Resolution #1 2008  Submitted by Back Country Horsemen of the Flathead  MT
Subject: Vanishing Trails

Whereas, The existing trail system was built at great cost and the effort to build a new trail or rebuild an existing trail far exceeds the original construction cost; and

Whereas, More people are using the Wilderness Trail System and the Forest Service is dedicating fewer resources to trail maintenance and construction; and

Whereas, The Forest Service has responded to the challenge by closing facilities and summarily dropping trails from the system; and

Whereas, Concentrating more users on fewer miles of trail is not an acceptable solution and degrades the Wilderness experience for all; now therefore be it

Resolved, That Back Country Horsemen of Montana sends a letter to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Chief Forester in Washington, the Region One Supervisor, Hungry Horse, Glacier View, Rocky Mountain, Lincoln, Spotted Bear and Swan Ranger Districts, as well as to our Congressional Delegation in Washington, DC, requesting public input before dropping a trail from the system to ensure that the logic behind the closure is based on sound, scientifically-defensible rationale; and not budgetary constraint; whim or outside pressure.