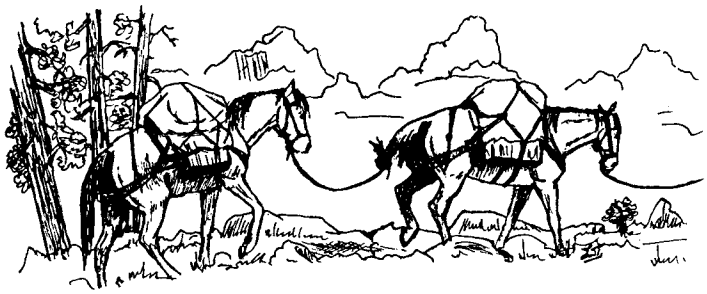

EXHIBIT 3
DATE 3/3/09
SB SJ 17

East Slope
Back Country Horsemen

SJ 17

February 5, 2009

Agriculture Subcommitee
Montana Senate and House of Representatives
Helena, Montana

I am here to represent the East Slope Back Country Horsemen (ESBCH) in support of the Joint Resolution of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the State of Montana Recognizing the important historical, cultural, and economic value of Horse Activities to the State of Montana.

Just as the Wilderness Act of 1964 recognizes the significance of the historical application of equine use, the State of Montana, for all the reasons specified in the resolution, should give consideration to that use when designing or improving roadways and planning facilities in regard to parks and trails.

The Back Country Horsemen, founded in Montana in 1973, and now having a presence in 25 states, are the greatest contributor of volunteer labor to the Forest Service in our Nation. This resolution would recognize the continuing value of equine use in our ever expanding construction and maintenance of this States infrastructure.

Thank you for your consideration of this resolution.

East Slope Back Country Horsemen
Merlyn Huso, State Director

East Slope Back Country Horsemen
307 North Main
Conrad, MT 59425

Our purpose is to prepetuate enjoyable common sense use of horses in the back country; assist government agencies in maintenance and management of the resources, and educate, encourage and solicit active public participation in wise and sustaining use of horses, commensurate with our heritage and the back country resource.