

Eastern Idaho Climbing Coalition meeting January 14, 2025 6:30pm Goody's, Pocatello

Board members in attendance:

Vernon Phinney, Thierry Legrain, Troy Nue, Adam Grant, Jack Brennan, Brenna Miller, Mike Krumberger, Bryce Walker (ISU Climbing Club rep)

EICC members in attendance:

Present: Lisa Kusco (founding member), Shaun Johnson (Pocatello)

On Zoom Call: Deven Lewis (IF), Wyatt Holmes (IF)

NO previous meeting minutes available

Treasure's (J Brennan) report: ~\$4,356.76

No new information from CRAG (Mike Engle-EICC rep) - (City of Rocks)

New Board Members were brought on board to potentially replace current board members intending to retire from the board in 2025. Wyatt Holmes, Deven Lewis, & Shaun Johnson were unanimously voted to the board by current board members present at the meeting.

Discussion was then moved to the recent meeting with Matt Miller (Senior Attorney @ Texas Public Policy Foundation) & Ben Burr (BRC, Blue Ribbon Coalition). Matt Miller & Ben Burr came to Pocatello and with EICC members did a walk-about at Massacre to insure a clear understanding of issues with the current BLM Record of Decision (ROD). Matt Miller stated he has reviewed the ROD and methodology used in finalizing the document. Miller stated that there are several discrepancies in the method used and stated that he believed it would be worthwhile to bring this to a federal court judge (Bannock County) for review. Miller also stated that NO hardware should be removed from BLM/BOR climbing crags as this would minimize impact in federal court. Miller stated that representation/support from a local climbing organization and local climbers would be beneficial in court. Miller is in the process of presenting this concern to the TPPF for approval (TPPF currently has 103 staff members).

Specifically:

- 1) NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) were not followed as required by BLM doctrine.
- 2) NO portion of submitted alternative plans were assimilated into any portion of the plan submitted by the BLM.
- 3) Of the hundreds of comments submitted none were incorporated into the ROD.
- 4) Power County requests were totally ignored & Power County was not involved with the final ROD.

Pros to support the TPPR & BRC process:

- 1) No financial assistance is required from the EICC

- 2) Massacre ROD/litigation can and will be used in regulating future federal public lands – we need to insure proper process.
- 3) Constitutional rights appear to have been violated (not following proper BLM procedures/NEPA, etc.
- 4) NO consideration was taken into account in the current ROD for climbing on BLM/BOR lands within the Massacre climbing boundaries.

CONS:

- 1) EICC will most likely be required to have representation at the Bannock County Federal Judge court.
- 2) EICC will most likely need to present documentation showing areas of concern not properly represented in the ROD.

EICC board voted unanimously to support current TPPF & BRC efforts in moving forward with appeals to negate the current BLM ROD. Thierry stated he will submit a letter to TPPF & BRC indicating support.

Crag Cleanup for 2025: May 10, 2025; Pointless Crag

Pocatello Pump 2025: Raffle a rope & crash pad (supports new membership & involvement)

Route Maintenance 2025: Massacre Rocks, Eagle Wall & Red Light District Crag, date??

Climbing movie presentation February 2025: Brenna Miller organizing event – details coming

Idaho Mountain Festival: (June 5-8th), IMF requesting EICC have a table present (will allow one EICC member free access to event?). Looking for EICC members to help with this activity.

EICC meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.