



THE HIGHLIGHT

Summer 2011 Edition ★ A quarterly newsletter of the Back Country Horsemen of Oregon

Inside

Letter from the Editor	2
Member Memos	3
Activity Reports	4
Saddle Fitting	6
Albany Horse Fair & Expo	6
Firearm Safety Class	7
Sam Brown Horse Camp	8
Featured Ride	9
PCT Meal	9
Cody's Corner	10
Winter Convention Minutes	12
Public Lands Report	15
Nationals Summary	16
Calendar	18
Member Application	19



PURPOSES of BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN of OREGON

To **PERPETUATE** the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness areas.

To **WORK** to insure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use.

To **ASSIST** the various government, state, and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.

To **EDUCATE**, encourage and solicit active participation in the use of the back country resource by stock users and the general public commensurate with our heritage.

TO **FOSTER** and encourage the formation of new state organizations and BCHA.

Letter from Editor

Hello! My name is Kelsey Ivey and I am the new editor-in-chief and designer for *The Highline*.

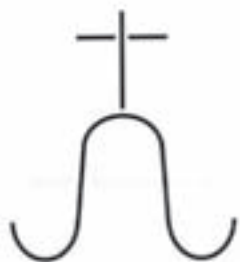
While I am not an Oregon native, I have over of the past five years come to love everything that is this fine state. From its beautiful lush valleys and flowing rivers to the high, snow top mountains of the Cascades, and endless rolling plains, Oregon offers exciting outdoor activities balanced with serene back country and nature. I am an avid explorer, by foot and two wheels and hopefully here soon more by hoof; but my true love is writing. I graduated from the University of Oregon School of Journalism in 2010 with my Bachelors degree, where I was a writer and designer for Ethos Magazine. I currently work part time for Travel Lane County in Eugene as the Tourism and PR Coordinator and in my spare time I write a blog, *The Joyful Shoehorn*.

I am excited for this new position and hope to withhold *The Highline's* position as a wonderful resource and community outlet to all of the Oregon members. In this edition you will see that we have switched up the design and reorganized the material into business and editorial based articles. In future editions look forward to new editorial material including a quarterly featured ride, member business, and recruiting resources. The next edition is scheduled to print in October, so also expect some amazing stories from this summer's work parties and trail rides.

Finally, the new design of *The Highline* is a living and changing document. My aim is to make the newsletter as useful to its members as possible, so if you have any questions, comments or would like to feature your writing or photography in the next edition of *The Highline*, please contact me at kelseyivey@yahoo.com.

Thank you for this wonderful opportunity and I hope to meet many of you soon.

~Kelsey Ivey



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Member Memos

"As many of you know, Marlene Orchard fractured her knee on April 21. The order of the day is to allow healing as is, even though there is damage to the joint. Sometime this fall a replacement joint will be installed. In the mean time she continues on crutches and sometimes other modes of mobility. This is her new mule Cricket's first grooming."

By *Del Orchard*



"A big thank you goes out to Danny Wright, the owner of McKenzie Feed, for her continued support of Back Country Horsemen of Oregon. This year's donation raised over \$110. Danny really goes above and beyond for our trails and ability to use those trails."

By *Becky and Matt Hope*

"Members of the Columbia Gorge Chapter lost a long time member and very dear friend, Fred Wolchik. He lost his battle with cancer on Christmas Day. A Celebration of Life Ceremony was held June 4th at the Gorge Club next to the Hood River Best Western. The trails and camp fires are not going to be the same without you Fred."

By *Lynn Moore*



"Thank you to Outfitters Supply for their annual donation to the state organization of Back Country Horsemen of Oregon. This year they donated two 18" Oregon hand saws and scabbards for auction items each bringing in nearly \$100. Thanks Outfitters Supply for your support."

By *Beck and Matt Hope*

"Members of the Columbia Gorge Chapter went over safety rules with the Forest Service Supervisors before they started to work at the Cyrus Springs Horse Camp on May 21. At the camp, we cleaned the fire pits and manure pile, and brushed and cleaned the newly-laid water pipe area. Since we have all metal corrals, the up keep is a lot easier."

By *Lynn Moore*



Activity Reports

Emerald Empire Chapter

This was another great year for our chapter. We had 24 memberships, family and singles. Emerald Empire participated in 897 hours of community services including education, public meetings, administrative work and travel time.

We drove our vehicles for 9,505 miles and hauled stock for 12,587 miles. One hundred and ten head of stock were used for 1,832 hours.

Some of the projects worked on this year include:

- The Pre Solve Beach Cleanup, where 22 people participated for 129 hours with 23 head of stock.
- The Adoption of the Pacific Crest Trail section for 2011, which included packing in and out multiple times for week long projects totaling 261 hours.
- The NWYC "Play in the Rain Day," packing trainings, and LNT training for 258 hours.
- Betty Jean Keale attended 24 hours of public meetings.

East Cascades Chapter

The chapter as of December 31, 2010 had 23 single memberships and 28 family memberships. The volunteer logged a total of 2100 miles and the hours were divided as follows:

- 72.5 hours of basic work
- 57.5 hours of skilled work
- 24 hours using power equipment
- 69 hours traveling
- 8 hours of LNT

Members participated in five work parties including Silver Creek Marsh/Antler trail/Mt. Hagar Trail, Cultus Corral trails, Corral Swap/Metolius-Windigo trails, Todd Creek Hourse Camp/Metolius-Windigo trails, and the Metolius-Windigo at Lucky Lake. Additionally the chapter participated in events including the Central Oregon Sportsmen Show, St. Judes Benefit Ride/OET, the Wild Horse Count/Ochoco, the Wild Trails Horse Expo, and the Cascades Lakes Relay/ Night Ride.

Sourdough Chapter

For 2010 the Sourdough Chapter focused on three main projects to improve the trails, camps and community. Members drove for a total of 7,892 miles and hauled stock for 431 miles, completed 332 hours of travel time.

- The projects the chapter worked on included:
- Maintaining and repairing the Sam Brown

Horse Camp

- Installing fire ring and building corral units.
- Helped to build trails at Forks State Park and lay trail routes
- Provided labor and expertise for the construction of the bridge over a ravine and built manure bins for the trailhead
- Participated in Heritage days and Pioneer Days at the Kerbyville Museum and History Center

The volunteer hours were divided as follows:

- 210 hours of skilled work
- 352 hours of trail work
- 26 hours of education
- 31 hours of public meetings
- 131 hours of administration

High Desert Trail Riders Chapter

The chapter has a total of 133 members including 41 singles and 46 families. Throughout the year the members have volunteered their time through work parties, public meetings, education sessions and trail rides for 832.5 chapter hours. The volunteer hours were divided as follows:

- 153 hours of basic work
- 163 hours of skilled work
- 2298.25 education/LNT hours
- 23 hours using power equipment
- 68 hours of public meetings

Members drove their personal vehicles for a total of 10,127 miles and hauled stock for 1,650 miles. Forty three stock were used for 44 stock days.

Some of the projects the High Desert Trail Riders worked on this year include:

- Building two manure bins at Gerber Lake
- Horse Camp
- Cleared the Rye Spur Trail
- Cleared garbage in the Yamsay Mountain recreation area from the Antler Trailhead.
- Fence an eight acre pasture for the rescue horses of Project Spirit.

West Cascades Chapter

As of February 1, 2011 the chapter had 46 members, 14 family and 18 single. The meeting location changed from Almost Home Restaurant to Elmer's Pancake House. The dinner is at 6pm and the meeting at 7pm. Volunteers worked hard logging a total of 62.5 stock days and traveling 22,044.5 vehicle miles. The volunteer hours were divided as follows:

- 267.5 hours of basic work

- 638 hours of skilled work
- 425.5 education/LNT hours
- 111.5 hours using power equipment
- 36.4 hours using heavy equipment

The West Cascades BCHO is hosting the State Ride in July. The ride is schedule for July 14 – 17, 2011. More information to come.

Steens Chapter

In spite of the weather, a few of us have managed to meet twice for rides south of Burns. We have miles and miles of good two-track options near our place at Harney Lake, so give us a call if you really want to get your horses out and moving.

We have been moving along with local project setup and trail identification, but if you have ride suggestions or projects just call President John.

Joaquin Miller campground is schedule for a major revamp, thanks to Rob St. John having sought and obtained a grant. The money will provide the necessary materials and with cooperation from local agencies and BCH volunteers; it could be a reality before July 1.

We are also encouraged by the progress being made on designating circular trails within the Steens Mountain area. We are hoping to get out on the ground with BLM specialists once conditions allow in order to put the proposed trails to the test and identify mapping needs. Work toward improving equine trailheads on North Steens and off the Alvord is ongoing, but exact locations for these sites have not been resolved. We have been attending as many SMAC meetings as possible and remain in contact with several council members.

Once these public land trails are marked and mapped, we will work with local Chamber of Commerce to create a brochure for local horse recreation destinations.

Tentative rides include:

- Steens trails review with BLM specialists, late June if conditions allow
- North Fork John Day Wilderness, early July – hosted by Rena Winfrey
- Labor Day weekend out of South Steens Campground

2011 projects include:

- Installing new corrals at Joaquin Miller
- Trail identification and work at Joaquin Miller
- Trail work on Steens



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Saddle Fitting

"Thanks to Don Howard for helping to eliminate our best friends' pain by teaching and measuring saddles for the Emerald Chapter of BCHO"

The saddle fitting lecture taught by Don Howard was attended by 49 folks with 18 horses measured and two receiving chiropractic treatment. Of the approximately 30 saddles measured, five really fit, five were passable, and the rest didn't work for the horses. Additionally because of the clinic four new members join and we made \$196.

For myself, my BFO (Blinding Flash of the Obvious) was cinch placement. Matt's saddle fit his horse, Timber, perfectly according to the numbers, however he was still getting white marks. Placing the saddle on the horse, it became obvious that the cinch needed to be one position forward because where it was caused the saddle to pull into Timber's shoulders as the cinch settled, leaving the white spots.



The lecture and measurement course was also a wonderful opportunity to see so many saddles and hear everyone's personal journeys. It really helped to round out the big picture.

Funny thing I heard was that 15.1 H Boo, who looks average, was actually wider than 16.1 H Red, who looks very round – looks can be deceiving.

Take Away: Pay attention to how your saddle fits your horse. Learn what a bad fit looks like and how the horse acts when the saddle is incorrect. A proper fitting saddle can make a big difference to how your horse behaves and responds.

By *Becky Hope*

Albany Horse Fair and Expo

In March 2011, the West Cascades chapter set up at a booth at the Albany Horse Expo. The booth was ten feet by 30 feet. On one end the LNT exhibit was set up by Becky Wolfe. The other displayed projects by the Emerald Empire and West Cascades chapters.

The pack barrel with trail clearing tools drew the attention of many, some just to look, others with questions and some just to reminisce. There were plenty of handouts available, BCHO, BCHA and LNT information. We used the \$20 first time discount signing up over 20 new and past members.

By *Jim Kitzhaber*, State Director, West Cascades Chapter

Firearm Safety Class for Equestrians

On May 21, 2011, Casey Hufstader hosted a firearm safety class for fifteen members of the EEBCHO chapter at a local arena in Elmira. Casey presented on how to properly carry a firearm safely on a horse or mule. The four hour session with hands on demonstrations and practical discussion covered over 30 firearms of different calibers. Casey emphasised the use of an appropriate firearm for each person needs and wants. Several of the students were mainly interested in their safety while in the woods and wanted a firearm for protection while others wanted a firearm they could use to put an animal down in an emergency. The class covered rifles, shotguns and hand guns. Casey demonstrated with each firearm the correct way to attach the holster or scabbard to their animal to provide safe and easy access for the rider. Several people in the class had the wrong conception on what to buy for their protection and others had too small of calibers to provide an adequate job for their safety or protection.

A live animal was used for the demonstration providing practical experience and visual emphasis on proper placement of the scabbard or holster. Casey ended the class by letting each student handle the firearms to find one that fit their hands and the scabbards and holsters to fit their saddles. Web sites and cost were also discussed. The class ended on a very positive note that another safety course had been provided to the chapter members.

By Phil Hufstader



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"Casey, Phil and Laurie Hufstader are very handy to have in our chapter. They have many years of experience and practice training. Beside their usual duties teaching packing and the "Leave No Trace" at the Klamath Falls Pack Clinic, they have taken on teaching a variety of other outdoor skills to chapter members. They work with kids at the NW Youth Corp "Play in the Rain" event in the fall and they continue to teach hunters education. At chapter meetings they teach rope tying, highlining, GPS, radio usage, map and compass. Additionally this year they organized a saddle fitting for 47 people taught by Don Howard as well as a Saturday clinic on safety for equestrians with guns."

~Becky and Matt Hope



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The snow finally melted and the road to Sam Brown Horse Camp opened from the Illinois Valley side. The Sourdough Chapter spent a day assessing the damage to the camp area caused by the fire from last fall, winter snow, and logging in the camp. It looks to be a very busy season. The chapter plans on spending at least one day a month cleaning up along with two four day campouts to get things in order again. Rails need to be replaced on corrals and gates installed. This year instead of building new wooden gates the chapter will be using chain because it cannot be removed then burned for firewood! Repairs are also needed on the round pen on the hill. The logging show did help with clearing out around the pen and it is much more open and accessible now. In the main camp the loggers left huge piles of slash in the camps. They were called out as the ground was too wet and they were tearing it up. They are supposed to come back and chip up the piles and haul it out for bio-mass fuel.

In each area logged, stumps from one foot to three feet were left. The chapter spent the day digging around the stumps and cutting them off at the ground level. It would be a real hazard on the shins to run into one of them in the dark! One good aspect of the logging is that there is now room to install three more camps after all the debris is cleared. Finally the chapter is also working on putting in some metal corrals to help cut down on the maintenance work.

By Susie Wood

Featured Ride: North Waldo Mountain Area

"Are you looking for a place to ride not over run by other trail users?"

Surrounded by beautiful lakes, the North Waldo Mountain area is a flourishing section of back country with a variety of loops to ride. Well up Salmon Creek road (FS Road 24) through the back of Oakridge, these trails are mostly northwest of Waldo Mountain. The road is paved for most of the way, turning to dirt and the trail heads have moderate room and are not overly crowded; however this area is in danger to be lost to horses simply from lack of use.

So what's the problem?

This trail is simply under used because of time and distance. Located about 1.5 hours from Eugene, the trail receives less attention from volunteers and the Forest Service to keep the trails clear and updated. Although the Forest Service did clear this area last year, logging out some of the trails, there is still many downed trees.

Once the snow melts, the North Waldo Mountain area will be a good day ride for packing and fishing in the lakes. Plan on bringing horse food because there are no meadows to speak of. The hunting in the area is likely good as well, but as I am not a hunter I don't know for sure. I recommend the Winchester Ridge trail (FS 3596) along to Swan, Gander and Gosling lakes then back along Forest Service Road 2417 to complete a satisfying loop. Salmon Lakes trail out to Waldo Meadows and Lower and Upper Salmon lakes is another trail to try. You can also loop up to Waldo Mt. from here, but the trail is very steep so it is better to go up and back on this trail.

Another loop to pack into is the Six Lakes trail (FS 3597) that runs along six pristine lakes, where you can drop in a fishing line, or loop around Chetlo Lake (FS 2583) and Winchester Ridge trail (FS 3596) to see a small amount of the Taylor Burn and North West corner of Waldo Lake. As with any trails in the woods and wilderness go with caution and use your head on any obstacles.

By Becky Hope

PCS Meal

In 2010 the Columbia Gorge chapter of BCHO was asked to participate in the Pacific Crest Trail Association's 2011 Trail Skills College by preparing breakfast and dinner on Saturday, April 16. Between attendees, instructors, volunteers and our group, we fed nearly 200 people.

Saturday was a typical wet and chilly spring day in Cascade Locks. Thirteen members of the chapter overlooked the drizzle, cold and four in the morning start time to pitch in. For breakfast we served buttermilk pancakes, scrambled eggs and sliced ham along with old fashion oatmeal and fresh fruit. Dinner was grilled burgers, veggie burgers, chili, veggie chili, potato salad and all the "fixins" to dress. Additionally each member brought two dozen homemade cookies for dessert - and not a single one was left.

No one went hungry with many coming back through the breakfast line to make sandwiches out of the pancakes and ham, putting them in their packs to take out on the trails that day. Everything that was left over was served on Sunday or donated to a work crew. Anything unopened was donated to charity.

I am so proud of all the folks who meal planned, shopped, beat eggs and batter, sliced ham, cooked and served. We made a great team!

We must have done a good job because our group has been asked to come back next year - and we must have had fun, because we said "yes!"

By Joy Senger



Cody's Corner

Hi, my name is Cody and I just turned 7 ½ and if you have been following my adventures, you know I have a lot of fun for my age. The good news is I like school and the bad news is my lawyer, Grandpa, has had to get me out of trouble with the school administration again. It all started when the principal decided that I was one of four advanced students in the grade school. To reward us, she invited us to attend the upcoming high school prom located two blocks away. The scam, as my lawyer called it, was to give the grade schoolers an opportunity to walk all the prom princesses out on the stage during an assembly to expose us to what we would be doing later in life. The object was for us to escort the ladies out then one of the princesses would be picked to be the prom queen for that weekend's dance. It took special permission from my parents and a letter releasing the school of all harm that I might cause to attend, which according to my Grandpa could have been a lot since they were allowing me to hang with an older lady.



Well, the day came and I dressed in full cowboy gear, including a wild rag that Grandpa said would drive the woman over a cliff. That morning the principal drove us over to the high school and introduced us to the princesses. The young lady I was assigned to took to me like skunk to cream – I think it was the wild rag that impressed her. We were the second couple to walk out on stage. I escorted her to a seat in the right side, front row, but as I pulled her chair out my foot slipped and I fell off the stage, landing on the floor behind the main curtain. Boy what a mess. People scrambling to find me, people yelling that I'd been kidnapped – or at least I hope that's what they were saying and not "the kid is a real sap." But then I remembered what

my grandpa always said, "try to make the best of the situation," so I crawled back under the stage and out the front, jumping back on stage like nothing happened. The principal grabbed me and asked if I was ok because I had a small cut on my arm. I told her it wasn't a problem and added for show, "it's a long way from my heart." However she was all worried and took me to the school nurse, followed by all the prom princesses. All the ladies were concerned about my health so what is a boy to do but sit back and take it all in. What a day – fame and women.

But the real adventure began when Grandpa picked me up from school and said we needed to get home ASAP. Dad was in the process of trimming several of the mule colts' feet and needed our help.

We arrived at the ranch when Dad was just starting one of the older mule's feet. He claimed he was waiting for us before starting the rank ones. Grandpa went to the barn and brought a young mule that would be trimmed next and tied him to the hitching rail just out of reach of the older one. Then he readied the leg ropes for the colt while Dad started the back feet of the older mule. Grandpa, holding a soft lariat in his hand, and I were standing there when this wild goose (the one I told you about in my last adventure) came flying by a head level. You should have seen it! Just as it went by Grandpa snaked out a loop and caught that old buzzard right over one wing and the back part of its body with his rope. Now things started getting interesting. With the goose squawking and flying circles above our heads, Dad was knocked to the ground by the mule he was working on and the colt reared back and broke his halter. What a mess.

Continued on page 17...



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BCHO Winter Convention Minutes

Valley River Inn, Eugene, OR
Saturday, March 5, 2011

Present

West Cascades
Emerald Empire
Sourdough
High Desert Trail Riders
Columbia Gorge
Paul Zerr, Rec Manager for Ferment Winema USFS

Treasurers Report by Laurie Hufstader
Shown on Overhead
Comments: Board approved the budget

Motion to Pass the proposed budget made by John Wainwright, seconded by CJ Cose. Motion passed.

Motion to Pass to keep the dues the same (\$35 for family, \$25 for single) for 2011 made by John Wainwright and seconded by Phil Hufstader. Motion passed.

Discounting dues discussed. Motion to pass: offer a \$20 show membership special to new members at State functions by George Johnson and seconded by Matt Hope. Motion carried with on nay.

National Directors: Phil Hufstader and Becky Wolf
National directors meeting held in Butte Montana on April 23-30, 2011

The National Bylaws Policies and Procedures will be revamped resulting in change of leadership. Their terms are up. As of Monday this will be finalized. New Policy and Procedure Manuals and History Manuals. The 2012 National Meeting will be held April 25-29 at the Valley River Inn in Eugene, Oregon.

Audit Committee: Laurie, John, George and Dell will do the audit

Membership by Susie Wood
Membership is down. Only 141 so far this year. None from Coos or Steen Chapters.

Paid memberships:
Sourdough 10 HDTRBCH 53 East Cascades 8
West Cascades 27 Emerald Empire 20 Columbia Gorge
18 Coos Bay 0 Defunct Pendleton 2

The question arose regarding how to get numbers back up and there will be a meeting in the morning to brainstorm this problem. Requesting written ideas on how chapters are dealing with this emphasizing the positive rather than the negative.

BCHO State Education Report

2011 Accomplishments:
• Participated in the BCHO vendor booth at the Pacific Northwest Sportsman Show in Portland, February 9-14. Creating more public awareness around the mission and

purpose of BCH and the organizations role in keeping trails open for all recreational trail users.

- Attended many USFS planning rule meetings, OHV Management Area meetings, Oregon State Park meetings for the proposed Cottonwood Canyon equestrian trails and horse camp, BLM Master Plan draft meetings, open house for the Molalla River Recreation Corridor, and Pacific Crest Trail Association meetings.

- 3rd Annual Trails Skills College in Cascade Locks, April 15-17. BCH taught saw certification classes and served breakfast and dinner to 200 participants this year. Logo on poster as sponsor and partner.

- Working on the New Trails Classification Process with Phil Hufstader.

- Displayed the LNT Wall tent at the Sportsman show in Redmond, March 10-13

- LNT/Educational area in the BCHO booth at the NW Horse Fair in Albany, March 17-20

- LNT Wall Tent at Klamath Falls pack clinic on May 6-8

- LNT Train the Trainer three day course in July at Cornucopia Lodge in the Eagle Caps.

Newsletter

The newsletter editor, Barbara is looking for a replacement. Phil is checking with the University of Oregon to facilitate this, but a coordinator is need between BCHO and University of Oregon.

Phil says there will be a working lunch break. A motion to pass was made by Phil to take care of the two speakers lunch cost. It passed.

Public Lands Report by Marlene Orchard

Marlene requested to step down from her duties as Public Lands Chairman. She told the directors that the Public Lands and Legislative committee is in essence two committees: Public Lands chaired by herself, after mentoring with Dan Applebaker and B.J. Gillis was the assistant. On the Legislation committee, Bart is the co-chair, mentored by Phil H. with Casey the person assisting. She reminded that each chapter should have their own Public Lands and Legislative person. You need to get a good relationship with the agencies and keep track of their meetings so to be informed and provide input.

Notes: Weed free hay or pellets will be required in all agencies. Vehicles need washed and horses hoofs brushed before entering state and federal land. Also the information coming through BJ and Peg, should be shared with your membership.

*See Following article for detailed Public Lands Report

Speaker: Isaac Daniel, Assoc. Regional Director for PCT
Isaac spoke mostly about the cooperation between

the Warm Springs Reservation and the PCT trail workers. This was the banner year for the PCT association with more than 104,000 hours logged thanks to many groups assistance, including BCH, Americore, Trail Warriors, and High Cascades trail volunteers. Twenty-nine trail weeks were spent in this area alone.

Policy on Patches

Instead of getting a new patch every 50 hours and having to take them off and sew on new ones, it will switch to giving a new patch. Jerry will e-mail the process as soon as he makes a few changes in the language. Move to Pass by Carole H to use the BCHW patch policy and seconded by Jim Hall. Move Passed.

Saw Certification

The Saw certification MOU is sitting on the desk of the interim Supervisor and will be the same as the one being used by the PCTA for cross cut and chainsaw certifications.

National 2012

Phil gave a report on the progress for the National BCHA meeting at the Valley River Inn. They are planning to have day trips to the High Desert Museum for the families, beach rides the Monday after the convention and before the packing clinic. They are also looking for auction items as National last year earned \$21,000 from the auction, which goes toward the State organization hosting the event. Wednesday will be Oregon's big night with Brenda Cordonnier heading the committee for preparations of the social event. Decorations will be pure Oregon with 20 round tables with clay centerpieces. Brenda will make hors d'oeuvres for \$300. It has been arranged with the VRI to allow outside food.

Travel Lane County will provide DVDs as well as busses and tour guides. We will need staff outside to help with signups. Thursday night folks will be on their own, but Saturday is the dinner and auction. Need to check with local agencies to see who will be attending. Betty asked to get an approximate count of how many will attend the Pack Clinic. Outfitters Supply Station will be the only vendor. He will cut prices and give a percentage back to BCHO. A Waddie Mitchell look-alike poet will perform Wednesday night. After Butte Montana National meeting, flyers will be sent out and info will be available on web page. Marlene suggested a special auction for a table of ultra exotic Oregon cuisine. George suggested the Cowboy Tree restaurant for the time between Eugene and Klamath.

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Public Lands Report

August 8, 2010 to March 5, 2011

By *Marlene Orchard*

United States National Forest

Federal: Planning Rule – Pacific Northwest Region, 6–8am on March 25, 2011 Sheraton Portland Airport. Final written comments due May 16, 2011. www.fs.usda.gov/planningrule

Local: Trail Classification System Monitoring by forest and district to comply with the BCHA lawsuit so that the classification numbering system is the same across the USNF and no loss of trails for pack and saddle stock without NEPA or Forest Supervisor Letter showing the recorded change in the trail classification number for trail maintenance or management. Phil Hufstader, BCHO National Director is the coordinator for Oregon with help from each chapter.

Recreational Trails Program: House Transportation Committee hearings on next highway bill. 30% RTP funds on non-motorized projects like equestrian trails, 30% motorized, 40% multiuse projects. February 21 was hearing in Vancouver, Washington. American Horse Council working to pass bill in Congress.

Bureau of Land Management (BLM): Weed Free Hay required on all public lands in the USA. Feed (pelletized or certified weed-free hay), Vehicles (wash trucks and trailers) and Livestock (brush and clean hooves) before going into the wildland and backcountry <http://oregon.gov/ODA/PLANT/WEEDS>

Effective now placing of signs. February 2, 2012 effective date for the public. Providers in Oregon call 503-986-4620 or http://oregon.gov/ODA/CID/weed_free_forage.shtml

Oregon State Parks: New Park– Cottonwood Canyon State Park to open 2013 off I-84 near Wasco, Oregon on Hwy 206. Buying land from Western Rivers Conservancy and including JS Burres State Park managed by the BLM. <http://cottonwoodcanyon.wordpress.com/maps/>

Wildlife Refuges– Fee parking, is it legal? Can equestrians ride on refuges in your area? Seasonal use?

Encouraged by public input HDTR–BCH had first ride with support of refuge staff. Get involved with Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuges comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) & Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) working for a decision spring 2013. Check your own areas for interesting public land riding areas.

Announced by **The Department of Interior** Free Fee Days for 2011– National Park Week (April 16–24); The First Day of Summer (June 21); National Public Lands Day (September 24); The Weekend of Veterans Day (November 11 and 12) www.nps.gov/findapark/feefreeparks.htm

Oregon Horse Country: First year review– request continuing membership. Participate in HOOOF BEATS parade June 4, 2011 Wilsonville, Oregon www.WilsonvilleChamber.com or www.oregonhorsecountry.com 503-682-3314; Or join a travel experience Shades of Ireland featuring equestrian riding opportunities on the Emerald Isle September 18 to 28, 2011.

Trail Organization looking for help (money or time): North Santiam Economic Development Corporation working to develop trails with the Department of Forestry in Lyons, Oregon. Contact Jahn and Sheila Hoover Sheila@itwtrailrides.com Pacific Crest Trail Association (pcta.org); The Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail (www.pnt.org); Corvallis to the Coast (C2C.org); The Wilderness Society “Wild Riders” partnership with BCHA contact Dennis Dailey SeniorAdvisor@backcountryhorse.com; Western Slope No-Fee Coalition contact kitty@westernslopenofee.org

The Oregon Department of Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC)–Process of Placing **Portland General Electric Transmission** Lines–National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)–citizen involvement for better informed decisions. Scoping Comments ended July 27, 2010 Equine questions about riding on easements not addressed nor answered as 64% privately owned land is crossed. Other federal agencies said established trail crossings to be maintained.

Mt Hood National Forest Off Highway Vehicle Management Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood/projects Modified Alternate 3 selected, August 16, 2010; disk provided.

Questions?

Why were the corrals and stock holding areas cut down at Moon Meadows in the Umatilla NF?

Answer: Ukiah district office of Umatilla NF said they owned the facilities that were historically used by sheep ranchers. In the summer of 2010 a crew cut down the corrals as reported to Del Orchard and Jerry Bentz November 2010.

Is BLM doing a land grab by placing land in the wildland classification?

Answer: By Dennis Dailey BCHA Senior Advisor for wilderness, recreation and trails. January 20, 2011 letter sent to Sourdough Chapter. Paper copy presented to Carole Hopkins BCHO Secretary.

National Director Report

Butte, Montana

By *Phil Hufstader*

This year's National Directors' Conference was held in Butte, Montana at the end of April. The meeting was attended by twenty-six BCHA states and two affiliates. The meeting was spent nominating new board members, adapting a new policy and procedures manual, trail classification system review and each state's update on urgent issues. Casey and Phil Hufstader and Becky Wolf represented Oregon's delegation. Matt and Becky Hope also attended all the meetings.

Review of issues covered at 2011 BCHA National Board Meeting:

As of this meeting, BCHA has 12,880 members, which is 58 members less than last year. In the past 15 years BCHA members have volunteered an accumulated value of time worth \$51 million to the public agencies. The year 2010 accounted for \$7.5 million.

The new BCHA Business Plan was adapted, thus setting in motion the filling of positions for an Executive Board made up of the BCHA officers and five additional people.

Region-6 Crosscut & Chain saw certifications MOU have been completed and will be signed in the near future. Nationally the Crosscut & Chain Saw certification has been transferred to the USFS Recreation under Jim Bedwell's section. Mr. Bedwell was present at the meeting and discussed the importance of this issue. With lack of trail funds, more volunteers are going to be needed. He wants all Federal barriers reduced as much as possible to volunteers. Mr. Bedwell has assigned J. Stevens as the lead out of Washington DC.

Dennis Daily updated Trail Classification issues. Questions and instructions on the BCHA web site.

Oregon and Idaho lead the states in the development of the TCS information, several haven't started yet. Oregon was noted as the primary leader in developing the trail classification process on how to deal with the USFS.

• NOTE: USFS has stated that only 21% of funding will be available for any action on their trails system this next fiscal on the entire USFS trail system.

The BCHA Education Committee is looking for two students to attend 9-Mile LNT Master course in 2012. If any Oregon chapter has any interested delegates, submit the e-mail to the BCHA Education Chair for consideration.

NBM had several guest speakers from three public agencies: Jim Bedwell for USFS, Brad Rixford for BLM, and John Keck for NPS. They spoke on upcoming forest plan issues, security for tourist visiting parks, wild

horse issues and the lack of funding for all agencies. Mr. Bedwell recognized the BCHA as one of the most "enlightened clients" the USFS has. He was very impressed with the 2010 BCHA report of 350,000 hours at a value of \$7.5 million.

• NOTE: Mr. Bedwell had a personal volunteer experience with USFS regulations dealing with trying to obtain an ORV certification.

In 2011 a new conservation corp will be established within the USFS, more information to come later this summer on the issue.

USFS Purposed Planning Rule is in its final review. Public comments will close May 16 with a release of the document the end of 2011.

A major change for the BCHA partnership: Rick Potts has moved from the Director of NPS over to a duty station with FFW.

Resolutions Adopted:

- East Coast of Florida accepted as a state.
- South Dakota accepted as a state with one chapter.
- One year plan for Executive Director position.
- Committee was established for the 2014 BCHA 40th anniversary NBM.
- NBM moved to a location with major airline hub.

If you want to order anything from Cabala's on-line, you can go to BCHA web site and follow the link to Cabala's sight. If you order any item 9% will be donated to the BCHA general fund by Cabela's.

If you need any further details please contact your chapter's state director representative, if they attended the Board meeting in Klamath Falls they were provided a detailed report. If you still have questions contact one of BCHO directors.



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Cody's Corner continued...

Grandpa, who was flying this goose like a kite, yelled for Dad to help him so the goose didn't get hurt. Reeling the goose in, they finally got it trapped on the ground. Yet the old mule was standing all four legs spread eagle around the hitching rail and the colt was plumb gone. Taking the rope off the goose, Dad walked up to Grandpa, who said "maybe I shouldn't have done that." Dad blew up and yelled two inches from Grandpa's face, "Do you think?"

You could have cut the air with a chain saw until Grandpa said "It was a hell of a catch though." Dad walked off muttering under his breath that the old coot would be the death of him yet and if he would have pulled a stunt like that growing up, his butt would have been red.

Dad caught the colt and tried to bring it back but it didn't want a thing to do with him. Grandpa, with a goose under his arm motioned me over and we headed for the barn. Grandpa informed me that Dad was going through a change of life and would see the humor for it in the morning as long as we laid low for awhile.

On the way to the barn Grandpa filled me in on how he was really trying to thank him for helping train his colt instead of getting upset. Dad did admit later that the old coot, as he now called him, had made on hell of a catch, but now he was going to have to watch him like a hawk. I figured that meant he was going to watch him to see if he could learn how to rope like that.

The next day Grandpa picked me up from school and told me Grandma and Dad were gone so he figured it would be a good opportunity to teach me how to shoot the neighbors chickens through the picket fence with my BB gun, so that they wouldn't get in Grandpa's garden. Something about every kid needs to have a little fun supervised by a good lawyer. Well until next time, have a safe ride.

~Cody

By Phil Hufstader

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East Cascades Event Calendar

July

9 Ogden
10 Work Party
14-17 State Ride at Big Meadows Camp-ground
22-24 Wild Trails Horse Expo
29-31 Strawberries: hosted by John and Val Wainwright

Aug

5 Cascade Lakes Relay Security Ride
13 Work Party
14 Broken Top Loop from Todd Creek Horse Camp
18-21 Desolation Unit Campout hosted by Pendleton Chapter
19-21 Pack Trip to James Creek Shelter
27 Mt. Washington

Sept

10 Lapine State Park Day Use. Potluck to follow, hosted by Nancy Thurston

Emerald Empire Activity Schedule

July

2-3 Willamette Pass/PCT Trail work
8-10 PCT Pengra Pass
16-17 Camp at Divide Lake trail, work on PCT/Yoran Lake trail
14-17 State Ride Big Meadows Horse Camp
28-31 LNT Training Eagle Cap North Minam Meadows

September

7-8 Staying overnight with PCT Pack-in equipment N. Diamond Peak, near Summit Lake
14 Chapter Meeting, 7pm
24 State meeting in Eugene

October

12 Chapter meeting, 7pm

November

9 Chapter meeting, 7pm

December

14 Christmas Party



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Total Enclosed: _____

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MAIL your application to Susie Wood, PO Box 362, O'Brien, Oregon 97534
541-596-2488 jswood@frontiernet.net

Liability Release: Recognizing the fact that there is a potential for an accident wherever horse use is involved, which can cause injuries to horses, riders and spectators, and also recognizing that Back Country Horsemen of Oregon, Inc., including its chapters, officers, directors and /or members cannot know the condition of trails or the experience of riders or horses taking part in trail rides or other Back Country Horsemen of Oregon functions, I do hereby release Back Country Horsemen of Oregon, Inc., its officers, directors and members from any claim or right for damages which might occur to me, my minor children or horses.

Signed _____ Date _____

Signed _____ Date _____

*Must be signed by all chapter members 18 years and older.

Dues are not deductible as charitable contributions for income tax purposes.

Dues may be considered ordinary and necessary business deductions.

New___ Renewal___ (Please check)

BCHO website www.bcho.org/chapterlocations.htm

Columbia Gorge BCH
Becky Wolf
32126 S. Wright Road
Mollala, OR 97038
(503) 829-2694
wolfden@spiritone.com

Coos BCH
Tom Sibold
45275 Hwy 242
Myrtle Point, OR 97458
541-572-2764
isibold@aol.com

East Cascades BCH
George Johnson
50674 Deer Forest Rd.
LaPine, OR 97739
(541) 536-1685
gbjhomestead@q.com

Emerald Empire BCH
Betty Jean Keele
33485 Hampton Road
Eugene, OR 97405
(541) 747-3916
bjkeele@epud.net

High Desert Trail Riders BCH
Cheryl Dryer
2821 Foothills Blvd.
Klamath Falls, OR, 97603
541-883-7524
graymare@charter.net

North Umpqua BCH
Janet Miller
1021 Oakley Road
Roseburg, OR 97471
(541) 440-0450
trailgaits@hotmail.com

Sourdough BCH
Susie Wood
P.O. Box 362
O'Brien, OR 97534
(541) 596-2488
jswood@frontiernet.net

Steens BCH
John O'Connor
PO Box 471
Hines, OR 97738
(541) 678-3502
ooconnor@highdesertair.com

West Cascade BCH
Jim Kitzhaber
P.O. Box 487
Mill City, OR 97360
(503) 897-3369
kitz@wvi.com

Back Country Horsemen of Oregon

c/o Laurie Hufstader

PO Box 543

Veneta, OR 97487

(541) 935-2176

Upcoming Events

BCHO State Ride

Big Meadows Horse Camp

July 15-17

WCBCO is having an overnight campout at Santiam Lake on Friday, July 15. Plan on leaving Big Meadows Camp around 2 p.m. and being back Saturday, July 16 in time for the evening feast. For those interested in this campout, please contact Ron Marshall with your name, phone number and email address. It's important to have an accurate count of who's going so please RSVP. Also anyone who can supply a pack animal, please let Ron know.

Located about 80 miles southeast of Salem, 55 miles northwest of Bend and 90 miles northeast of Eugene off Highway 22. Turn east on Big Meadows Road (2267) between mile posts 75 and 76.

Continue 1 mile, turn left on Road 2257 and drive 0.5 mile to the horse camp. The road is paved all the way to the horse camp.

Ron Marshall (503) 390-1812
rumsjm@yahoo.com

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July 28-31, 2011

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