

**Wilderness Trail Maintenance Meeting**  
**When: February 18, 2010, 9:00 am – 3:30 pm**

**Directions to the Foothills Learning Center: 208.514.3755**

**Drive North on 8<sup>th</sup> St. until you reach the base of the foothills and 8<sup>th</sup> turns to gravel. Drive about 1/3 mile until you reach a trailhead parking lot on the right. Drive thro the parking lot and across the swale to the Center. Building is visible.**

Organizations who have responded to attend the Wilderness trails meeting 3-18-09

- 1.) Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
- 2.) Trout Unlimited
- 3.) Central Idaho Trail Association
- 4.) Backcountry Horsemen of America
- 5.) Wilderness Society
- 6.) Idaho Conservation League.
- 7.) Framing Our Community
- 8.) Idaho Guides and Outfitters Association
- 9.) Idaho Congressional Delegation representatives.
- 10.) National Forest Representatives including folks from the regional offices and representatives from the Payette and Nez Perce National Forest.

Purpose: The purpose of this initial meeting is to share information concerning our Wilderness trail system and its evolution over the past 3 to 4 decades. Most of the groups attending this meeting have experienced a decline in overall Wilderness trail maintenance, the quality of maintenance which does occur and a shrinking of accessible trails for pack and riding stock as well as for hikers. Essentially we are meeting to identify these shared problems and help find solutions. Overall this first meeting is to explore the idea of forming a coalition or council with which to raise an awareness of these issues as well as help guide direction for solutions. This meeting is not intended to be a platform to bash the management agency or discuss Wilderness constraints on tools. It is intended to share issues, raise awareness and find constructive solutions. The design for this meeting is to introduce the various organizations and agency folks who have an interest in Wilderness trail maintenance in Idaho and the Western states. We will try to split the day with brief morning presentations by the agency and groups to identify problems surrounding Wilderness trail maintenance then spend the afternoon in a round-table discussion generating action ideas to approach those problems.

This is more of an exploratory meeting than a definitive one. Along that line, if there are items that aren't listed on this agenda, please know that, given time, we will attempt to cover them.

#### Agenda

9:00 – 9:30. Introductions and brief overview of how this started and what we intend to accomplish. Trout Unlimited/BHA

9:30- 10:30 Wilderness trail history and updates from Nez Perce and Payette National Forests. Presently we've got Anthony and Jane on the list. If we can get time, it would be good to have a quick briefing from Randy Welsch, from the Intermountain Region, on the new Forest Service Trails Classification system.

9:30 – 10:00. Nez Perce National Forest – Anthony Botello

10:00 – 10:30. Payette National Forest – Jane Cropp

10:30 – 11:30. Organizational briefs. Who are the interest groups and what are they doing?

10:30 - 10:45. Central Idaho Recreation Council – Jenni Blake.

10:45 – 11:15. Backcountry Horsemen of America – Dennis Dailey

11:15 – 12:00 Framing Our Community – Joyce Dearstyne

12: - 12:30 Lunch (Bring a sack lunch)

12:30 – 1:30: What are the issues?

- 1.) Funding
- 2.) Agency guidance
- 3.) Need for larger advocacy – marketing.
- 4.) Public awareness

1:30 – 3:00: General discussion. Should we collectively tackle solutions? Should we address individual issues with tailored solutions – such as seeking funding through individual programs, grants, etc – or should we address maintenance from a larger perspective- such as a legislative attempt to raise awareness, funding and ignite marketing campaigns? Should we do both? Identify what, who, when and where.

3:00 – 3:30 – Where do we go from here? Future meetings?

\*\*\*\*\*