

## Letter Regarding Fee and Policy Changes at MHHS

January 15, 2008

Thank you for your interest in the trek program at the Mormon Handcart Historic Site (Martin's Cove and Willie Center/Sixth Crossing). We note you have scheduled a trek for 2008 or beyond. Numerous lives have been blessed while participating in treks. It is our job to support you as priesthood leaders in carrying out the trek with your youth. We will do all we can to assist you in assuring that the experience for your youth is safe and meaningful.

We also have been given the responsibility of preserving the site in its natural and beautiful state. It is our charge to assure that the ecological health of the area is as it was when the pioneers passed this way many years ago so that future generations can have the experience so many are having today.

Unfortunately we have more groups wanting to participate than we can realistically accommodate and still preserve the site. The ongoing heavy use is beginning to take a toll and we are beginning to note grass deterioration, blowing sand, etc. In particular the month of June is very important for grass regrowth.

Also we have tried to keep the cost of the treks low and have subsidized some of the expenses of the treks by providing the carts and other amenities at no cost. It is our desire to continue to keep the treks affordable; however, given the large number of treks we are now experiencing a substantial annual cash outlay. In the future more of the costs of the treks will need to be covered by the trek groups.

The changes needed to address these issues are outlined on the back of this letter.

We apologize for the necessity of these changes and hope that they will not seriously disrupt your plans for treks. Please let us know if we can assist you in anyway.

Thank you,

Elder Lee S. Longson, Director, Mormon Handcart Historic Sites

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul C. Genho". The signature is stylized with a large initial "P" and "G".

Paul C. Genho, President, Farmland Reserve Inc.

## New Policies for Mormon Handcart Historic Sites

1. Beginning in 2009 there will be a \$15.00 charge per person for treks, including support personnel. Treks scheduled for 2008 will pay a reduced fee of \$5.00 per person, due to short notice.
2. Reservations may be made no more than 2 years in advance to allow for necessary adjustments due to changes in weather, ecological needs, BLM policy, etc.
3. We will accommodate all existing reservations made for 2008.
4. We hope to honor all existing reservations made for 2009 and years beyond but can not at this time guarantee any previously made reservations. It will be NECESSARY for you to confirm your reservation at the beginning of the year two years prior to your trek.
5. June trekking and camping may need to be reduced in the future depending on campground degradation.
6. The rules such as staying designated trails and staying out of off limit areas must be followed so as not to jeopardize the use of this valuable resource.