



To: AHC Organizations

Date: July 23, 2009

Action Alert: AHC Seeks to Document Equestrian Access Issues on Public Land

The American Horse Council has launched a new effort to collect information on access issues equestrians are experiencing on federal lands. The center piece of this effort is an AHC online form riders can use to report their personal experiences regarding trails and federal lands that have been closed to them or other access issues. This online form is located here <https://www.horsecouncil.org/survey.php>.

Efforts to gain support for legislation to protect equestrian access to public land have been hampered by a lack of information regarding the reduction of trails, trail heads and the closure of public lands to horses and pack animals. This new initiative will allow the recreational riding community to report when they are forced off a trail or are fighting to stay on a trail. This information will be used to clearly demonstrate the extent of the problem and the need for action on the part of Congress or the federal land agencies.

The online form can also be used to document any successes riders have had keeping a trail or area open to horses. Such information is needed as well.

The AHC is requesting that its member organizations help spread the word about this new program by placing information about it on their websites and or in their organization newsletters. More information about this initiative and the form to report access issues can be found here <https://www.horsecouncil.org/survey.php>.

Attached is a press release that can be used by your organization on your websites or in your newsletters. Please feel free to change it for your use.

If you have any questions please contact Ben Pendergrass at (202)296-4031.

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