



Emery County
Trail's Committee

August 5, 2025 8:00 AM



Attendance:

Welcome Chairman: Les Wilberg

1. Approval of Minutes: July 2025. Notes to change wording on a phrase from July minutes. Motion to approve minutes as corrected made by Brett, seconded by Terri. **Motion passed.**

2. Committee Members

• **Discussion of projects/events/concerns-**

Don reported working with the State Crew up Horse Canyon and Flood Canyon. They widened some spots and worked on other areas that had been washed out.

Terri mentioned some fallen trees up on Tow Head, she said that it would likely be easiest to access via the dam side, there has been a lot of sheep traffic in the area. She also shared details about the Summer bouldering camp for kids which has been a great success for local kids.

Brett presented some dates for work on the Sage Brush Bench airstrip, Aug 20 to survey and Sept 22-23 to start working with the equipment. The Backcountry fly-in will be Oct 11. They are expecting 70-80 planes and are looking forward to using the airstrip.

3. Discuss Reports of the Following:

a. BLM- Jaydon shared that this summer has had a lot of focus on planning projects including the Wedge project. They were able to go out to the Wedge and get some visuals on how the project would look, this also helped the engineering team to make some finalized adjustments. The final NEPA documents should become available in the next few weeks. The RMP amendments are now in the analysis phase which is a big undertaking and probably won't be ready till next spring. They've also been doing a lot of SRP permit processing and renewals, including a few regarding a Goblin Valley bike ride in November, some OHV tour groups, and off-road recovery. The TMP implementation is underway updating signs and getting maps finalized, the ECTB is applying for a grant to help fund the printing of these new maps. The Jurassic National Monument will not be closed this summer as construction has been delayed. The construction work is out for bid now. Construction should start next spring. Discussion on whether or not the quarry will be open during construction as well as the return on quarry bones. The Wilderness Conservation crew had one of their last hitches for the summer in late June/early July. They spent some time in the Wild Horse and Behind the Reef trail as well as following up on their previous work around Mexican Mountain. Projects seem to be holding up well. After losing all of the sign shop staff at the BLM, signs have been a hard thing to work on. They are looking into getting signs done locally. Discussion on the Red Seeps Trail signage and signs for Sagebrush Bench Airstrip. Discussion on needing more signs/trail-head education for Bell Canyon/Little Wild Horse loop, there was a recent incident of an individual getting dangerously lost in the area. Drew shared that last year they received 8 or 9 calls from people getting lost/turned around in that area. Discussion on a follow-up meeting between the BLM, and the State Parks to discuss some of these issues and what changes can be made in the future. Discussion on the condition of the Buckhorn Wash.

Jaydon also discussed some progressing parking projects for the boulderers, as well as working with the CCOHV to do a project on Devil's Racetrack. A rancher has placed a fence across the OHV cattle guard, so that will need to be mediated and cleaned up in order to clear up confusion and make sure people and cows stay where they're supposed to be.

Terri brought up the BLM & Public Lands Day at the end of September, MECCA will be working with the BLM on the Goodwater Trail.

Discussion on a dead cow up Cottonwood and improving parking for non-cattle related vehicles.

b. Forest Service- Les reported that the pinch point on the trail from Spoon Creek is being bypassed, it will need to be mediated. Discussion on working on Horn Mtn and also Red Pine near Lowry Water.

Josh reported replacing the old bridge on Dairy Trail with help from the Sage Riders. The concrete tables have been unloaded up Joe's Valley, and they were able to fix the mud holes on Hunter's Highway.

Discussion on two dedicated hunters wanting to go work on limb trimming around Mary's Lake.

Discussion on fire restrictions and the dry conditions on the mountain.

c. State Agencies- Tifnie reported having issues with people not following the fire restrictions in the parks. Water levels have stayed good. They're getting close to trail grooming season. Most of the employees are heading back to school but full-time staffing is full. Huntington will be holding a paddle board and moonbath event this month with the full moon.

d. Commission-

e. Travel Bureau and Public Lands- The ECTB applied for funding to print new maps, covers are done and just getting maps finalized before printing.

4. Adjourn.

Council - Les Wilberg, Terri Bennett, Rod Player, Don Bennett, Robin Hunt, Steven Jeffery, Kasey Morris, Brett White, Les Thompson

Staff – Keven Jensen, Jim Jennings, AnnDee Mead, Camie Bell

Next Trails Meeting: September 2, 2024

