

---

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4011

---

State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2007 Regular Session

By Representatives Kessler, Warnick, Haler, Kretz, Hinkle, Orcutt, Newhouse, Lantz, McCune, Kristiansen, Haigh and B. Sullivan

Read first time . Referred to .

1            TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,  
2            AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
3            REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
4            UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5            We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
6            the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
7            represent and petition as follows:

8            WHEREAS, Recreational pack and saddle stock have historically used  
9            and ridden on trails both on public lands and the backcountry of these  
10           public lands; and

11           WHEREAS, In the past ten years, federal land managers have, for  
12           reasons not substantiated by scientific evidence or research,  
13           restricted or prohibited access to and the use of trails by  
14           recreational pack and saddle stock on those public lands; and

15           WHEREAS, A substantial number of these restrictions and  
16           prohibitions violate the National Environmental Policy Act because  
17           public hearings were not, and are not, held prior to enacting these  
18           restrictions and prohibitions; and

19           WHEREAS, Federal policies regarding management of public lands have

1 a profound impact on the well-being of the citizens of Washington, and  
2 changes to those policies should be conducted in an open public forum;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Backcountry Horsemen of Washington members contributed  
5 over 62,000 volunteer hours in 2005, maintaining many miles of trails  
6 for all users worth over \$1,000,000 in savings to taxpayers;

7 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully request that the  
8 Congress of the United States enact a law that: Preserves the use and  
9 access of pack and saddle stock animals on public lands, including  
10 wilderness areas, national monuments, and other specifically designated  
11 areas, administered by the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land  
12 Management, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, or the Forest  
13 Service where there is a historical tradition of such use, and for  
14 other purposes; directs, as a general rule, that all trails, routes,  
15 and areas used by such animals remain open and accessible for such use;  
16 and allows agencies to implement a proposed reduction in the use and  
17 access of pack and saddle stock animals on such lands only after  
18 complying with the full review process.

19 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
20 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United  
21 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the  
22 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of  
23 Washington.

--- END ---