

McKenzie River Ranger District "Flat Country" Project

Submitted by: Jean Clancey, EEBCHO

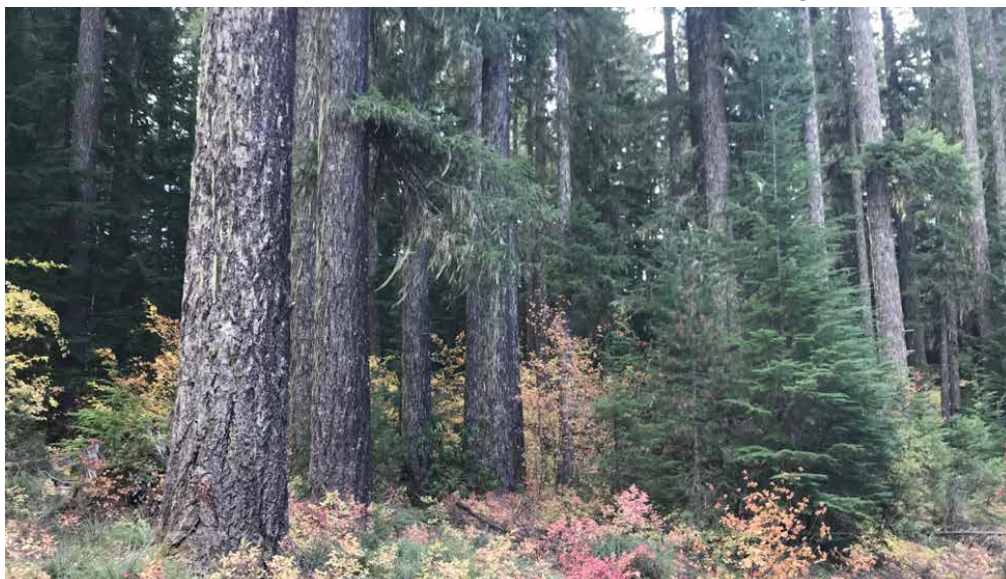
If you enjoy riding in the Mt. Washington Wilderness, things are about to change. The McKenzie Ranger District is currently drafting an EIS for what is called the "Flat Country". This project area, approximately 74,063 acres, is located on the western slope of the Cascades, extending from Scott Mountain to the upper reaches of the McKenzie River. It is bordered on the west by Hwy 126, and on the south by Hwy 242 (old McKenzie Pass) and the boundary of the southwestern section of Mt. Washington Wilderness.

The USFS is proposing management treatments on 5000 acres in the project area which they have divided into 128 individual units. Treatments will include commercial thinning, variable forest thinning, and fuels reduction treatments. Work is to begin in 2020.

Since at least 50% of the McKenzie Ranger District is in wilderness (Mt. Washington and Three Sisters), and the Northwest Forest Plan requires a sustainable supply of timber products from each forest, this Flat Country is the go-to area for timber sales on the McKenzie Road.

Why is all this of concern to equestrians? The project will have a large impact on those of us who approach this wilderness from the west side of the Cascades.

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BCHO State Officers

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Jerry Bentz
president@bcho.org

Vice President East
Liz Warren
vicepresident@bcho.org

Vice President West
Bert Morris
vicepresident@bcho.org

Membership
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Public Lands Director
Dan Applebaker
pld@bcho.org

Education/LNT Director
Becky Wolf
education@bcho.org

Newsletter Articles & Layout
Sara Lagasse & Shelly Williams
editor@bcho.org

Newsletter Advertising
Chris Worden
advertising@bcho.org

Please feel free to contact our officers or staff if you need any assistance or have a question pertaining to BCHO.

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: Jean Clancy, 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: Betty Applebaker, hhdr@bcho.org

Sourdough Chapter

Meets: The third Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. in Central Point.

Contact: Terry Canavella, 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 Beavercreek Fire Department, 22310 S Beavercreek Rd. Beavercreek, Or. 97004 at 7:00 p.m.

Contact: Tim Lagasse, territorialriders@bcho.org

High Country Wilderness Packers

Meets: Held by conference call every other month

Contact: Mat Wooley, Wctimberfalling@aol.com

Continuation of cover story

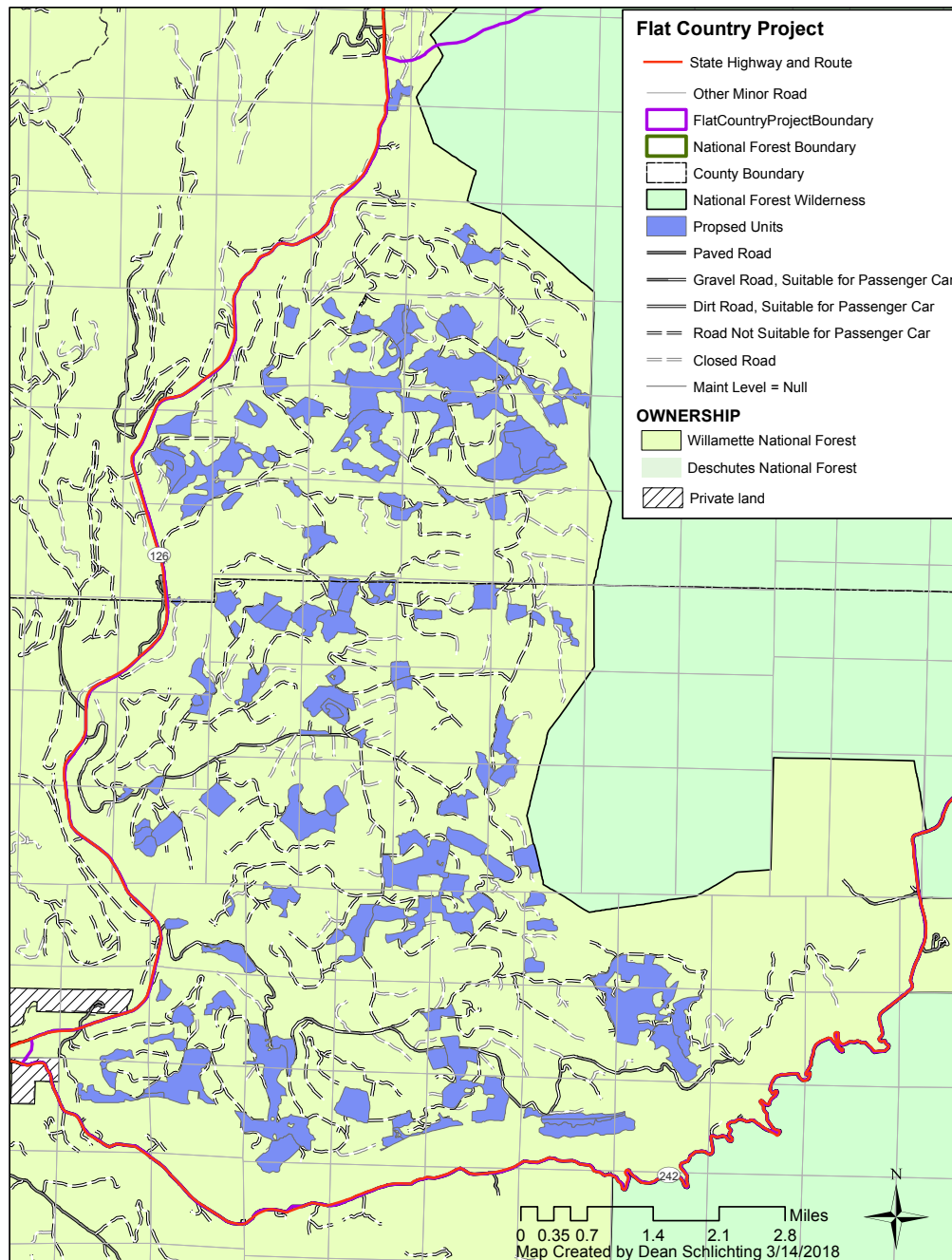
Three of the trailheads we use for access lie on the roads that will be used for logging. Thinning boundaries will include these trailheads: Robinson Lake (#3508), Benson Lake (#3502), and Fingerboard Prairie (#3508 terminus).

And at least three commercial trim units are flush against Deer Butte Trail (#3508), a legacy trail approximately eight miles in length, which winds along the western boundary of Mt. Washington Wilderness, connecting Highways 126 and 242.

This area is both near and dear to our chapter. We have maintained wilderness trails in the area for 15 years. We use them for day rides and overnight pack-ins into an area whose beauty rivals that of any other in the Cascades: Lakes for swimming, stunning views of the Sisters, western old growth forests on the west and lava badlands on the east. The Mt. Washington Wilderness is a jewel and Emerald Empire has worked hard to maintain trails throughout the western and southern sections.

No doubt the USFS plans will make things difficult for awhile. We understand that they are required to manage non-wilderness lands for timber. What we have requested in our public comments is that any trails or trailheads damaged be restored, that work schedules be posted so we know in advance when logging trucks will be present or burns scheduled, and that stock trailer parking and turnarounds be enlarged and improved when all is said and done.

The comment period is still open. If you wish to add to our requests, please contact EEBCHO.



A Letter from the BCHO President

Submitted by: Jerry Bentz

Greetings,

By the time you are reading this it will probably be Thanksgiving time. We have a lot to be thankful for. Where else can you find the opportunities and the scenery that we have in Oregon to ride in. We also should be thankful for all of the folks both Back Country Horsemen and all of the other user groups that work to help keep the trails open so that we can enjoy our state. I am thankful for all of you that spend your time working to keep the trails open. Oregon backcountry is a wonderful place. We have a lot to be thankful for.

It sounds like all of our chapters were very busy again this summer. I have heard about all of the trail clearing, packing and horse camp maintenance that you have all done. You should be proud of your accomplishments. This winter at our Winter Convention we would like to celebrate all of the accomplishments of our chapters. Everyone is welcome to attend. This year our celebration is March 2nd. We are going to be meeting at the Crook County Fair Grounds in Prineville starting at 9:00 a.m. The board meeting will be at the Library in Prineville on March 1st starting at noon. Once again, the banquet will be a Dutch oven potluck. We have been doing this the last couple of years and the food has been amazing. We will have a covered area on site to do the cooking. We will make sure there is plenty of time to cook. If you're not a Dutch oven cooker bring a salad or desert. Lunch this year will be Dutch oven chili cooked on site. I guarantee you will not leave Winter convention hungry. At lunch we are planning on doing the crosscut saw competition again. There are no loser's just lots of winners.

We are asking each chapter to bring a picture display showing off what you have done in the last year. This year we have a couple of business items to vote on. The board voted to change the constitution as to how our President and Vice President succession works. The general membership has to approve that change. We also will be voting on a new president as well as two folks to succeed the President. We also will be voting on one of our National Directors to BCHA. If you are interested in being involved with the leadership of BCHO, let me know. The rest of the meeting will be fun and entertaining. I am in the process of putting together a speaker for the banquet as well as someone for during the day. If anyone has something they would like us to showcase please let me know. Did I mention, we will be giving out some awards also. Please try to attend. It is a great way to get to know the folks of BCHO.

As I mentioned in the previous paragraph we are electing a new President of BCHO. It has been my honor to serve as your President for the last six years. I was also the Vice President for the four years before that. I have enjoyed doing the job. I have had the privilege of getting to work with a bunch of really great folks, you all. There has been a group of people that has really helped me out. I won't name them, they know who they are, and they helped because they really believe in what Back Country Horsemen does not to be recognized for their accomplishments. It really does take a village to run an organization. When I started down this road you were all ten years younger and my hair wasn't near as gray and white as it is today. I wouldn't trade it for anything. My greatest possession I am taking away from my time as President is all of my friendships and acquaintances. I value each and every one of you. I believe BCHO is a great organization and I believe we have and will continue to accomplish great things for the equine community in Oregon. While I am not going to be the President anymore I am not going away. I will be continuing on as one of the National Directors as well as Chairman of the Public Lands Committee. Once again, I can't say enough about all of the folks that make up the Back Country Horsemen of Oregon. Thank you for allowing me to serve



Online Newsletter Option

Your Newsletter To Be Delivered ON LINE

Back Country Horsemen of Oregon members and new members we are making the change to providing your newsletter on line. If you still want a paper version of the newsletter you need to select this on your membership application this season. If you don't select to have a paper version you won't be getting it. You will get an Email notice with an electronic link to the BCHO website and the current newsletter. So it is time to renew you membership, you are encouraged to join through your chapter and your membership contact person. You will find new application that you can down load on our Website www.bcho.org. You will find your chapter contact person listed there also. Please consider using this as an opportunity to make a larger donation to our efforts in protecting our trails and right to ride. Remember this is now Tax deductible. sPlease see the newsletter for the new updated version.

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High Desert Trail Riders at Work

Submitted by: Brenda Cordonnier

Another summer has come and gone yet the scheduled trail projects keeps going on and on! We, the High Desert Trail Riders Back Country Horsemen in Klamath Falls are fully dedicated to our mission statement. We are enjoying the wilderness, working with and assisting government and other related agencies and groups to keep the public lands open for stock use, hiking, hunting, fishing, camping, etc. Another vital part of our mission is not only trail work, building and restoring trail heads and access roads, but to educate and actively seek out and recruit new volunteers and members so that the general public can fully enjoy our heritage of being able to walk and ride on the beautiful trails in our part of the country and across the nation.

Anthony Benedetti, who oversees 100-plus miles of trails in the Fremont-Winema wilderness is our go-to guy planning with us the most needed work projects and how we can assist the Forrest Service to accomplish those goals. He not only plans with us, he physically works with us! We have a wonderful Partnership.

We began our 2018 season by again volunteering to take our cook-truck up to Hyatt Lake and cooking for the PCTA Skills College. Jim Icenbice, and myself, Brenda Cordonnier, were the cooks. Betty Applebaker drove up on Saturday and helped us cook the yummy and fun group dinner. We cooked in the most severe weather conditions possible-it blew, it rained, it snowed, it hailed, it froze, we froze and how was it possible to keep the food warm from the stove to your mouth? We are looking forward to next spring, freezing weather, good food and friends!

Our next project was rebuilding and cleaning up the stock corrals at Collier Park. Jim Icenbice, Joani Kelly, Jim Collins, Ron Stewart, Betty Applebaker, and Ken Clegg, along with Collier Park staff and myself cooking lunch completed the work and had a great time doing it together.

Each year we clear the trails at Fourmile Lake, specifically the Rye Spur and connecting trails to the Horse Campground at the gravel pit and the PCT. It took three crews coming from different starting points and meeting at the beautiful lookout rock and overview on the Rye Spur trail for lunch. Each year the work load varies due to winds and snow loads and it is always a great feeling of accomplishment to restore that gorgeous section of trail.

Much of our volunteer work involves pack support. Our first pack support was packing in the NYC (Youth Core) to Blue Lake in the Gerheart Wilderness. Betty Applebaker with five mules and Larry Dynge with one took tools and gear in for their base camp. Packing them out were Ron Stewart, myself, Liz Warren and Brent Palmer. I always take in Brownies, Blondies or cookies and ice cold water for the crews.

It happened to be one of the kids birthday and we had a party and sang "Happy Birthday" to him. We charged the



battery on their van and trailer, gave them Gatorade and sent them on their way to Lakeview.

While we were packing out our group, Betty Applebaker, Joani Kelly and Dick Strohkirsch were packing out another group of NYC workers at Corral Creek that Dick and Jim Icenbice and Joani had packed in.

For decades we have packed fish into Blue Lake. A large group from our chapter along with Betty's grandson, Colten, and a co-worker of Deb Prices' from New Zealand



met at the trailhead with the Fish and Wildlife trucks to load up and pack them in. Colten was a real trooper! Pam Lehto and Anthony Benedetti rode further up the trail with Jim Icenbice to survey the downed trees yet to be cleared. We always encourage our chapter members to ride along on our work projects. It's a great opportunity for a trail ride with friends! Win-win!

On August 9, Betty Applebaker and Dick Strohkirsch packed in wood decking and all the tools for the much needed bridge work on the Cherry Creek Trail. It took them two trips in and out for the work crews. Pete Riefel helped load and unload at the trailhead. Ken Clegg bought all the supplies.

On August 12, Betty again packed in decking to the

second bridge site. Pete Riefel and Steve Hilbert helped load and their wives Linda and Debbie rode along with them. Another trail riding opportunity!

The bridges were finished and all the old decking and tools were packed out. Whew!

Jim Icenbice and Betty Applebaker rode into Crater Lake on the horse trail along with members of the Sourdough Chapter to survey the amount of work it would take to restore the Bybee horse camp.

It was decided to re-visit the project this coming summer. It would be a joint project with the HDTRBCH and the Sourdough Chapter along with personal from Crater Lake.

Again our chapter along with the Sourdough Chapter worked on and completed the restoring and rebuilding of the corrals at the Horse Camp at Fourmile Lake. It was quite a project. George Gregory, the camp host and organizer provided a fantastic barbeque lunch with all the sides and desserts. He also arranged for the gravel and machinery to spread it. We all helped clean up and spruce up the area. It was an awesome partnership.

The three agencies working together again this year on the Sky Lakes Wilderness trails met at the Sevenmile Trailhead to load up and pack in the base camp at Ranger Springs. Ian Nelson, the regional PCTA representative, hiked in with his crew while Ron Stewart, Dick Strohkirch, Jim Collins, Dave Van Scoyoc and Brenda Sparks packed in the food and their supplies and tools. We literally had to take the pants from one of the crew to make cover guards for the pulaskis, shovels, hoes and other tools. We asked him to model what was left of his pair of pants - he refused! Bob Krieger came along to trail ride with us and was a great asset and I do mean "asset". My husband Ron and Bob had to lift and get my (##) set in the saddle!! Poor Bob, that's probably more of a memory than he wants to remember. I HAVE NO HIPS LEFT. I'm an official fixer-upper for this winter. Everyone helped unload and set up the camp kitchen. The crew took off straitaway to work

on the trails and I said good-bye to my husband and the packers and started cooking. When someone cooks for them they seem to come from out of the woods and in some cases as in last year they just drop out of the sky! I heard another group from the High Cascade PCT were camped real close at the horse camp so I invited them to join us for meals. We always have enough food! To my surprise part of the crew I knew from the Trails Skill College. Angie Painter who was overseeing the crew and her four members just added to the social group time we had each morning and evening, making life long friendships. In the middle of the week Anthony Benedetti and his four member volunteer crew of the Klamath Basin Outdoor Group hiked



in to work on the PCT trail north to near the Crater Lake boundary. They saw the article Anthony had published in our local paper asking for volunteers to help with the much needed trail work in the Sky Lakes Wilderness area. One member of the group, Bill Van Moarhem, responded by saying their group probably uses those trails over 50 times a year and it only seemed logical that they needed to help maintain them! Yea! That's what we need more of. Our time together was so rewarding and amazing. Anthony said they achieved an incredible amount of work. It was true partnerships and team efforts.

Well, we thought that was the end of this season's projects. Wrong. My husband, Ron, received a call from Ken Clegg regarding a request from Ian Nelson, PCTA, asking for someone to pack in gear and water for a small group from California wishing to work on a section of trail on the PCT in Crater Lake. The only water to their camp had to come from Ranger Springs out of the Sevenmile Trailhead over 12 miles away. Ron packed 10 gallons of water and their gear in and out over 28 miles in the same day. This isn't about Ron, but his horse, Boy. Whenever Ron comes near him he gives Ron a look like "you've gotta be kidding me" as he puts miles between them at a very high rate of speed. Oh well, we all have the winter to rest up, try to forget the long hours in the saddle and the work on the projects, while at the same time planning and preparing for next years work schedule! We are looking forward to next season, our friendships, happy trail miles, projects completed and as always, good food!



Rehabilitating the Middle Fork National Recreation Trail

Submitted by Betty Jean Keele

In the Spring 2018, Jean Clancey wrote a Highline article outlining Emerald Empire's goals for making the Middle Fork of the Willamette trail safe for all non motorized use especially equine use. The trail needed many of the water crossings fixed to allow safe equine crossing. The bridges had become unsafe. Emerald Empire applied and received \$2000 Grant from BCHO for bridge repair and maintenance. With these funds, Middle Fork Ranger District - USDA Forest Service (FS) were able to replace and repair most of the water crossing problems in the lower portion of this thirty-three mile trail.

The before and after photos show the type of problems the FS were able to fix. In total four crossings were fixed so non-motorize users can safely cross the bridges and culverts.

Thank you to FS staff Kevin Rowell and McKenzie Jensen who made this happen; to BCHO who provided the 501(c)(3) to pay for the repairs; and to the Emerald Empire folks who devoted many hours writing grant proposals and defining the problems on our wonderful Middle Fork of the Willamette National Recreation Trail.

**Bridge One
Before and
After**



**Bridge Two
Before and
After**



Central Cascade Wilderness Strategy – A Good Idea Gone Bad

By Jerry Bentz – Public Lands Chairman

Most of us have heard about the Forest Service plan to limit entry into five wilderness areas in the central cascades. The five wilderness areas are Three Sisters, Mount Jefferson, Mount Washington, Waldo Lake and Dimond Peaks. For several years use by hikers and mountain climbers has gone way up especially in the Three Sisters, Mount Washington and Mount Jefferson. The Forest Service has kept track of usage for quite a few years and while hiker and mountain climber use has gone up, equine usage has stayed the same for many years according to the Forest Service's own data. The Forest Service also has data that shows that equine use has not caused any extra ordinary damage in the wilderness, just normal wear and tear. The Forest Service has recognized the fact that with all of the use that it was not possible to have a "wilderness experience". I have to agree with their assessment, but remember equine use has not increased, We Are Not The Problem. Without explaining all of the process I will tell you that the Forest Service put together a plan that was published as a "draft" last April that would put a permit system in place that would limit entry into the five wilderness areas. BCHO, several of our chapters, many of our members as well as BCHA all commented on the plan. Because of our comments myself as well as Randy Rasmussen have had two conference calls as well as one face to face meeting with the Forest Supervisors from the Willamette and Deschutes National Forests. Our continuing message to them has been that equine use has not grown and that we are not the problem and further more we should not be lumped in with all of the other users. We feel that we should be exempted from the restrictions. I need to add that they are happy to give us administrative permits to allow us to work in those wilderness areas but we get no special consideration when it comes to permits for recreating in the wildernesses, for all the work we do.

So, lets fast forward to today. Where are we at in the process? The Forest Service plans to publish another "draft" of their plan sometime in November. It may be out by the time you read this. We know that the draft will show that Waldo and Diamond Peaks will be dropped from the plan. We also know that most of the trail heads in the other three wildernesses will have self-administered permits at the trail heads. No one has said but there will probably be a cost for those. And finally, no overnight camping without a permit anywhere in the tree wilderness. So, if you want to go on a pack trip you need to plan way ahead and you will be competing with all of the other users for a permit. There is a good chance that you may not even be able to get a permit to camp. Once the next draft is out we will have 45 days to file an objection. BCHO along with BCHA plan to file an objection. We are very concerned with the precedent that this plan will set for use in all wilderness areas across the United States. BCHO and BCHA believes that there is probably a basis for legal action if this plan is enacted. At this time the Forest Service admittedly has not got a plan to carry out and enforce their planned permit process. The Forest Supervisors are expected to sign the final decision shortly after the 45-day comment period is up. We plan to do everything possible to convince the Forest Supervisors that we don't want their Christmas present. Stay tuned, BCHO has never been involved in a decision quite this important.



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A Wilderness Ride with out a Pack Animal

Submitted by: Gary Sischo

A wilderness ride with out a pack animal. Does this sounds like some thing you would be interested in doing? This is a trip that Territorial Riders chapter of Back Country Horsemen puts on for its members once a year. This ride originated back when Territorial Riders was a saddle club. The ride was started in the 1990s a fund raiser. At that time we had three rides that were put on a rotational basis, one in the Mt. Jefferson Wilderness, one in the Mt. Washington Wilderness and one in the Three Sisters Wilderness.

The one I am writing about is the ride in the Three Sisters. We call it the Obsidian Ride as the riders starts at the Obsidian trail head and we ride to Lava Camp Lake Camp ground. All the rides arrive at Obsidian Trail Head on Friday after noon. They have to bring weed free hay as required at all Forest Service trail heads and horse camps. The riders cook their dinner and breakfast there Friday evening and Saturday morning.

All rides pay for the food served Saturday evening dinner, Sunday morning breakfast and the horse hay that will be fed Saturday and Sunday. All of the riders this year were responsible for their lunch on the trail.

Rides sigh up for buying the food and cooking and clean up and buying the hay and hauling the hay. The feeding of the horses wait until all the riders are in camp and high lined, before any horse gets feed. The reason for this is if one horse gets feed all the other horses will start moving around and pawing making a dusty mess.

Saturday morning the rides put all their camp gear in the horse trailer with the hay, the food and any adult beverage they may want to enjoy Saturday evening. Their camp gear is hauled to Lava Camp Lake camp ground, where they will set up their camp sites and highlines.

Group sizes are limited to 12 riders with 24 hikers or riders total permits per day. The permits go on sale May first. The permits sell out that day, so go on line early.

You will start riding through a heavily forested area for about 3 miles, when you come to your first lava flow crossing. You descend down to a small clearing and you will cross a small stream. From there you will bare left at the "y" and proceed to Sunshine meadow, this is the junction with the Pacific Crest Trail. Turn left and ride to Race Track meadow where you will stop for lunch. Just as you leave Race Track meadow you will see a trail on your left, this is the trail you will return to Obsidian trail head on. From here you will ride through several areas of cinder fields. The next very interesting point on the trail is Oppie Dill Dock pass it is a series of very close switchbacks. Now you are wondering how the name Oppie Dill Dock came about? Back when the Sky line trail was built the trail crew came to this

point in the trail and couldn't figure how to work their way down this ravine and when they finally figured it out they named the pass after a cartoon corrector named Oppie Dill Dock who would get in impossible situations and always figure out a solution. The rest of the ride is of magical and stunning views of the surrounding country.

The ride back takes a different trail only using a short section that was ridden on the ride to Lava Camp Lake camp ground. The only distracting thing from the beauty of the ride was the bees. They were miserable on the ride on Saturday but Sunday was a cool and misty day so the bees were not a problem.

The dinners and breakfast meals are always so delicious. The members that are in charge of the meals always do an out standing job.

Sunday it is up early to feed the horses, eat breakfast, tear down camp and get all the camping gear put back into the trailer to be driven back to Obsidian trail head.

That brings the wilderness adventure to a close with many photographs and memories that will last a life time.

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Dan Is Watching For Critters From His Cathedral



My cathedral has a ceiling of blue
My cathedral neath the sky
Where I may lift up my eyes unto the hills
And hear music from a stream ripping by
My cathedral has an altar of flowers
Their fragrant incense fills the air
In my cathedral I am closer to him
than I could be anywhere
For here I pray in a place so grand
The carpet I kneel on was made by his own hand
My cathedral has candles lighted by the stars
And mighty pillars of trees
No other cathedral is so beautiful
For God made my cathedral for me
Jim Reeves

This summer I took Dan's ashes to three different states, high in the mountains with beautiful vistas that set his soul soaring with the eagles and hawks. Every place I left them one flew over. I have one more location to go next summer that he will love too. He loved to watch the wildlife and would sit and glass the hillsides looking for something moving. He's in places he can do just that. Have a good winter My Sweet. We have one more pack trip to make together.

Thank you everyone for your support and to those who went with me and shared the events.

Betty Applebaker

Deschutes Forest Trail specialists enjoy a trip into the Diamond Peak Wilderness on Horse Back

Submitted and Supported by Becky and Matt Hope

Emerald Empire Chapter was asked to transport six folks from the Deschutes Forest and Crescent Ranger District to work on decreasing on impact in Diamond Peak Wilderness, happening due to multiple user trails traveling from the PCT near Lils Lake crossing over to Yoran Lake trail to take people out to Shelter Cove on Odell Lake. This would also set up a lovely Loop of about 12-13 miles for folks. The job this year was to lay the ground work for doing the NEPA study the future trail that would set up a single trail instead of the multiple ones now being used in addition to getting these trails out of a wet area that is causing damage while being crossed. So we took this folks in and then they were able to do their studies and GPS work covering over 12 miles in one day and getting back to the Trail head by 5:30 p.m. after a late start of 10:30 a.m. at the Trailhead. I understand that there was a little stiff and soreness the next day. But out and done in one day. Four of the folks enjoyed coming out at a brisk pace involving a lot of trotting (Their choice). There were lots of grins and giggles going on the way home.

I want to thank, Hannah Smith, Emily Pritchard, Christina Veverka, Marv Lang, Joseph Welke, and Eric Amstad for all their hard work and efforts on behalf of our trail systems. We had an enjoyable time.

Also thanks go to Betty Jean Keele and Heidi Holcomb for their Help wrangling the horses and the people keeping everybody safe.



BCHO Volunteer Hours Reporting Due

It is that time of year again for turning in your volunteer hours. So far these chapters have been entering volunteer hours online: West Cascades, Emerald Empire, East Cascades, and Territorial Riders. These will be collected automatically at the state level. I have received the volunteer hours for the High Country Wilderness Packers Chapter and have entered them into the online system. For Chapters Columbia Gorge, HDTR, Steens, and Sourdough have yet to enter their hours online of just emailed them in.

Also please note the new Volunteer Dollar value is \$24.69 (Basic) and \$37.04 (Skilled). These are the numbers we will use for BCHO and National for this report year. Please change to the new value on your Totals page(spreadsheet tab) to get an accurate dollar value when you run your reports.

The BCHO Trail Miles (Wilderness & Other) are entered here. So far we have one chapter's report here. <https://www.bcho.org/forms/trail-miles-report-form/>

Note: The purpose of the Trail Miles web form is to produce a report state wide of all the trails BCHO volunteers work on. This report page is part of the overall BCHO State report passed out to all chapters and is how the Trail Miles Totals are collected and reported to National. This form is primarily used by work crew leaders.

This Web Page includes more help for using the on-line method to enter your volunteer hours: <https://www.bcho.org/welcome/member-resources/>

If you are having problems with the on-line system please call for assistance or you can just enter your chapters data in the Spreadsheet download from the BCHO web site, please send them to me on the spreadsheet downloaded from here, <https://www.bcho.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/BCHO-Vol-Hours-Data-Sheet-ONLY.xlsx> .

If you no longer have your login to the BCHO chapter cloud account, required to access the on-line volunteer hours spreadsheet, let me know and I will send the access login to you.

This web page shows the current value for Volunteer per hour \$\$\$

<https://independentsector.org/value-of-volunteer-time-2018/>


The statewide Volunteer Hours report will be sent out once the chapters report their volunteer hours. As for BCHO Trail Miles (Wilderness & Other) please use the on-line web form: <https://www.bcho.org/forms/trail-miles-report-form/>.

Marty DeVall
BCHO Volunteer Hours Coordinator
bcho@pacssi.com
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Labor of Love Award

What follows is the letter of recommendation our Emerald Empire chapter sent to the PCTA nominating founding member Matt Hope for the annual "Labor of Love" award. Matt was presented with the award by Bill Carpenter of the PCTA at the BCHO quarterly meeting on October 20, 2018

Emerald Empire Chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Oregon would like to submit Matthew Hope's name for consideration of the "Labor of Love" award for 2017. Matt's accomplishments are many and his personal work ethic have encouraged many other trail volunteers throughout the past 28 years. Of all his contributions to the PCT, however, the one that sets him apart for special recognition is his devotion to one disabled young man whom he has guided into the wilderness for horse packs-ins over the past several years.

The special young man whose life has been changed through Matt's kindness and encouragement suffers from Angelman Syndrome, a condition which from his birth has left him severely physically and mentally challenged. Matt and his wife Becky have for many years supported RideAble, a non-profit that provides services for impaired and disabled equestrians in Eugene, Oregon. Through RideAble the Hopes met and befriended the young man and his family. With extraordinary care and planning, they overcame all obstacles and enabled this young equestrian to ride the PCT. Summer of 2016, a very excited and happy young man, along with his entire family, rode the PCT from Willamette Pass into the Diamond Peak Wilderness, where he was able to spend two nights and three days riding and camping.



There are small miracles along the PCT every year. We read about them, see them in movies, hear them word-of-mouth. But how to describe the freedom of movement and utter joy expressed in the eyes and laughter and swinging arms of this severely restricted youth who cannot speak or coordinate his body? And with careful preparation and respectful encouragement, Matt Hope helped make this possible. He and his string of horses have led this young man into the wilderness on several occasions, helping him build confidence and enjoy life-enhancing experiences. A remarkable labor of love.

Matt's contributions to the PCT began in Washington. For ten years he led groups to maintain the section from Snoqualmie Pass eight miles south. He cleared the Dutch Miller Gap Trail, a twelve and a half mile PCT connector, replacing over 800 feet of puncheon bridges. When the Washington Trails Association (WTA), Volunteers of Washington (VOW), and other large trail maintenance crews needed pack support, much of their work done on the PCT, Matt and his string were there to help.

For the past eighteen years in Oregon, Matt has contributed more than 200 hours each year of volunteer work. He starts each spring to tackle the big "west side" firs and hemlocks along the PCT section from Willamette Pass to Divide Lake Trail in the Diamond Peak Wilderness. He leads crews up to the snow line, then returns as many times as it takes to finish the job as the snow recedes. Some of the trees in this section are 30+ inches and can take days to clear. He has taken responsibility for this section for the last eight years. For nine consecutive years before that he maintained the PCT section from Bobby Lake to Willamette Pass. In addition, he has provided pack support for PCT projects undertaken by Northwest Youth Corps, American Hiking Society, and PCTA work crews on at least seven occasions.

Matt provided pack support and crew leadership for reconstruction and rerouting of the Foley Ridge Trail into the Three Sisters Wilderness. This trail, a major connector from the west side of the Cascades to the PCT, was all but lost after a windstorm/tornado took it out. In cooperation with the

USFS over a two year period, Matt packed in tools for the work crews, caching supplies along the route. He also contributed many hours of his own saw work on the trail recovery project.

Another project to which he devotes time is the yearly clearing of trails in the Mt. Washington Wilderness. Legacy trails here are in great disrepair due to multiple fires and years of neglect. From the west side of the Cascades, they offer routes through to the PCT into both the east side of Mt. Washington Wilderness and the Obsidian Falls section in Three Sisters Wilderness. Matt has helped lead crews with his pack string for eight consecutive years. Trails that were nearly lost are again viable. Without Matt's commitment, it would not have been possible. The McKenzie Ranger District of the Willamette National Forest has acknowledged the importance of this work.

Matt has a quiet, encouraging, and helpful manner that makes him a successful volunteer leader.

For him, it's not just about getting the job done: It's about the people, especially young people, with whom he freely shares his love for the mountains and trains to work with a pack string. He leads with a kind and reassuring word, a helping hand, never a criticism or judgmental comment. Those of us who have known and worked with Matt and Becky Hope over the years are indebted to them for so many reasons. We hope this special recognition for Matt by the PCTA, in the form of an Extra Mile or Labor of Love Award, will encourage him as he carries on the good work.



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Share the Trails - Please help us get this out!

Submitted by Becky Hope | 6fhope@gmail.com | 541-337-3138 | Emerald Chapter BCHO

Share the Trail is a tri-fold brochure produced in a joint BCHO and OET collaboration. It needs to get into the hands of mountain bikers, equestrians trail riders and even some hikers. Would your chapter please consider doing a joint ordering of these and then having your members or you yourself getting them out to; FS offices, mountain bike repair shops, trail stores, feed stores...you get the idea? OET should be working on this also, so wouldn't hurt to check with them. Connexion Printing in Bend has been printing them. Contact myself or Kim McCarrel if interested in getting some of these for yourself or your area.

Why we need do this? Most folks who don't share the trail well are simply unaware of the right things to do. Educating them about how to safely pass each other is a good investment. (When we talk with bicyclists, invariably they think they know what to do when they meet a horse or a hiker, but it often isn't what we would like them to do. So helping them know things they didn't know they needed to know is key.) If we can raise the awareness and modify the behavior, we'll be a lot safer than we are now. We're putting the brochures in bike shops, outdoor stores, tack and feed stores, with outdoor tour companies, with travel bureaus, at Forest Service and BLM offices, and with Chambers of Commerce -- anyplace trail users and tourists are likely to go. They are working on a video that they'll share out through social media. They will let us know when it come out and we can all help you get it onto the screens of lots of people. A real biggie will be convincing local bike groups to put it on their websites and otherwise distribute it to their members. Please help get this out. Way to go Kim McCarrel, OET and East Cascade Chapter of BCHO.



Sharing the Trails Means More Trails for Everyone. We may have different ways of enjoying the outdoors, but we're all out there because we love our trails. By sharing them, we ensure more riding and hiking opportunities for everybody.

Be Cool. Treat the people you meet on the trail just like you'd treat a friend. They're out to have fun, just like you, and you can make their day (and yours) with a smile and a cheerful hello. Being friendly can defuse trail confrontations before they happen.

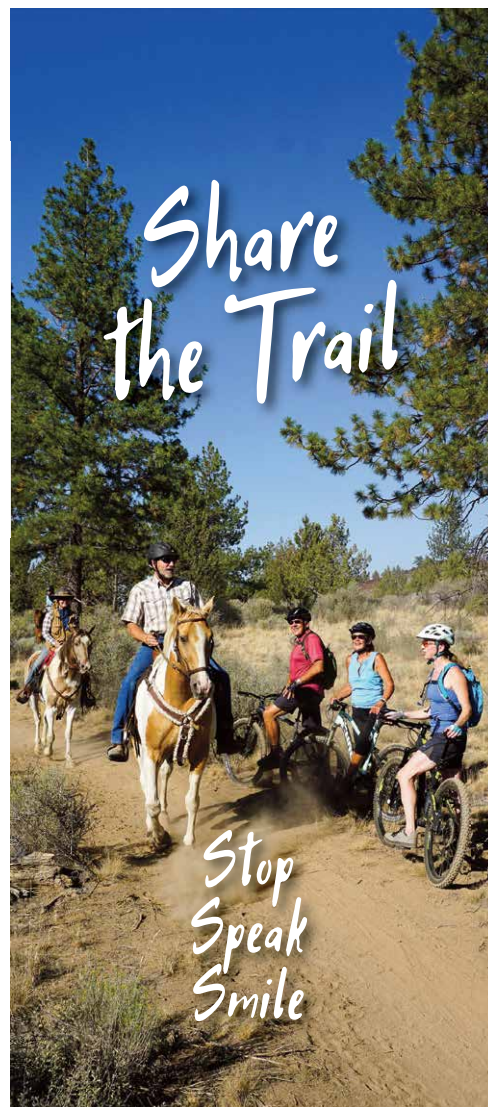


*Expect Others
Respect Others
Connect with Others*

Meeting other people on the trail can be a good experience...or a bad one.

- ♦ Expect to see others on the trail
- ♦ Respect their right to be there
- ♦ Be friendly

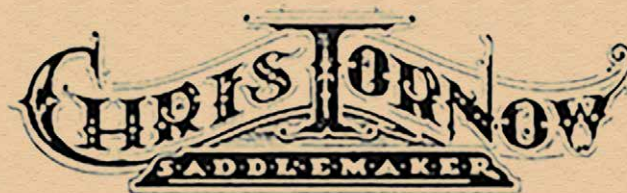
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Stop

Hold It! When you meet someone on the trail, STOP! Stop riding. Stop walking. Say hello and ask, "What's the safest way to pass?"

Don't Wait — Call Out! As soon as you see another trail user, call out to them, so everyone has plenty of time to stop.

STOP!



**Ask: "What's the
Safest Way to Pass?"**

Who Yields? Trail courtesy says:

- ♦ **Hikers yield to horses.**
- ♦ **Bikes yield to both hikers and horses.**
- ♦ **Downhill bikes yield to uphill bikes.**

Who Goes Where? Everyone in your party should move to the same side of the trail. It's usually, but not always, best to move to the downhill side of the trail.

Speak

Talk to Each Other To Determine the Best Way to Pass. Sometimes the safest thing is for you to step off the trail. Sometimes it's better for the other guy to step off. The important thing is to talk to each other. If you're supposed to yield to another trail user, please ask them for the safest way to go by.

Horses Know They Taste Good. Call out a friendly greeting as soon as you see an equestrian. This will help the horse realize you're a human, not a predator that wants to eat them, and could keep the horse from overreacting. If you accidentally startle a horse, it may violently shy away and endanger you and its rider.

Earbuds: Listening to music on the trail is great. But please reduce the volume and use only one earbud so you can hear what's going on around you. It may mean the difference between a great ride or hike, and a wreck.



Smile



Keep the Trail Narrow. If you're on a bike and you meet a hiker, stop with your tires on the trail, put one foot down, and lean out. If you encounter a horse, stop and be prepared to get off your bike and step off the trail to pass safely. Riding into adjacent vegetation turns single-track into double track.

Mud Matters: If the trail is muddy, turn around. If you continue, your tracks will set up like concrete when the ground dries. Riding or walking over dried tire ruts, footprints, or hoofprints is no fun, so be kind to the trail and ride somewhere else until the ground freezes or dries out.

Good Dogs. Dogs love the trail as much as we do. Please keep your dog close and under voice control at all times, or on a leash, especially if the trail's rules require it.

What You Can't See Can Hurt You: If you can't see far ahead of you on the trail, control your speed and approach blind turns slowly in anticipation of other users and obstacles that may be beyond your view.

Horsemen Turnout for the Oregon Trail Summit 2018



Submitted by Becky Hope, Emerald Empire Public Lands Representative

Oregon Trails Summit sponsored by Oregon State Parks, ODOT, Travel Oregon, Trailkeepers of Oregon, and multiple other sponsors was held in Bend Oregon on October 4th, 5th. In attendance, were over 190 participants from across the state, from every kind of agency and volunteers from every kind of trails advocacy we have in our state. We had over 16 equestrians from BCHO and OET to represent our interests and speak for our presence on the trails. We had a very great person in the form of Kim McCarrel who worked closely with the sponsors to set up an informative and productive gathering for all these trail advocates.

Kim McCarrel, Kate Beardsley, Lauralee Svendsgaard are to be given a great big 'GOOD JOB' for their presentation that started the event. "The Dynamics of Bike and Horse", was a workshop geared toward Land managers and was attended by about 25 people. It featured presentations on the basic dynamics of mountain biking and horseback riding and trail features that effect the safety of shared use trails. It had an outdoor demonstration of a horse not familiar with bikes and factors affecting the safe and unsafe interactions between horse and bike. Many people did get up on horseback and had the opportunity to ride along with mountain bikes as others were offered the opportunity to ride a mountain bike.

Multiple updates and reviews of both ongoing and completed projects from across the state with a breakdown of how the projects came about and how funding was acquired involved us the rest of the afternoon. We treated to a nice evening of beer from one of the sponsors and lovely dinner with most of us equestrians getting together to share our views of the days events.

Saturday was more breakouts sessions with open discussions of the following subjects:

- Developing regional trails systems, challenges, solutions, for community engagements, planning, development, and maintenance.
- Addressing overuse, and negative impacts for trails users.

- Detailed discussion on the increasing presence of e-bikes and this means to our trails system (notes on this to be included later in this article).
- Guidelines to a Quality Trail Experience, what makes some trails wildly successful while other fall into disuse.
- Trail Stewardship Partnerships between land managers and non-profit organizations.
- Resolving Trail Conflicts, how these conflicts can be resolved and harmony restored.

The event ended with strategic meeting of Oregon Trail Coalition. Many of forums during the day had been moderated by our own Randy Rasmussen our National Public lands representative for BCHA.

Factoids on Electronic Bikes or E-Bikes:

- Meant to be road and Mtn. bikes with electronics assist.
- Right now running about \$9,000 a piece.
- Mostly being developed for people wanting to commute to work or older Mtn Biker that wants to have some help getting up mountains.
- Slightly heavier ones are being used to carry cargo, tools etc...
- There are three classes:
 - Class one; peddle assist no faster than regular mountain bike, but person can go farther than normal
 - Class two; has throttle and can go as fast as 20MPH
 - Class three: has throttle and can go as fast as 28MPH

Everybody agrees a person can go farther and faster on these bikes.

Rules right now as presented at the trails summit differ between Oregon State Park and Federal Land Managers ie; BLM and FS

Oregon State Park (which is current rule right now) allowed on Trail/Road with 8 ft tread surface (doesn't matter what the surface is) unless otherwise signed.

PLEASE BE CHECKING WITH YOUR LOCAL STATE PARKS MANAGERS AND FIGURE OUT HOW THEY PLAN ON HANDLING THIS.

Federal Lands including BLM and Forest Service:

It has a motor so will not be allowed on non-motorized trails but these bikes are not being welcomed on motorized trails either so these agencies will be having a problem figuring out where they are to go if they come into more use.

FS is looking into see if they could be allowed to be used for Trail Maintenance on non-motorized trails.

It seems that due to the cost of these bikes the best use should be on bike paths as commute vehicles, but still a new developing trail user option so please keep your ears and eyes open and let your local public lands representatives hear what you are hearing and seeing.



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2018 State Ride at Mann Camp in the Ochocos

Submitted by: Marilyn Bernal

A good time was had by all at this year's BCHO State Ride at Mann Camp in the Ochoco Mountains. The weather was beautiful and sunny, the trails were clear (and not dusty!) and riding and camping with old friends and new ones was great fun. Unfortunately, we only had a few people from other chapters. It was good to see Jerry Bentz, who is always there, and it was really fun to meet and visit with Frank and Renee Zitnik from the Territorial Riders chapter.

One could ride with a group or with one other friend, however it suited you. I was training my young Aussie Hallelujah to participate in horse rides without heeling any horses, so I did the first couple rides with only my trail bud of many years Claudia Jacobs and her good dog Spur. My mare is very patient, so the few slips made by Hallie were minor.....

The traditional Saturday night potluck NEVER disappoints if you enjoy super dutch oven cooking and other great food, and this year was no exception! Becky Wolfe and Barb Smith joined us for dinner; they came over from the Allen Creek camp where they were marking trails to use in the future with the GPS.

On Sunday, when most folks had headed home, Claudia and I had a wonderful ride with old friends George and Barb Johnson from the West Cascades Chapter. George showed us a couple dynamite new campsites higher up the mountain that were gorgeous. Since he and Barb were riding mules, it was more good experience for Hallie and she only heeled my horse once!

Many thanks to our chapter folks who always come through with toilets (Duane & Ruth Miller) and certified hay and water (Lee and Peg Fischer). Thanks are also due to everybody who made the arrangements, brought food for the potluck and always thanks to our super leader Buck Davis, who has been healing from health issues, but who was there anyway!





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Events Calendar

Event Start	Event End	Event Hours PST	Event Title	Event Description	Event Location	BCHO Calendar Name
11/10/18	11/10/18	09:00AM - 03:00PM	Play in the Rain Day		Mount Pisgah Arboretum, 34901 Frank Parish Rd, Eugene, OR 97405, USA	Emerald Empire BCH Chapter
11/18/18	11/18/18	12:00AM - 03:00AM	Joint BCHO and OET Public Lands Discussion	a. How OET and BCHO can work together on public lands issues b. How OET and BCHO can present a united front on equestrian issues	Library, Molalla, OR 97038, USA	BCHO State Calendar
11/27/18	11/27/18	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Expo - Kelly Behr		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	High Desert Trail Riders
12/5/18	12/5/18	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Emerald Empire Christmas Party	Emily Elias- 541-520-9286	85726 Svarverud Rd, Eugene, OR 97405, USA	Emerald Empire BCH Chapter
12/6/18	12/6/18	07:00PM - 08:00PM	BCHO President Call	Dial 712-451-1093 to join the monthly presidents call, a recorded voice will ask then for a Access Code, enter 736109 pound sign.		BCHO State Calendar
12/15/18	12/15/18	02:00PM - 06:00PM	Columbia Gorge Christmas party		Hood River Saddle Club, 4384 Belmont Dr, Hood River, OR 97031, USA	Columbia Gorge BCH Chapter
12/25/18	12/25/18	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Expo - Kelly Behr		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	High Desert Trail Riders
1/3/19	1/3/19	07:00PM - 08:00PM	BCHO President Call	Dial 712-451-1093 to join the monthly presidents call, a recorded voice will ask then for a Access Code, enter 736109 pound sign.		BCHO State Calendar
1/22/19	1/22/19	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Expo - Kelly Behr		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	High Desert Trail Riders
2/7/19	2/7/19	07:00PM - 08:00PM	BCHO President Call	Dial 712-451-1093 to join the monthly presidents call, a recorded voice will ask then for a Access Code, enter 736109 pound sign.		BCHO State Calendar
2/26/19	2/26/19	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Expo - Kelly Behr		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	High Desert Trail Riders
3/7/19	3/7/19	07:00PM - 08:00PM	BCHO President Call	Dial 712-451-1093 to join the monthly presidents call, a recorded voice will ask then for a Access Code, enter 736109 pound sign.		BCHO State Calendar
3/16/19	3/16/19	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 \$5, admission is \$1 per person.	694 NE 4th Ave, 694 Northeast 4th Avenue, Canby, OR 97013, USA	Public Equestrian Events
3/26/19	3/26/19	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Expo - Kelly Behr		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	High Desert Trail Riders
4/4/19	4/4/19	07:00PM - 08:00PM	BCHO President Call	Dial 712-451-1093 to join the monthly presidents call, a recorded voice will ask then for a Access Code, enter 736109 pound sign.		BCHO State Calendar
4/23/19	4/23/19	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Expo - Kelly Behr		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	High Desert Trail Riders
4/25/19	4/28/19		Pacific Overland Expo and Auction	Join us for an educational & fun filled time! ■ See Farm Antiques & Equipment ■ Blacksmithing & Leatherworking Demonstrations ■ Stagecoach rides ■ Vendors, Swap Meet, Food and much more! Phone: 503-434-7524 Email: carroll@co.yamhill.or.us For more information visit: pacificoverlandauktion.com	2070 NE Lafayette Ave, McMinnville, OR 97128, USA	Public Equestrian Events
5/2/19	5/2/19	07:00PM - 08:00PM	BCHO President Call	Dial 712-451-1093 to join the monthly presidents call, a recorded voice will ask then for a Access Code, enter 736109 pound sign.		BCHO State Calendar
5/10/19	5/12/19		Southern Oregon Horse Fest	Sourdough will have a booth at the event	Josephine County Fairgrounds, Grants Pass, OR	Sourdough BCH Chapter
5/19/19	5/20/19		Sourdough Trail Trial and Silent Auction	Registration: 8:00a.m., first riders out at 9:30a.m. This is a family fun event, not a sanctioned trail trial. After the long winter, start getting your horse back in shape for a summer of trail riding. There will be 8 to 10 obstacles to complete separated into two courses, both need to be completed. Horse and rider will be judged separately for a total score. Cost: \$15.00 for ages 15 and older, \$10.00 for 14 and under First place prizes awarded to 18 years and older, 10 years to 17 years and 9 years and under. Need not be present to win. We will have Silent Auction items to bid on that are both horse and non-horse related items. Need not be present to win. There will be food available for purchase. Pre-registration will be available but not mandatory.	Pacific, A Garden in the Siskiyou, 14615 Water Gap Rd, Williams, OR.	Sourdough BCH Chapter
5/28/19	5/28/19	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Expo - Kelly Behr		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	High Desert Trail Riders
6/6/19	6/6/19	07:00PM - 08:00PM	BCHO President Call	Dial 712-451-1093 to join the monthly presidents call, a recorded voice will ask then for a Access Code, enter 736109 pound sign.		BCHO State Calendar
6/25/19	6/25/19	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Expo - Kelly Behr		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	High Desert Trail Riders
7/4/19	7/4/19	07:00PM - 08:00PM	BCHO President Call	Dial 712-451-1093 to join the monthly presidents call, a recorded voice will ask then for a Access Code, enter 736109 pound sign.		BCHO State Calendar
7/23/19	7/23/19	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Expo - Kelly Behr		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	High Desert Trail Riders
8/1/19	8/1/19	07:00PM - 08:00PM	BCHO President Call	Dial 712-451-1093 to join the monthly presidents call, a recorded voice will ask then for a Access Code, enter 736109 pound sign.		BCHO State Calendar
8/27/19	8/27/19	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Expo - Kelly Behr		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	High Desert Trail Riders
9/5/19	9/5/19	07:00PM - 08:00PM	BCHO President Call	Dial 712-451-1093 to join the monthly presidents call, a recorded voice will ask then for a Access Code, enter 736109 pound sign.		BCHO State Calendar
9/24/19	9/24/19	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Expo - Kelly Behr		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	High Desert Trail Riders
10/3/19	10/3/19	07:00PM - 08:00PM	BCHO President Call	Dial 712-451-1093 to join the monthly presidents call, a recorded voice will ask then for a Access Code, enter 736109 pound sign.		BCHO State Calendar
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10/22/19	10/22/19	06:30PM - 08:30PM	Pack Expo - Kelly Behr		Red Rooster, 3608 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603, United States	High Desert Trail Riders

Back Country Horsemen of Oregon, Inc.

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**Yes! I would like to help preserve Horsemen's rights
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__ Steens, South East Oregon \$10

__ East Cascades, Bend

__ Sourdough, South West Oregon \$5

__ Emerald Empire, Eugene \$5

__ Territorial Riders, Oregon City \$5

__ High Country Wilderness Packers

__ West Cascade BCH, Salem \$5

Chapter

__ Member At Large

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Signed_____Date_____

Signed_____Date_____

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

Some Dues maybe deductible as charitable contributions for income tax purposes.
Dues may be considered ordinary and necessary business deductions.

BCHO website: bcho.org/membership/

Back Country Horsemen of Oregon
c/o Laurie Hufstader
PO Box 543
Veneta, OR 97487
(541) 935-2176

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

High Desert Trail Riders BCH
Betty Applebaker
(541) 798-5005
hdtr@bcho.org

Steens BCH
John O'Connor
PO Box 471
Hines, OR 97738
541-678-3502
SteensBCH@bcho.org

East Cascades BCH
Marilyn Bernal
PO Box 112
Terrebonne, OR, 97760
Phone 541-923-4275
sunshinemgb@gmail.com

High Country Wilderness
Packers
Mat Wooley
Wctimberfalling@aol.com

Emerald Empire BCH
Becky Hope
33485 Hampton Rd.
Eugene, OR 97405
(541) 747-3916
6fhope@gmail.com

Sourdough BCH
Terry Canavello
canajello@gmail.com

West Cascade BCH
Jennifer Paulson
P.O. Box 3476
Salem, OR 97302
(509) 910-6780
westcascades-pres@bcho.org

Territorial Riders BCH
Tim Lagasse
28012 S Baurer Rd
Colton, OR 97017
(503) 314-7712
territorialriders@bcho.org

