



# The Highline

A tri-annual newsletter of the Back Country Horsemen of Oregon

November 2016

## Intent and Interpretations of the 1964 Wilderness Act

Submitted by: Dennis Dailey



I commend Mr. Bradt for his eloquent defense of traditional wilderness management practices in his letter to the editor regarding the recent article "A Study of Crosscut Saws or Power Saws for Trail Clearing." However, there is also another legitimate perspective. When is it appropriate to use motorized tools and how does a manager determine what constitutes the 'minimum necessary' has been a major topic of debate dating back to the initial formulation of the first Forest Service wilderness management policy. Richard Costley, Director of Recreation for the Forest Service, responsible for convening the team that drafted the original policy, described the process as "we tussled – argued – wrangled – and as I remember it, the material in the first drafts was pretty well larded with weasel words ... in our threshing, we did establish some additional very important rationalized premises, such as – relative cost, efficiency or convenience were not to be over-riding considerations in making decisions. ... Looking back now

I'm suspect that we probably reached [these] judgements [sic] because we simply couldn't come up with agreement ... and probably wouldn't be able to agree on language to describe it." (Speech at a Region 9 Wilderness Seminar, in 1976) If the team that established the Forest Service policy couldn't agree, it should not come as a surprise that wilderness advocates, both Forest Service employees and private citizens, might differ in their opinions as to the intent of the law fifty years later.

In 2004, I had an opportunity to address Back Country Horsemen of Oregon at a wilderness symposium. The topic on the agenda that preceded mine was "Principles of Wilderness Management" and was organized around the chapter of the same name in the classic book "Wilderness Management" by Hendee, Stankey and Lucas. The presenter was none other than Dan Applebaker.

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## **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.

# **Come to a meeting and make a difference...**

### **Columbia Gorge Chapter**

Meets: The 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Hood River Saddle Club, 4384 Belmont Dr Hood River OR 97031

Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. Please confirm meeting with contact.

Contact: Joy Senger at columbiagorge@bcho.org

### **East Cascades Chapter**

Meets: The 2nd Monday of every month at the Black Bear Diner, 1465 NE 3rd St., Bend OR meeting starts at 6:30 p.m.

Contact: Buck Davis, eastcascades@bcho.com

### **Emerald Empire Chapter**

Meets: the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Utility District building, 33733 Seavey Lp Road, Eugene, OR 97405 at 7:00 p.m.

Contact: Emily Elias, emeraldempire@bcho.org

### **High Desert Trail Riders Chapter**

Meets: The 2nd Tuesday of each month at Elmers 3030 South 6th Klamath Falls, OR at 7:00 p.m.

Contact: Jim Icenbice, jimicenbice@retiredhorseman@gmail.com

### **North Umpqua Chapter**

Meets: The 3rd Thursday of the month at the Douglas County Courthouse, 1020 Oakley Road, Roseburg, OR 97471 in Room #317 at 7:00 p.m.

Contact: Janet Miller, northumpqua@bcho.org

### **Sourdough Chapter**

Meets: The third Saturday of the month at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 150 Lewis Court, Cave Junction.

6:00 p.m. in the winter and at 7:00 p.m. in the summer

Contact: Dick Butler, sourdough@bcho.org

### **Steens Chapter**

Meets: As needed! Please confirm meeting schedule and work party dates through SteensBCH@gmail.com or call John O'Connor 541-678-3502

### **West Cascades Chapter**

Meets: The 1st Wednesday of each month at Elmer's Restaurant, 3950 Market Street NE, Salem, OR. Dinner time is at 6:00 p.m. meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Contact: Jennifer Paulson, westcascades-pres@bcho.org

### **Territorial Riders Chapter**

Meets: The 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Beaver Creek Fire Department, 22310 S Beaver Creek Rd. Beaver Creek, Or. 97004

at 7:00 p.m.

Contact: Tim Lagasse, territorialriders@bcho.org

### **Wilderness Packer Chapter**

Meets: Held by conference call every other month

Contact: Mat Wooley, Wctimberfalling@aol.com

## Cover Story Continued...

I disagree with Mr. Bradt's suggestion that Dan "totally misses the point of why we use crosscuts in Wilderness." I know Dan to be a well-informed, knowledgeable wilderness advocate, and commend him for having the courage to speak the unspeakable on a topic that we both recognized would likely result in considerable controversy. While I agree that motorized use must be the minimum necessary, it is time that we consider the consequences of continuing a 'business as usual' approach to managing our trails.

While it would appear obvious to many of us, that chainsaws are faster than crosscut saws, as Mr. Bradt claims, there has been considerable dialogue within the Forest Service and the wilderness community to question that fact, and as long as the myth persists, many managers will be reluctant to do the impartial analysis necessary to determine which method best meets the intent of the Act. A Quote from the 2013 GAO study: "many officials said that the general prohibition against power tools is not a complicating factor because crosscut saws are as efficient or nearly as efficient as chain saws." It went on to say "This issue has been much debated, and the Forest Service's Missoula Technology and Development Center ... is reviewing current knowledge ... regarding the safety and efficiency ... with a report expected by January 2015." The Forest Service chose to cancel that study soon after the GAO report was published. In addition to providing tangible evidence to support what many of us believed to be obvious, the article requests that the agency look at all legal alternatives prior to making a decision that would result in a trail being closed or becoming unavailable for the intended use. The article does not insist that chainsaws be used, it only requests that they be honestly considered.

Sometimes we can be so absorbed in doing things the 'preferred' or 'traditional' way that we fail to consider the effects that our actions may have on the long term objectives. I will not argue with Mr. Bradt's comment that "Wilderness is not simply a place to recreate out of sight and sound of the modern world, but something much greater." It is worth remembering, however, that such prominent wilderness patriarchs as Aldo Leopold and Bob Marshall defined wilderness in terms of the recreation experiences provided in the natural or wilderness setting, and the House of Representatives delayed debate on the wilderness bill until the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission reported on the necessity of such natural areas for "a wilderness type of recreation" (numerous references in the Congressional Record). Wilderness recreation was clearly a driving consideration during the eight years of debate on the law, and the half century (or more) of activism leading up to its passage. Many of the 'values' we currently associate with wilderness are compatible and consistent with the intent of preserving the recreational character of each individual wilderness and need not be in conflict, but neither must the intent of providing a natural setting for a wilderness type recreation be diminished.

Mr. Bradt argues "that trails themselves are a compromise to the 'primeval character' of Wilderness but, particularly near large population centers, trails exist to concentrate use and protect the Wilderness environment." Primeval is defined as before any presence of man; land literally untouched by mankind. That was not the intent of the Act, and would have disqualified a huge portion of the area determined by Congress to be suitable. One must conclude that if trails are "a compromise," they are an intentional or accepted compromise to accommodate the mandate in

Section 2 (a) that wilderness "be administered for the use and enjoyment of the American people." The Wilderness Act requires only that wilderness "generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable." During debate on the Wilderness Act, Congressman Saylor (who introduced the bill in the House) argued that inclusion of the San Geronio, which was already heavily impacted when the bill was introduced, would serve large numbers of people in nearby Los Angeles providing "opportunity for a wide variety of recreation uses that do not require strict preservation of resources in their natural condition." By including the San Geronio, it is obvious that Congress recognized that wilderness did not require that all areas of wilderness be in a pristine or primeval condition. In addition, the Act includes no requirement to restore impacted areas to a pristine or primeval condition, only that the character that existed at the time of designation be preserved. The ambiguity in Section 2 (c) between "untrammeled" or "primeval" and the more flexible definition, reflected by the terms "generally," "primarily," and "substantially," is explained in the Congressional Reports referenced in the law. Senate Report #109, "defines wilderness in two ways: First, in an ideal concept of wilderness areas where the natural community of life is untrammeled ... and second, as it is to be considered for the purposes of the act (my emphasis): areas where man's work is substantially unnoticeable, where there is outstanding opportunity for solitude or a primitive or unconfined type of recreation..." It isn't the manager's prerogative to choose which purpose or definition to use when implementing the law.

The vast majority of the trails within our wildernesses existed at the time of designation. Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman, providing testimony on the Wilderness Act, stated "There are within these areas trails and facilities of a primitive nature for camping. ... These will continue under our present policy and could continue under the bill." The trail system does not "exist to concentrate and protect the Wilderness environment." Trails were constructed long before the Act was passed as a means of providing access for "(a) Fire control; (b) administration; (c) grazing; (d) recreation" (Forest Trail Handbook, July 1935). Trails are an inherent part of the character or environment that existed at the time of designation which provide for the "use and enjoyment of the American people."

"Wilderness type recreation" has been recognized throughout the history of the wilderness movement and throughout the proceedings of Congress that led up to passage of the law. The term "wilderness type recreation" was used in the ORRRC report referenced in the Congressional Record. As Senator Hubert Humphrey stated in his speech introducing the Wilderness Bill (included in the Congressional Record); "This is not essentially a reform measure but rather a measure to insure the preservation of a status quo (my emphasis) which fortunately includes a great resource of wilderness." The purpose of the bill is to "perpetuate the present multiple-purpose administration of these national forest areas" and insure that they "remain wilderness -- as they now are."

During proceedings on the Endangered American Wilderness Act, Congress admonished the Forest Service for its "purity issue; ... "After more than a decade of experience, the committee recognizes the problems which differing interpretations of the Wilderness Act create. ... To further clarify matters, the committee considers it appropriate to comment in some detail



on some of the issues which current policies attempt to resolve and to offer its guidance as to how the Wilderness Act should now be interpreted as it relates to certain uses and activities.” The report (H.R. 95-540) went on to state that “Trail construction or maintenance can include the use of mechanical equipment where appropriate and/or necessary.”

Senator Frank Church (floor manager when the Wilderness Act was passed), in a statement made in 1972 during a Subcommittee hearing, provided clarification of Congress’s intent in 1964; “it was not the intent of Congress that wilderness be administered in so pure a fashion as to needlessly restrict their customary public use and enjoyment. Quite to the contrary, Congress fully intended that wilderness should be managed to allow its use by a wide spectrum of Americans.” The plain language of the law suggests that use of motorized equipment to maintain or construct trails is only prohibited when it is not the minimum necessary to accomplish purposes of the Act! It is reasonable to consider their use when failure to do so would result in loss of access – character – necessary to provide “for the use and enjoyment of the American people.”

The Forest Service trail system has been in a state of decline since the 1950s – that was the conclusion of two General Accountability Office studies. The maintenance backlog is big and growing bigger. If traditional tools were adequate to preserve the access and character that existed when the law was passed, or if Congress were willing to fund the task of maintaining trails with traditional tools and methods, this wouldn’t be an issue. However, we know that neither is true. Before trails are removed from the system or consciously allowed to become inaccessible through benign neglect (which is becoming a convenient practice to avoid the controversy over more direct methods to ‘right-size’ the trail system), it is totally appropriate to ask the agency to analyze the effects of that decision. That is the point that Dan’s article made!

The consequences of not considering alternatives will result in a reduction in trail access and the amount of wilderness available to customary use. Reduced access will likely change the recreation setting by concentrating more people into a small part of the wilderness which may also displace traditional users. It will lead to increased campsite and trail impact and increased inter-party conflict, and, consequently may result in more use restrictions. Use restrictions typically are imposed disproportionately on pack and saddle stock users. Requesting a NEPA and Minimum Requirements assessment to consider the effects of trail management decisions and the alternatives available for managing the trail system is not only appropriate, because it clearly impacts the human environment, it is a legal requirement in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Mr. Bradt talks about a wind event in a local wilderness where “Approximately four and a half miles of trail were literally buried beneath fallen trees and many more miles required major clearing.” Considerable resources were expended and “Four years and 1000+ trees later, the trails are again clear.” This situation is a good example of why the Forest Service has the huge backlog of trail maintenance and reconstruction reported in the GAO report.

In Mr. Bradt’s example, no MRA was prepared. This presumably meant that no effects analysis was conducted and no other alternatives were considered. As a result of climate change, both

the frequency and severity of wildfires have increased significantly. When a major environmental or climatic event occurs, resources are allocated to the ‘emergency condition’ and often other trails that were intended to be maintained are ‘deferred’. While the Forest Service occasionally uses chainsaws to open the trails immediately following the fire, the increased downfall continues three to five (and up to fifteen or more) years following the fires. This requires increased maintenance on the small portion of the system affected. Each event results in an additional portion of the trail maintenance being deferred. The backlog has continued to grow with each successive event. This has been happened for fifty years! In Mr. Bradt’s example, by investing 4 years of work on 4.5 miles of trail, what consideration was made to what wouldn’t get done? An MRA could have disclosed that information and allowed the line officer to make the most appropriate decision.

The recent GAO report states that only 30% of the system is managed to standard each year, and some trails may not have received any maintenance for over ten years. Trails that are not heavily used – the very trails that provide the solitude intended in the Act, prime hunting opportunities, and variety for repeat users – are ‘deferred’ year after year until they simply become unusable for their intended purpose. The one time user traveling to the most popular areas within the wilderness may only be minimally impacted. They visit the ‘superlatives’ that popular literature advertises and are off to another wilderness next year. Horse users are typically repeat users returning to favorite camp spots generation after generation – at least until the trails become inaccessible. The loss of solitude and variety for repeat users should be a major concern for horsemen.

Although use of motorized tools to construct and maintain trails was a common practice prior to passage of the Act, there was very little discussion regarding the practice in the Congressional Record (The closest I could find is the Senate Record of 1959, p#2645; “The [Wilderness] bill requires that, so far as practicable, machines be kept out of the areas – that road building and the use of motor vehicles, motorboats (including outboards), and aircraft be held to the minimum necessary for protection and efficient management of the area.” (my emphasis) This statement is consistent with writings of prominent wilderness proponents in the first half of the twentieth century who were primarily concerned with motorized travel and road building for commodity extraction and recreational access. It also supports the statements of Congressional leaders that they intended for the agency to have the flexibility to use motorized equipment if necessary to meet the mandate of providing for the public purposes of “recreational ... and historical use” when use of non-motorized methods was either impractical or inefficient.

Legal experts would counsel that if Congress had intended that all motorized use be prohibited, or that motorized use be limited to emergencies and catastrophic events, they would have so stated instead of providing the managing agencies the flexibility to use them if necessary to accomplish the purposes of the Act? Senator Frank Church, the floor manager at the time the Act was passed, was explicit that Congress intended to provide the agency with that flexibility, so why shouldn’t we insist that the agency consider it? I suspect that the manner in which we react to Dan’s article has more to do with our personal values and interpretation than it does legality.

How much of the trail system can we afford to lose before we ‘compromise’ the very wilderness experience opportunities



that the Act was intended to provide? The Dan Applebaker's and Dennis Dailey's and others like us are not advocating that crosscuts be replaced by chainsaws. My hands fit the handle of both and I much prefer using the three crosscuts I have hanging in my shop. Both crosscuts and chainsaws are appropriate (and legal) under certain circumstances. Traditional or primitive tools must be the tool of choice under routine conditions, but under the exceptional conditions that have resulted in the huge backlog of trail maintenance and reconstruction needs, chainsaws may be considered "necessary to meet minimum requirements for the administration of the area for the purpose of this Act."

I enjoyed reading Mr. Bradt's closing quote by Edward Abbey, "The idea of wilderness needs no defense, it only needs more defenders." It had been a while since I had read that quote, and it certainly should be on the minds of all wilderness users and advocates. It is, coincidentally, one of the concerns Dan and I discussed when we first started brainstorming how we could arrest the continued decay of the trail system. Passing a law doesn't mean that wilderness is preserved forever! It only means that it is preserved until another law is passed removing those protections. Ironically, we could use the same quote to defend preserving the broad constituency support necessary to protect the National Wilderness Preservation System in the future. Howard Zahniser went to great measures to build the broadest possible wilderness constituency. Wilderness advocates need to stop beating up wilderness advocates based on personal interpretations and biases. All the article asks is that all legal alternatives be considered!

#### About the Author

Dennis retired from BCHA in 2012 as Senior Advisor Wilderness, Recreation and Trails. Prior to that he worked as a Wilderness Resource Consultant, Policy Coordinator for Wilderness Watch, and the Forest Service including assignments as resource assistant in the Bridger and the Bob Marshall Wildernesses, and District Ranger on an all wilderness district in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness.



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# Equine Symposium 2016

Submitted by: Jean Clancey, EEBCHO

The second annual Equine Symposium put on by Emerald Empire Chapter was a fun and very successful event again this year. It was held at Mt. Pisgah, Lane County Sheriff's Posse outdoor arena, the weekend of June 24-26. Over 61 people attended, 18 of whom presented in some manner and the rest participating in various educational stations. The Symposium represents our chapter's commitment to sharing trail readiness skills, safety preparedness, and low impact horse techniques on public lands.

The Lane County Sheriff's Posse participated with traffic control and security. Search and Rescue was represented by Tim Chase, who led an information session on outdoor emergency preparedness, including personal locator devices. Great information.

Local clinician Julie Fisher conducted hands-on training for small groups of riders throughout the day Saturday. Some great trail obstacles were provided by our chapter president, Emily Elias. Quite a few young people were involved in the clinics, and they got good experience controlling and desensitizing their mounts, and preparing for safe trail rides.

Dani Wright, owner of McKenzie Feed, spoke to the group on equine nutrition and how to pack in food for overnight trips. Thanks to Dani for answering lots of questions and for all the great samples.

Della Webb and Ann Moser presided over several tables of pamphlets and OET books. Their time and sharing of information provided one more means by which people could learn about the treasure we have in our public lands.

Drs. Chris Camp and Jacquelyn Beyerlein from Del Oeste Veterinary spoke to the group Sunday morning. Thanks to both vets for careful explanations of basic horse health, disease and prevention, and emergency treatment. And did they answer dozens of questions! How lucky we are to have these caring professionals who were glad to spend their Sunday morning with our group of horse folks.



Also on Sunday a presenter on Wild Horses and adoption, Sandy Force, put out the good word on mustang and wild horse adoption. Three patient mustangs stood by and greeted curious participants with their good attitude and minds. Maybe a few adopters will come out of it?

Our own Emerald Empire members, led by Jean Clancey, spent all day Saturday teaching Leave No Trace techniques. Instead of teaching to the principles, we divided the information according to these considerations for successful back country trips: How to restrain your horse, feed and water needs, horse needs and conditioning, people needs, back country bathrooms, minimum campfire impact, and communication and navigation. All these subjects were presented throughout the day. Thanks especially to Matt Hope, Troy Hansey, Doc Dockery, and Jolene Anderson for teaching high lining and packing; to Becky Hope for teaching





map and GPS use and feed and water needs as well; to Melanie Kate Mason for horse tack needs; to Lisa Rodriguez for people needs; and to Jean Clancey for handling the subjects of waste and bathroom needs and low impact campfires. The LNT trailer was set up, which gave folks the chance to browse information and equipment on their own. At least 12 attendees participated in all of the LNT stations and earned a certificate "For Successful Completion of the Leave No Trace Awareness Workshop." And several also were given campfire pads cut from decommissioned fire blankets provided by Della Webb.

Recognition is also due to Betty Jean Keele and granddaughter Hannah for managing the ticket sales and welcome table all day. And to Candee Brennan, husband Jim Gerlach, and Molly and Sarah for their hard work helping to set up and tear down the LNT tent and much more.

After dinner, (and many, many thanks to Mark Houston of Houston Outfitters for having delicious food on hand for breakfast, lunch and dinner for 3 days), participants were treated to some great entertainment. Dallas McCord sang and strummed his guitar well into the evening. He was accompanied on a fantastic blues harmonica by Billy Elias, husband of EEBCHO President Emily Elias. And thanks to Billy, also, for the event sound system.

The beautiful evening was also enhanced by wagon rides provided by Troy, Doc, Jolene and their mule team. Troy's voice could be heard all around the pasture as he reeled out cowboy stories and poems.

What more can we tell you about this super weekend of fun, camping, learning, and music?

Well, there were trail rides up Mt. Pisgah, and those who made it to the top had fantastic late afternoon views of Diamond Peak and tips of the Three Sisters. And hot as it was Sunday, when everything was over and packed up, Emily and her students rode off to the Coast Fork of the

Willamette River adjacent to the park and went swimming on their horses. How cool is that?

We hope you will consider joining us next year. Valuable education, good company, and loads of fun.



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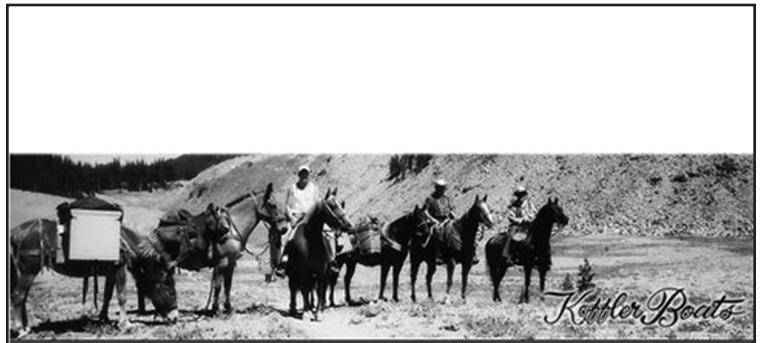
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# 2016 State Ride at Allen Creek Horse Camp

Submitted by: Jim Forsman, Columbia Gorge Chapter

The camping weekend and rides were great fun once again. A special thank you goes to Becky Wolf and the many volunteers that helped get the camp ready. There were new two & four horse metal corrals and plenty of space for high lining horses.

There was enough grass in camp to turn some of the stock out with hobbles to let them feed. Allen Creek was very pretty and had a nice spot to water stock. There was plenty of shade and the dust was not too bad. Some of the members had to leave early, so we missed them on Saturday night. The roads to the camp were very good. I was pleasantly surprised. We had good weather with warm days and cool nights so we had campfires in the evening and swapped stories that were very entertaining.

Camp improvements included fence repair, two new picnic tables and two new fire rings. Also a great loop trail was flagged.

The Saturday night potluck was great. The highlight was Jerry Smeltzers' sautéed shrimp, a great use of his Dutch oven. There was too much to eat as usual and all very tasty.

The riders split up into smaller groups and rode out of camp at their pleasure. I saw some nice horses and mules during that weekend. We were lucky enough to see a herd of antelope run across a clearing. There were does, bucks and babies. It was quite a sight to behold. Gerry Jimerson swears there were two hundred in the herd. The rest of us think she was counting the legs!

I hope to see you at next years state ride.



*L to R Jim Forsman, Sue Forsman and Jerry Smeltzer*



*Buck Davis, John Weston and Lee Rich*



*Gerry Jimmerson, Jerry Bentz, Barb Schlitz, Don Jimmerson and Sue Forsman*



*Gerry Jimmerson (not seen) Sue Forsman, Don Jimmerson, Jerry Bentz, Barb Schlitz and Becky Wolf*



*Jerry Smeltzer*



# Crew Leader Training

Submitted by: Jim Forsman, Columbia Gorge Chapter

BCHO volunteer packers, Jim & Sue Forsman provide some hands on packing experience for four Pacific Crest Trail Association crew leaders. The training was conducted at Williams Mine trailhead in the Gifford/Pinchot National Forest just West of Mt. Adams in Washington State. Dana Hendricks and Bill Hawley Regional Representatives were present and mentoring.

This exercise was to familiarize the crew leaders with a basic knowledge and understanding of the packing process and the kind of gear a packer may have. The leaders will have a better understanding of how to communicate with their packer ahead of time concerning number of stock, weight of loads, and just how much to expect from the packers. They will be better able to direct their crew in assisting the packer with the loading of supplies and equipment. The job of the packer is to support the maintenance crew by taking the camp gear to the location and bringing it out when the crew is finished. The packer can also give support by packing water, building materials and gravel to the job site.

We met the crew on 27 June at the trailhead. The group had a safety meeting and Sue & I told the crew how to approach and work with equine stock and the reasons why it is important. The crew leaders already had their food, kitchen, tent, tools and supplies loaded, weighed and balanced in coolers and boxes. All Sue & I had to do was load the gear (with crew help) onto the mules and head up the trail.

The next day Sue & I rode back to camp to pack out the gear for the crew. Once again everything was well stowed and weighed. The loads on each mule were balanced with no rattles! (Rattling gear can really irritate a packer)

We have a job coming up on 8 July and will be packing in for a crew of twelve. They will be in for a week doing trail maintenance in the Three Sisters area. Jennica Tamler will be our crew leader for this job. We look forward to working with Jeneca and the PCTA volunteers. They are always a great group of people to meet.



Ian, Katie and Wes



L to R Jennica Tamler, Justin Brimer, Ian Connelly, Snickers, Sue Forsman, Jim Forsman, Wes Jones



Headed to camp



Adjusting toolboxes.



# West Cascade Stocks Fish in Three Lakes

Submitted by: Arden Corey – Trail Boss

The fish stocking was a complete success, there were about 3500 fingerlings delivered to three lakes Friday and Saturday by our West Cascade BCHO chapter members.

Eric Dahl and Rick Green took 2000 fingerlings to Marion Lake on Friday AM.

Saturday AM, Bert Morris, Norm Kaser, Arden Corey, Dave & Penny Strand took 1500 to Temple and Turpentine Lakes, East of Camp Pioneer.

Meredith Boys was on hand to take photos and watch the transfer of fish from the truck tank to the mule packs. These were nice healthy Cranebow fingerlings that made the trip.

There was a little rain and cool weather on Saturday, but it was good for the fish. The mule ride was a once in a life time experience for these little buggers, they were well oxygenated, put into 4 gallon buckets lined in plastic bags, with a scoop of ice and sealed with snap top lids.

Upon arrival the bags were lifted out and put in the lake with bubble pumps until the temp in the bags were within 5 degrees of the lake water. The bags were then torn open and they experienced freedom like they had never seen before! I mean it was a Free Willie adventure 3500 times over! Of course the adventure is somewhat dangerous, living with Blue Herons, Big hungry brothers, Osprey, Eagles, and Kingfishers.

In about two years there will be a risk of ending up in a frying pan at a nearby camp fire, but such is life of a fish. It could also be a very significant experience for a boy scout from the city! I think it was worth it!





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# STEVE EDWARDS

## QUEEN VALLEY MULE RANCH

**"It's amazing what the right bit and saddle will do for your mule!"**

Cheryl rides a Canyon pathfinder. She could not stop so she had a custom bit made. But - it made things worse. However she now uses the mule riders martingale and has a new outlook on her mule, Earl. Cheryl has been riding her whole life and grew up in a saddle. Read her thoughts on her Queen Valley Mule Ranch tack below!

*"I wanted to share my progress with Earl. He is absolutely a different mule! We went to the mountains and rode for four hours and I never felt more relaxed or at ease. You could tell Earl feels comfortable, as his whole demeanor is different. It is amazing what the right bit and right saddle will do to your mule."*

*Earl minds so well with the martingale, I just take off and go riding ALL alone. I don't know many mules that will go off on their own, but Earl does!" -- Cheryl Bice*



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# Riding the Pacific Crest Trail on Horseback: It's No Walk In The Park

Submitted by: Arden Corey

Riding the Pacific Crest Trail from California to Washington has long been a dream of mine. Not a bucket list thing, but more like a challenge to see the sights and views from horseback. Fortunately there were a couple others in our West Cascade BCH club that had the same desire. Norm Kaser and Liz Mulkey also wanted to make the trip.

There was a time when walking would have been just as good or better, but the time, family obligations and work never allowed the opportunity. Being retired, having good trail horses, being over the age of seventy, with feet and knees the same age, horses were the best option.

As we rode, we'd come across hikers and backpackers that would comment, "That looks like the easy way to do it, or how about a lift". Horseback is no walk in the park! Surprisingly the average daily distance covered is about the same for hikers or horses, 20-25 miles. The hiker awakes, rolls up his gear, grabs a bite and is off for a couple miles. Whereas the horses have to be fed, watered and then it's a quick physical inspection, pack up, load em up and then hit the trail. Usually its necessary to stop along the way at some meadows, unless you have an extra pack animal to carry food for your stock. So it all takes a little time.

Horses can't go everywhere a hiker goes. The obstacles were frequent and in some cases impenetrable. We had over 75 miles of trail that had not be maintained or cut out from extensive blow down over the past two years. This means going around, over, and through some horrendous brush, logs and barriers that appear insurmountable. Making it especially difficult on steep tallis rock slopes and steep slopes up to seventy to eighty



*Norm and Liz taking time out to graze near Thielsen Creek*

percent. One large rock slide (appeared to be a broken up lava flow) with large irregular boulders 4 to 10 feet in diameter. It had a 4 foot diameter tree blocking the trail, and took about an hour to find a route across. It was very precarious. We went with one horse at a time. Not to mention other hazards such as bees, slides, stream crossings, highways, railroads, wildlife and the unpredictable.

One hiker asked us if our horses could fly? He said I would see your tracks and then come across one of these impossible barricades that he knew no horse could get around and then he would see our tracks again on the other side!

There is no easy way to cover about 450 miles of mountainous



*Arden Corey on the West Ridge traversing Mt. Thielsen.*





Arden Corey on the West Ridge traversing Mt. Thielsen.

terrain weather on foot or horseback. Hikers get sweaty and tired. Riders get sore and can hardly walk after a day of riding. For many hikers walking is easier than riding. For many riders, myself included, walking twenty five miles a day is not an option. Of course there are advantages to each. The rider has the advantage to look around and take in the views easier without watching every step. The hiker has more control over all. Stopping at will, snapping a picture, a rest stop, a drink, adjusting the pack, ect.

Our trip was not without good planning. We each had a riding horse and took one pack horse for our gear. We did the trail in segments to avoid weeks of absence from our other responsibilities. This required shuttling vehicles and trailers at each starting and stopping point. Some of the segments were 100+ miles. One very dry stretch was about 26 miles and we stashed water buckets at a highway crossing for the horses. Camp was very light, a bag, pad, and tarp. Food was freeze dried with basically snacks for lunch and granola for breakfast. Drinking water was pumped with a filter, and clothing was light depending on weather reports. A four foot crosscut saw and a small ax was our salvation in several situations.

This trip was a beautiful, exhilarating experience, full of adventure, unknown hazards, and top of the world scenery.

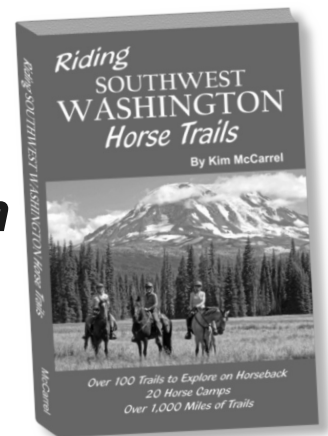
Some of it I would not want to do again but I would not want to miss it either.



Norm Kazer cutting a log to allow safe passage for the horses

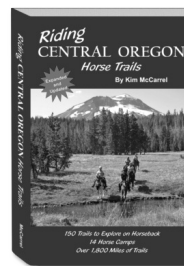
# New! Southwest Washington Trail Book!

By Kim McCarrel

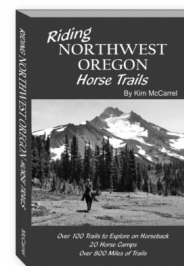


SW Washington

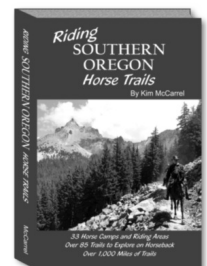
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# Still a Novice Back Country Rider But Getting Better

Submitted by: Liz Mulkey, WCBCHO, Photos by: Harry C. Paulson

## Santiam Pass to Triangle Lake Pacific Crest Trail, July 2015

We left Santiam Pass parking lot with thunder rolling through the mountains. Dilly was on high alert as was I, fearful that lightning would follow and cause a fire in the wilderness where we were planning to ride for the next two days. Once she got going on the trail, following Rozetta as the pack horse, she settled down and got serious about the work ahead of her. We climbed for a while which Dilly is very good at. After a bit we were able to look out over Santiam Lake. It was one of the few good views we had on this trip since the mountains were socked in with cloud cover. The clouds would at times move in and out very quickly. If Norm timed it right he could get a picture when it cleared but he had to be fast.



*The back side of Three Fingered Jack*

My first terror event on this trip was when we got into a burn area. The trees were down and stacked like the old game 'pick-up sticks'. It required us to go off-trail to find the best routes which always involved going over, under or around fallen trees. The first log that Dilly came to must have looked a lot bigger to her than it was because she jumped it with plenty of air space to spare. I stayed on her but was not looking forward to doing the same thing 50 more times. I gave her a little slap on the neck and brought her in more tightly for the next tree and she stepped over it very gracefully. I gave her an 'atta girl' and she continued these perfect step-overs throughout the rest of the burn area.

Before we got all the way through the burn area Norm and I smelled smoke. We looked around and in the woods off to our left we spotted smoke rising out of the trees. It was not very far off the trail. One of my many fears coming to pass! Getting caught in a forest fire! My first reaction was "Which way do we run? Back down where we came from? Up ahead? Which way is the wind blowing? OH GOD, WHAT DO WE DO NOW!?"

While my mind was filling with all kinds of horrifying scenes Norm was off his horse and hiking...towards the fire! He was gone for about 20-30 minutes. I wasn't sure what he was doing but since flames weren't roaring past me or towards me I relaxed a little.

When he got back I asked what he was doing and he said that he was working to contain the fire. He was building a fire ring around the fire with rocks and burnt logs. Then he called Arden to report the fire. It seems that I was the only one that thought disaster was at hand. Arden casually responded "Oh yeah? In

the burn area? Guess I better let the park rangers know." Ya think?!

When we got on the back side of Three Finger Jack we were faced with a steep rock slide hill that we had to descend. It had a narrow trail through it with tight switch back turns. Dilly was all eyes on this trail since the down side was extremely steep and the view was phenomenal. She sensed her vulnerability. I don't know who was more scared, she or I. Together we were a mess! She was doing her best to follow Rozetta who was following Norm's horse Mandy. At one point Mandy kicked loose some of the bigger rocks which rolled very quickly and noisily down the hill. That was it for Dilly! She did a 180 spin and headed back up the hill. I got her stopped and quickly got off on the up- side of the hill. I led her the rest of the way down that trail. She followed very happily after me and I was less fearful walking on my own two legs. Oddly the trail didn't seem so narrow when I was walking it. I have to remember that when a horse is walking down a trail their legs are set in under there bodies so when it seems that they are almost off the trail their legs are actually well inside the trail border.

After getting off the rock slide we entered an area where there was a rock wall on the left and pretty significant drop offs to the right and of course the trail was narrow. So Dilly and I are both gawking at the drop off and I notice that Rozetta was looking out at it and getting nervous too. She was tossing her head and looking uncomfortable and I was going to tell Norm about it but I was too busy worrying about falling off the trail to speak. Then I heard "Liz, you're not very good at watching the pack"

I looked up at Rozetta and her saddle, pack and saddle bags had all slipped over to her right side (the down hill side). Since watching the pack was my job, Norm wasn't too happy with me. And now he wanted me to get off of Dilly on this teeny tiny trail with a near straight down drop off into oblivion and help him put the pack/saddle /saddle bags back up on Rozetta's back. I got off without falling off the cliff. Dilly stayed standing there, smart enough to know that there really was no choice. Then Norm said a lot of 'Can you lift...?' Can you hold...?. Can you push....? Can you pull...? I answered 'no' sheepishly to each question. I don't know how he did it but he got Rozetta all packed up again with the three of us sharing the space of that narrow trail, Norm on the up side, Rozetta in the middle and me...on the down hill side. I did have a little tree growing out of the side of the trail that saved me from tumbling off a couple times. After we mounted up again I alternately watch the drop-off and Rozetta's pack for the rest of that trail.

Earlier, on our way up to the departure point at Santiam Pass, Arden was telling me more about what to expect on this trip. Norm had said that this would be a very scenic and peaceful trail with no terror moments other than the crossing of Russell Creek. ( I had packed my life vest for that accident waiting to happen) The book stated that Russell Creek needed to be crossed in the morning because as the day wore on the snow melt out of the mountains would make Russell Creek too fast and deep to cross safely. Why do I go on these trips? Arden added more to my worry-list. He told me about the rock slide behind Three Finger Jack that Norm had forgotten about. Arden also reminded him about the cliff with no down hill side, just air, somewhere around something called Cathedral Rock. I spent a great deal of time worrying about this cliff. Hours actually. We rode 12 hours that first day and I probably spent 8 of them looking for and anticipating with terror the cliff at Cathedral Rock. After about 8 hours of solid riding I insisted to Norm that we stop for a while and let the horses graze and rest. While we were sitting there resting talking about the trail I said, " Well, now I just have to get

through Cathedral Rock and then I can relax." Norm informed me that we had passed through that a couple hours earlier. Two hours of wasted adrenalin. Ten years of aging. As Arden had said it was indeed a rocky cliff but the trail was wide. Evidently I'm fine with heights if the trail is wide!

The crossing of Russell Creek didn't happen in the morning as the book advised. We did it in the late afternoon. We could hear the creek for miles before we arrived at its shore. Again Dilly was all ears and eyes at the creek side. It was full of fast moving water but the point where we were to cross was not terribly deep, just up to their bellies, so we crossed. Dilly will go any where that the lead horse goes. She does not want to get left behind so she just goes, fear and all. I didn't even put on my life-vest.

Before Russell Creek we had crossed Milk Creek. The park ranger had warned us that the approach to this creek made it more difficult to cross than Russell Creek this year. True that! I had to get off and have Norm lead Dilly down the embankment. He as usual risked his life and rode down the slope Man From Snowy River style. All 3 horses made it down without injury and the creek itself was no problem.

The rest of the first day was beautiful riding through the woods with an occasional giant tree down across the trail which required strategic planning on Norm's part. My 'less- than-helpful' reaction to each fallen tree was...'Looks like we will have to go back.' Norm always knew exactly what the horses were capable of as far as jumping and/or climbing to get past the trees. One tree in particular stands out in my memory. Norm led Mandy up to it to encourage her to jump it. She wisely and adamantly refused. He tried to lead her up the up-hill side to go around (my idea) and again she let us know that we were crazy. The only remaining choice was to jump off the trail to the down-hill side and make a mad rush down hill, try to stop at the end of the log, take a quick right turn around the tree without falling over and then finish off

with a frantic scramble back up the hill to trail above. I couldn't believe it when Mandy agreed and jumped off the trail with Norm leading her running as fast as humanly possible to keep from getting run over by the out-of-control running, leaping, tripping horse. They made it! He let Mandy go up to trail and for some reason she waited up there for us. He came back to get Rozetta. She was not too eager about this plan. It took some coaxing but she too jumped off the safety of the trail and went flailing down the hill-side following Norm. This time several boulders and logs broke loose from the dirt in the hill and chased Rozetta all the way down to the end of the downed tree where she took the sharp turn. I could see that she was getting pretty banged up by the boulders which were hitting her hock-high.

***Story continues on page 16***



*The switch backs*



### ***"Still A Novice Back Country Rider but Getting Better" Continued***

Sooo... I was not very enthusiastic about sending my clutzy horse who has a hard time staying on her feet in good conditions over the side of the embankment. Actually I didn't think she would go. But she had watched two horses do it and she wasn't about to be the only horse on this side of the log so down she went. Run, Run, jump, jump... crash! Instead of making the quick right turn to go around the log she...fell down. So typically Dilly. But she leapt up to her feet again and practically flew up the steepest part of the bank. All is well that ends well but...why do I go on these trips?

After 12 hours of riding 32 miles we finally got to our campsite for the night. We were one mile short of Jefferson Park. It was dark before we got the horses fed and watered, our nylon tarp strung up, our mattresses aired up, our dehydrated food boiled up and ourselves down for the night. There was very little motion from us or our horses that night, exhausted as we all were. The next morning as usual, Norm was up first, checking the horses and getting their feed ready. He was laughing as I crawled out of my sleeping bag. He told me to look at my horse. She was standing just where I had left her tied to a tree with the usual knot I had learned from Norm. However, the rope was on the ground and my excellent knot had disappeared. What a good horse...or exhausted horse. She hadn't moved all night.

Memories of the second day bring an image of rocks. Rocks of all sizes and shapes. Rocks on the trails, off the trails, boulders surrounding us. We were crossing Park Ridge. The top was extremely windy and cold. The view was awesome...if you like rocks. I, in fact, love them.

We rode 17 miles that day and had no scary moments. It was a leisurely ride over the moonscape which ended with forest riding to reach our destination, Triangle Lake. The longest part of that day was the drive out to the highway from the campground, or so it seemed. It takes a good hour to drive out the gravelly, winding road to Highway 22. Time doesn't pass as quickly hauling horses as it does riding them.

All in all this was a great trip on the PCT. I'm glad we got to do it since our big trip that we had planned for August didn't happen due to drought and fire danger. I have now covered the PCT from Columbia River Gorge to Willamette Pass and am looking forward to the next segment from Willamette Pass to Crater Lake postponed until next summer. Hope there is some snow in the mountains this winter!

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# Join the BCHO Hot Shot Saw Team

Do you like to ride and work in the back country? Are you proficient with a crosscut saw and power saw? Do you like to scout new places to ride and meet new BCHO and agency personnel? If so, the Back Country Horsemen of Oregon Hot Shot Saw Team is for you.

We are forming a team of volunteer sawyers of BCHO members who would be available to respond as a partial or complete team to sawyer needs/requests from BCHO Chapters and agencies. The concept for the saw team would be similar to the hot shot firefighter teams employed by the USFS. The Hot Shot Saw Team (HSST) would be primarily used in wilderness situations, but could also assist with chainsaws outside the wilderness areas.

BCHO chapters and USFS Districts have had difficulty clearing high priority trails due to high concentrations of logs down from fire or wind with very limited resources. Additional sawyers would make a difference between solving or mitigating the trail closures, and the need to pursue other administrative procedures in an effort to keep trails from being closed, abandoned or downgraded.

We are building a team of experienced sawyers willing to work anywhere in the state on log out projects. Many, if not most projects would be planned in advance, but some may be on short notice. The proposed procedure would be for BCHO Chapters to make requests for assistance and then for HSST members to prioritize projects based on HSST members availability and ability. BCHO Chapters would be expected to provide support to a responding HSST with logistics, swampers and sweat equity. Project consideration would be based on priority of trail (usage); whether it is restricted or closed due to down trees; size of trees down and/or complexity of bucking; progress or effort made by local chapter or agency; and equestrian facilities connected to the trail.

HSST Prerequisites: Current certification as B or C Sawyer on crosscut and chain saw with current First Aid card. Willingness to travel throughout the state and ability to remain onsite for 3 or more days. Riding animal suitable for backcountry trail use. Ability to pack and pull at least 1 pack animal a plus. Ability to be self sufficient for trailhead or backcountry camping while working. Willingness to work as part of a team under the direction of a team/project leader and conform to team standards of trail maintenance and work practices. Maintain a positive and helpful attitude to the objective of the HSST, which is to promote the mission of BCHO. Willingness to learn and improve crosscut and chainsaw skills as well as safe and efficient work party procedures.

If you are interested, contact BCHO President Jerry Bentz at 971-645-3593 or email at [mulepacker@canby.com](mailto:mulepacker@canby.com), or contact the BCHO Saw Program Lead, Bert Morris at 541-968-5525 or email at [mormules@gmail.com](mailto:mormules@gmail.com).



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# Events Calendar

Event Start	Event End	Event Hours PST	Event Title	Event Description	Event Location	BCHO Calendar Name
10/15/2016	10/16/2016		ECBCH Todd Creek Cleanup	Date is tentative to weather. Cleanup at the horse camp corrals.	Todd Creek Trailhead, Cascade Lakes National Scenic Byway, Bend, OR 97701, United States	East Cascades BCH Chapter
10/15/2016	10/15/2016	08:00AM - 01:30PM	Clackamas 4-H Tack Sale	The Clackamas County 4-H Tack Sale is a fundraiser for the 4-H Horse Advisory Committee. It is held twice each year at the Clackamas County Fair and Event Center in Canby, on the third Saturday of March and October. The sale includes new and used tack as well as other horse-related items.  Parking is free, admission is \$1 per person.	694 NE 4th Ave, 694 Northeast 4th Avenue, Canby, OR 97013, USA	Public Equestrian Events
10/15/2016	10/15/2016	11:00AM - 02:30PM	TRBCHO Chapter Trail Ride @ Hardy Creek	Bring snacks to share after the ride for the tailgate party, if you want!	Hardy Creek Trailhead, Rim Trail	Territorial Riders BCH Chapter
10/22/2016	10/24/2016		Baker Beach Campout and trail work	Spend Weekend attacking Gorse on Trails at Baker Beach. Bring leather gloves, Long Sleeves, Hand saws Contact Becky and Matt Hope 541-337-3138	Baker Beach Trailhead, Baker Beach Rd, Florence, OR 97439, USA	Emerald Empire BCH Chapter
10/25/2016	10/25/2016	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Clinic		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	Hight Desert Trail Riders
11/5/2016	11/5/2016	09:00AM - 03:00PM	Play in the Rain	day spent interacting with children of all ages using horses, ponies and mules. LNT exposure at same time	Mount Pisgah Arboretum, 34901 Frank Parrish Rd, Eugene, OR 97405, USA	Emerald Empire BCH Chapter
11/13/2016	11/13/2016	11:00AM - 01:30PM	TRBCHO Chapter Trail Ride @ Bintner Mills	Bring snacks to share after the ride for the tailgate party, if you want!	Bintner Mills Rd, Elwood Port Blakely Trails	Territorial Riders BCH Chapter
11/22/2016	11/22/2016	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Clinic		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	Hight Desert Trail Riders
12/11/2016	12/11/2016	03:00PM - 07:00PM	ECBCH Christmas Party	Annual potluck and social.	tba	East Cascades BCH Chapter
12/14/2016	12/14/2016	06:00PM - 07:00PM	Emerald Christmas Party Emily's			Emerald Empire BCH Chapter
12/17/2016	12/17/2016	05:30PM - 09:00PM	CGBCHO Christmas party		Hood River Saddle Club, 4384 Belmont Dr, Hood River, OR 97031, United States	Columbia Gorge BCH Chapter
1/21/2017	1/23/2017		Trails Management Assesement skills		Veneta, OR 97487, USA	Emerald Empire BCH Chapter
1/24/2017	1/24/2017	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Clinic		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	Hight Desert Trail Riders
2/17/2017	2/19/2017	12:00PM - 05:00PM	BCHO winter convention			Emerald Empire BCH Chapter
2/28/2017	2/28/2017	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Clinic		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	Hight Desert Trail Riders
3/4/2017	3/5/2017		EEBCHO Baker Beach Pre-Solve Beach clean up	Ready to ride at 0900 in am Pot luck lunch with ride afterwards Weather provide	Baker Beach Trailhead, Baker Beach Rd, Florence, OR 97439, USA	Emerald Empire BCH Chapter
3/18/2017	3/18/2017	08:00AM - 01:30PM	Clackamas 4-H Tack Sale	The Clackamas County 4-H Tack Sale is a fundraiser for the 4-H Horse Advisory Committee. It is held twice each year at the Clackamas County Fair and Event Center in Canby, on the third Saturday of March and October. The sale includes new and used tack as well as other horse-related items.  Parking is free, admission is \$1 per person.	694 NE 4th Ave, 694 Northeast 4th Avenue, Canby, OR 97013, USA	Public Equestrian Events
3/24/2017	3/27/2017		Northwest Horse Fair and Expo	For more info, visit <a href="http://equinepromotions.net/northwest-horse-fair/">http://equinepromotions.net/northwest-horse-fair/</a>		Public Equestrian Events
3/28/2017	3/28/2017	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Clinic		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	Hight Desert Trail Riders
4/25/2017	4/25/2017	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Clinic		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	Hight Desert Trail Riders
5/20/2017	5/23/2017		Wilderness equine skills	Two Days of Learning needed skills to go safely out on Trails, and into the wilderness areas around our area and how to do it.	Mount Pisgah Posse arena, Lane County, OR, United States	Emerald Empire BCH Chapter
5/23/2017	5/23/2017	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Clinic		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	Hight Desert Trail Riders
6/17/2017	6/18/2017		WCBCHO POKER RIDE	Poker Ride First horse out at 9 AM Last out at 11 AM Prizes, family fun, with food available.	Silver Falls State Park, Silver Falls Hwy SE, Sublimity, OR 97385, USA	West Cascades BCH Chapter
6/21/2017	6/23/2017		Big Meadows Pre-clean	Early work on horse camp for those who can go. Also trail work and recon.	Big Meadows Horse Camp, NF-2257, Sisters, OR 97759, USA	West Cascades BCH Chapter
6/23/2017	6/26/2017		WCBCH BIG MEADOWS H C MAINT AND TRAIL	Camp maintenance, trail clearing, fun	Big Meadows Horse Camp, NF-2257, Sisters, OR 97759, USA	West Cascades BCH Chapter
6/27/2017	6/27/2017	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Clinic		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	Hight Desert Trail Riders
7/25/2017	7/25/2017	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Clinic		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	Hight Desert Trail Riders
8/22/2017	8/22/2017	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Clinic		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	Hight Desert Trail Riders
9/26/2017	9/26/2017	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Clinic		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	Hight Desert Trail Riders



Back Country Horsemen of Oregon, Inc.

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Not tax deductible

\*Additional Chapter dues may be  
determined by individual Chapters

## Optional Memberships

Sustaining \$100 \_\_\_\_\_

Patron \$250 \_\_\_\_\_

Benefactor \$500 \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL your application to Susie Wood, PO Box 362, O'Brien, Oregon 97534

541-596-2488 [jswood@frontiernet.net](mailto: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)

Columbia Gorge BCH  
Becky Wolf  
32126 S. Wright Rd.  
Molalla, OR 97038  
(503)829-2694  
[wolfden@molalla.net](mailto:wolfden@molalla.net)

High Desert Trail Riders BCH  
Carole Hopkins  
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Klamath Falls, OR 97601  
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[lodgelady60@hotmail.com](mailto:lodgelady60@hotmail.com)

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West Cascade BCH  
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Salem, OR 97302  
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Territorial Riders BCH  
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Back Country Horsemen of Oregon  
c/o Laurie Hufstader  
PO Box 543  
Veneta, OR 97487  
(541) 935-2176



### **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.