

## State Board Meeting Oct. 2017

### **Education**

The Officer training for So. Cal. will be Jan.13, 2018 in Norco. Exact location to follow. The Masters Course was cancelled due to weather but the Masters/Leave No Trace course was a big success with agency employees attending as well as BCH. Nominations for the yearly Education Award are due by Dec. 1.

The State looked into creating banners that Units could purchase. They have come up with a design. The 9X12 foot would cost \$282. And the 4X8 foot would cost \$160. We already have one so our unit would need a discussion if we want to participate.

### **Public Lands**

The plan for Cuyamaca State Park has been finalized everything pretty much stays the same. San Diego Unit was actively involved in this process. The Yosemite Wilderness Plan EPA study has been delayed. A big issue is the impact of Commercial packers. The State participates in the Far West Public Lands Group. Issues are shared with our western neighbors. It is felt the Monument Review will go nowhere. History shows other than in a few incidences where they reduced monuments size, once they are designated they stay.

HR622 was about shifting Law Enforcement from the Fed's to the State. This is a lead in to selling off land to the states. It has little support 14% so not likely to succeed.

HR1349 is the proposed change so wheeled vehicles can enter the wilderness. This is purely a way for Mtn. bikes to enter the wilderness. IMBA is not behind this or does it support it. It is a group of lawyers. It only has 11% support, but it is felt this issue will not die even if 1349 dies it will be brought back up in the future. We need to ensure our Representatives know our position on this issue. If you haven't written your congressman, do so.

The 2018 budget from the house calls for a 3 million dollar cut for the forest service.

Bruce Demott gave a presentation on something he has worked on for 20 years. Forest Service handbooks have a comment about bringing wilderness back to the highest level of purity within legal constraints. This was an attack on access years ago. He had the Forest Service ready to remove it when administrations changed in 2008 and it has fallen idle since. He proposed BCHC take over the fight as he is stepping down. It was proposed to create a committee for this and the units would hopefully participate.

Randy Rasmussen the National Public Lands Director gave a presentation. He discussed further on HR1349 which is backed by Sustainable Trails Coalition Group, which is the group of lawyers.

HR2162 which deals with Fire Borrowing was discussed. Fire costs are breaking the budget and when this happens all other areas of the budget take a beating. It is felt these costs need to be budgeted as all other disasters are in FEMA, therefore not robbing other portions of the forest Service budget.

The budget for trails is 77 million down from 85 million in 2010. After administrative costs in D.C. and at the forest level maybe 20% of that hits the ground.

### **Board of Directors**

State Fish and Wildlife has come up with new fees for entrance to certain areas. Check before you enter as there fines.

It is that time of year to renew insurance. The deadline is Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>. It was reviewed that there is no coverage overnight for units, basically sunrise to sunset. There was discussion about creating a youth membership. After talking with the insurance group the liability is too great so it is a dead issue. The turnaround time for requesting a public day is about 2 weeks but can be shorter.

Membership is down 170 overall with only 77 new members this year. We should follow up on members that drop out for their reason.

We will donate \$2,680. from our C3 side to PCTA for support of LNT education.

Units need to forward any volunteers for a committee to further Bruce Demott's work.

Volunteer hours are due Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>.

C.J. Hargreaves will help with the next issue of the newsletter but we need a new editor. HELP!

BCHA has opened a Brokerage Account in order for any member to transfer stocks or bonds with no capital gains and a tax write off donation. Check out the Nat. webpage for comments or requests.

KUHL Clothing owned by a BCH member is offering a discount for our membership and a donation of a percentage of the profits funds to Nat.

Rendezvous showed a profit of over \$12,000. At this point, no one stepped up for next years event. Los Padres Unit is checking in to a location possibly in King City. If we don't have a rendezvous plan B would be for individual units to pay their insurance costs.

State held 6 Saw Certification classes with 1 in Nev. with rave reviews.

The Redwood Unit proposed a change to the number of directors each unit would have. Their membership falls near the break point between 1 or 2 directors and they wanted all units to have 2 directors with units holding membership over 300 to have 3. This failed.

State rules allow only 1 member from an individual unit to be on the Executive Board. The new slate of officers breaks that rule so a motion passed to allow more than 1 and the new board was elected.

The Safety Committee which investigates any accidents involving saws and packing was moved to the C3 side of the Org. This was recommended by the Forest Service PCT Rep.

Finally any letters to your Congressman should be short and factual with no opinions. A long worded diatribe tends to enter their round file of interest.

The next meeting will be Feb. 9/10 in Santa Nella.