LIMITED ENTRYWAY RESOLUTION,
BEARTOOTH BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMAN OF MONTANA

In the interest of safety for equine users of trails on public land in Region One and elsewhere we offer the following resolution:

WHEREAS, limited entryways accessing trails closed to motorized recreation but open to foot and equine travel are in many cases too narrow to be safely entered with saddle and pack stock;

WHEREAS, some limited entryways in current use, intended to admit equines but block motorized access, are of a design that equines are reluctant to traverse, and some include hazards such as barbed wire wrapped around posts or extending into the open area;

WHEREAS, such limited entryways lack uniformity, and though they may meet the minimum standard dimensions for the associated trail class, still do not accommodate safe stock passage.

WHEREAS, the safety of equine users and their animals would be better served with uniform limited entryway designs, no less, or greater inside clearance than 90” to accommodate an 8’ gate, to afford safe passage of loaded pack stock;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the U.S. Forest Service, Region One be encouraged to adopt a uniform limited entryway design standard for entryways capable of blocking most motorized access but allowing safe passage of loaded pack stock;

RESOLVED, that Backcountry Horsemen of Montana stands ready to assist Region One in creating a uniform design for limited entryways that block most motorized access but allow safe passage of loaded pack stock, and that it will furnish blue prints and photographs of proven designs;

RESOLVED, that the U.S. Forest, Region One be encouraged to install limited entryways built to this design at all trailheads that allow equines but prohibit motorized use;

RESOLVED, that Backcountry Horseman of Montana stands ready to assist in installation of such limited entryways;

RESOLVED, that the design of such limited entryways be made available to other regions of the U.S. Forest Service, to the Bureau of Land Management, to the Montana Department of Lands, and to Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks;

RESOLVED, that this resolution be conveyed by letter from the Montana state board, or board chairman of Back Country Horseman to each of the above agencies, along with design suggestions and pertinent photographs.
EXAMPLES OF BAD GATES/ENTRIES