$25 (1 vote)

Family: \$30 (1 vote)

Associate: \$45 (1 vote)

Volunteer Hours 2018

BCHA - Volunteer Hours Report				
Back Country Horsemen of Wisconsin 2018				
	Totals	Rate per hour/mile/day	Total Value	
Total Basic Hours	36	\$24.14	\$869.04	Calculated per hour
Total Skilled Hours	50	\$36.21	\$1,792.40	Calculated per hour
Total Trail Recon Hours	8	\$24.14	\$193.12	Calculated per hour
Total LNT - Education	0	\$24.14	\$0.00	Calculated per hour
Total Public Meetings	0	\$24.14	\$0.00	Calculated per hour
Total Administrative Service	0	\$24.14	\$0.00	Calculated per hour
Total Travel Time	46	\$24.14	\$1,110.44	Calculated per hour
Total Hours	140			
Wilderness Trail Miles	0			
Other Trail Miles	0			
Total Trail Miles	0			
Personal Vehicle	2049	\$0.90	\$1,844.10	Calculated per mile
Stock Hauling	125	\$1.10	\$137.50	Calculated per mile
Total Travel Miles	2174			
Power Equipment	2	\$26.00	\$52.00	Calculated per hour
Heavy Equipment	0	\$81.00	\$0.00	Calculated per hour
Total Equipment Hours	2			
Total Stock (Pack and Saddle)	2			
Total Stock Days	2	\$100.00	\$200.00	Calculated per day
Total Donations	\$0.00		\$0.00	
		Total	\$6,198.60	