



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Boise District Office

3948 Development Avenue

Boise, Idaho 83705

<http://www.id.blm.gov/offices/boise>



In Reply Refer To:  
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December 7, 2012

Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation  
Division of Management Services  
State and Federal Aid  
5657 Warm Springs Ave.  
Boise, ID 83716

Dear Grant Reviewers:

I am writing to register the Bureau of Land Management Boise District's (BLM) support for the Squaw Butte Back Country Horsemen (SBBCH) in their effort to apply for grant funds to purchase equipment for public land project work. The SBBCH has a proven record of project accomplishments on behalf of the BLM and Forest Service (USFS), ranging from motorcycle trail construction and maintenance to fence construction and removal. It is commendable that an organization, whose main focus is non-motorized recreation, has been willing to help agencies on projects that include the improvement of motorized trails.

The BLM hopes to utilize the SBBCH in a variety of future endeavors. Public lands provide high quality motorcycle, ATV, 4x4, equestrian, mountain biking, and pedestrian trail opportunities in a natural landscape setting within 40 miles of the Treasure Valley's urban and suburban developments. Recreational use in the area has increased dramatically over the past decade and one of BLM's highest priorities is the development and implementation of a travel management plan for Owyhee County, as required by the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009. Future project work could include fence construction/removal, trail and cherry-stem maintenance, overlook improvements, kiosk and sign installation, trail marking, staging area development, and visitor use monitoring. These projects are critical for protecting public land resource values while accommodating ever increasing recreational demands.

We believe the SBBCH has proven their ability to provide efficient and effective public land project assistance and support. Potential grant funds that further this organization's capability would go a long way towards sustaining Idaho's recreational opportunities.

Sincerely,  
/s/

James M. Fincher  
Boise District Manager