

Resolution  
FAILED

2008

**Resolution #2 2008 Submitted by Back Country Horsemen of the Flathead MT**  
**Subject: Congressional Earmark**

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Whereas, The Bob Marshall Wilderness complex is the premier Wilderness for horse use in the United States and people from all over the United States bring their stock here to ride; and

Whereas, Inadequate funding has resulted in Back Country Horsemen and other volunteer groups doing trail work that was once done by Forest Service trail crews, just to keep the trails in usable condition; and

Whereas, The Region 1 Office, Forest Supervisors and District Rangers take a tremendous amount of the Wilderness trail budget and use it for overhead; and

Whereas, The fires of recent years have had a dire effect on keeping the trail system useable and very little extra funding has been appropriated for work on the ground; now therefore be it

Resolved, That Back Country Horsemen of Montana and the Flathead, East Slope, High Line, Charlie Russell, Last Chance, Missoula, and Mission Chapters send the following letter (or a similar letter) once a month through September 2008 to the Montana congressional delegation asking for an earmark of \$250,000.00 in the 2009 budget to be used specifically for hiring additional trail crew members, with no overhead taken out, on the Spotted Bear, Seeley Lake, and Rocky Mountain Ranger Districts.

Dear Senator:

The Back Country Horsemen of Montana request an earmark of \$250,000.00 to be used specifically to hire additional trail crew members, with no overhead taken out, on the Spotted Bear, Seeley Lake, and Rocky Mountain Ranger Districts in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex.

The trails in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex are in dire need of proper funding. Too often the Wilderness trail budget is scavenged by Region 1, Forest Supervisors and District Rangers so that little or no money is left to be used on the ground to get trails cleared of downfall or