



## Let's Get Ready for the 2023 Trail Season

Submitted by Sara Lagasse

Now is a good time to crack open the tack room and remove the cobwebs. Dust off the 2022 trail dust on the First aid kit.

I'm the worst when it comes to getting my ducks in a row for trail season, I just want to hit the trail. But this year, I'm in-acting my 2023 New year's resolution. This year is as good as any, right?

How's your tack? As I remove last year's dirt, I like to look over the stress points of my leather tack and I'm looking for any cracks or half torn problems in my leather as I remove last year's dirt. I also look for any missing or broken buckles, clasps, or those leather keepers that become very important to keep me safe out on the trail. I then make sure that all my leather is properly conditioned. Yes, it is lots of work but it's better to know before you go. The last thing I need is a rodeo in the woods for simple things.

How's your First Aid kit? Was anything used out of it last year that needs to be replaced? Can you find everything easy? What is the band aid count? Is there something new that can be added to it? Perhaps a cloth for a makeshift sling and another cloth to go around the person to make it secure from flopping? Perhaps one of those new soft splints. What will go with you for the just the Horse trailer and what will go with you on your trail ride? Are you taking a first aid kit for your horse?



### What's Inside

Let's Get Ready for Trail Season . . . .	1, 3
Chapter Meeting Times . . . . .	2
Upper Rogue River Trail 2022. . . . .	4-5
Oregon Horse Directory . . . . .	6
Promo Items Available . . . . .	7
Illinois River Forks State Park . . . . .	8-9
Navigating E-Vehicles . . . . .	10
Allen Creek Horse Camp. . . . .	11
PCT Article . . . . .	12-15
Events Calendar . . . . .	16-17
Membership Reminder . . . . .	18-19

## BCHO State Officers

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

## The Purposes of Back Country Horsemen of Oregon

To PERPETUATE the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's backcountry and wilderness.

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

To ASSIST the various government and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resources.

To EDUCATE, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise use of the backcountry resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage.

To FOSTER and encourage the formation of new BCHO chapter organizations.

# 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

7:00p.m. – 8:30p.m. | ***Please confirm meeting with contact.***

Contact: Joy Senger, columbiagorge@bcho.org

## East Cascades Chapter

Meets: The 2nd Monday of each month at Pleasant Ridge Community Hall, 7067 SW Canal Blvd., Redmond, OR 97756

Potluck at 6:30p.m. and meeting after.

***Please confirm meeting with contact.***

Contact: Duane Miller, eastcascades@bcho.com

## Emerald Empire Chapter

Meets: the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Emerald People's Utility District, 33733 Seavey Loop Rd., Eugene, OR 97405

6:30p.m. – 8:30p.m. | ***Please confirm meeting with contact.***

Contact: Melanie Kate-Mason, emeraldempire@bcho.org

## High Country Wilderness Packers

Meets: Held by conference call as needed

***Please confirm meeting with contact.***

Contact: Mat Wooley, hcwp@bcho.org

## High Desert Trail Riders Chapter

Meets: The 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Waffle Hut, 106 Main St, Klamath Falls, OR 97601

6:30pm | ***Please Confirm meeting with contact.***

Contact: Betty Applebaker, hptr@bcho.org

## Sourdough Chapter

Meets: 3rd Thursday of the month at Community Bible Church, Room 202, 500 N. 10th St., Central Point, OR 97502

7:00p.m. – 8:30p.m. | ***Please confirm meeting with contact.***

Contact: Cate Bendock, sourdough@bcho.org

## Steens Chapter

Meets: Held as needed, please confirm meeting and work party dates with contact.

***Please confirm meeting with contact.***

Contact: SteensBCH@gmail.com

## Territorial Riders Chapter

Meets: The 2nd Tuesday of every month at Beavercreek Fire Dept., 22310 South Beavercreek Rd., Beavercreek, OR 97004

7:00p.m. – 9:00p.m. | ***Please confirm meeting with contact.***

Contact: Dan Dahlke, territorialriders@bcho.org

## West Cascades Chapter

Meets: The 1st Wednesday of each month at Elmer's Restaurant, 3950 Market St. NE, Salem, OR 97301.

Dinner at 6:00p.m. Meeting at 7:00p.m.

***Please confirm meeting with contact.***

Contact: Arden Corey, westcascades-pres@bcho.org

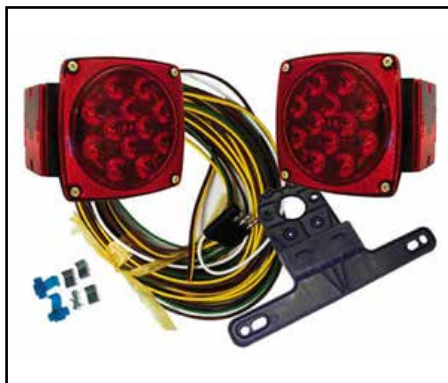




Are you using a GPS device this year? Is the subscription up to date? Does your device have new batteries and do you have spares? I have the Garmin InReach device and have been happy with it, but every year we like to do a test run to make sure that all the buttons are working.

It would also be a good idea to have a map that shows your trails and the ol' handy dandy compass. Don't forget to toss in a few granola bars or Power bars, a bottle of water or two and a wind breaker coat, because if you need them, you have them.

Is your horse and or mule ready for the trail 2023 trail season? Perhaps a few local rides can let you know what needs work? Are we still ok with crossing the bridge, water, hills, picking our way through rocks? Do you have a boot in case you lose a shoe? The harder the trail the more conditioning my horse may need.



How's the truck and trailer? Oil, coolant, tires, lights? Is the trailer Floor solid look in good condition (I mean under the mats), can you see any rust? How's the tires, brakes, wheel bearings? Is the drag chains and e-brake cable all still look good?... and those darn trailer lights how are they doing?

Just hope this has provided a few things to ponder and work on while we all wait for the sun to return to our area.

Cheers to everyone for a successful 2023 trail season!



# Upper Rogue River Trail 2022 – BCHO Sourdough Chapter Pack In

Submitted by Cate Bendock

The High Cascades Ranger District has one of the most beautiful trail systems in Oregon, The Upper Rogue River Trail. Two years ago, we were able to help Ranger Angie Panter get bridge timbers into a portion of this trail in order for her crew to build a bridge through a wetland area. This year, The BCHO Sourdough Chapter helped Angie and her crew take in tools and supplies, clear the trail in, and helped to saw out a huge log fall that has needed to be taken out for over three years.



*Bill Cease admiring the Rogue River*

On June 15, 2022 Diane Eek, Bill and Susan Cease, and myself did an on-foot reconnaissance of the trail to the log jam. It's a good thing we did this as there were several large trees across the trail and lots of brushing that needed to be done. This recon trip helped Angie and us to plan for a productive and safe trip with pack animals and volunteers to help cut and brush the trail on the way in.

As you can see from the pictures, the log jam was a monster. They had uprooted and fell in one of those famous mountain storms. One tree had split and shattered, making for a dramatic picture and additional challenges for the sawyers.



Our June 23 all volunteers and FS persons met at the Natural Bridge Trailhead to do our safety talk, load the pack animals and make our way to the site. The crew consisted of four brushers and three B sawyers, and Angie Panter, Wendell Wells and Bill Cease were our very experienced C sawyers. Angie, her FS volunteer and Bill cut our way into the site of the big logs. Gayle Carlson and I packed in the tools and supplies. Wendell is an ex-packer, as is Diane. They were both great help along with three other volunteers getting loaded and making our way in. Wendell's grandson joined us for the day. This Hawaiian young man did a great job helping with brushing and keeping up the pace.



*Bill and Susan Cease and Diane Eek get their first look at the log pile June 15*

*Continued on page 5*





As most who read this publication know, without volunteers from every sector of recreation, our trails would be in worse shape than they are. It is always a joy to work with those who love the trails, and equines too! We were all looking forward to our next adventure on Public Lands.



*Cosmos and mule Whiskey all tacked and packed ready to go.*



*Diane Eek assisting Gayle Carlson with packing her mule, Dilly.*



*Angie, Wendell, and Tom assess a cut.*



## CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:

Resources, Business Directory, Events Calendar, & More!



**2023 TECHNICAL LARGE  
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Watch for 2023 Fall & 2024 Spring Dates

with Dr. Rebecca (Gimenez) Husted

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# Promotional Items Available to BCHO State Chapters and Members

Publicity Coordinator Currently Becky Hope  
publicity@bcho.org • 541-337-3138

Back Country Horsemen of Oregon now has up-dated promotional items available for your use.

When you are having a Public Event, help get the word out about BCHO to others. Please know that if your chapter is unable to purchase or print these items, accommodations can be made by emailing [publicity@bcho.org](mailto:publicity@bcho.org). Please let us know how we can help.

The Promotional Highline is available for purchased from the Packer Store by emailing [packerstore@bcho.org](mailto:packerstore@bcho.org). Each Promotional Highline is \$2.25/ea. +Shipping costs and are not printable online. If chapters are unable to purchase the Promotional Highline for your event, the Publicity budget has 50 available, just email [publicity@bcho.org](mailto:publicity@bcho.org) and pay for shipping cost. We would much rather have the information available at your event so you can help visitors and participants know what we are all about and in hopes they can join.

Please be sure to visit <https://www.bcho.org/resources-forms/member-resources/> for printable resources like 'Share the Trail' and 'LNT' brochures but also check out the 'Horse Sense' booklet, 'A beginners Day Ride' check list and 'What a Horse Sees' poster. If any chapter needs assistance with obtaining the link or can't afford the material, please reach out to the Publicity coordinator at [publicity@bcho.org](mailto:publicity@bcho.org) with what you need and how many. The Publicity Coordinator also has the 'BCHO Business' Cards that can only be procured by emailing [publicity@bcho.org](mailto:publicity@bcho.org). We are really excited to offer these items for your events, please check them out.



Promo Highline



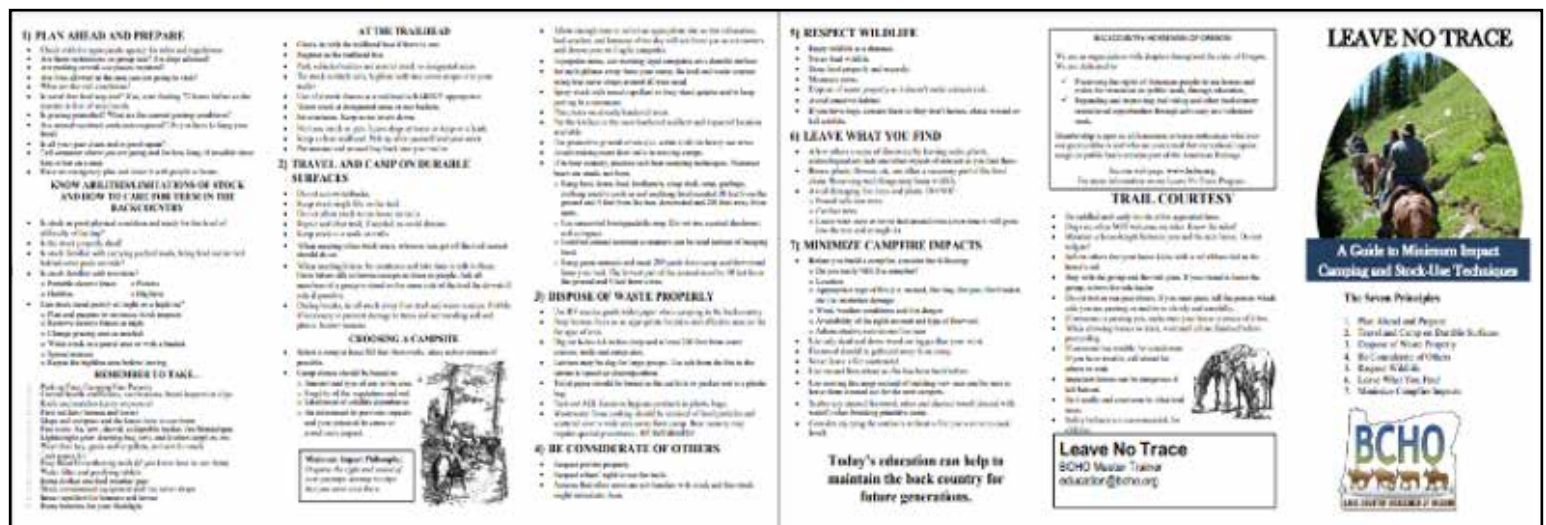
BCHO Tri-Fold



Business Card



Share the Trail Brochure



Leave No Trace Brochure



# Illinois River Forks State Park – Westside and Eastside

Submitted by Cate Bendock, Sourdough Chapter BCHO

Trail work started early this year at one of our favorite day use parks in the Illinois River Valley of Southern Oregon, Josephine County. This little-known gem of a park offers ample trailer parking, a variety of trails, and access to the lovely Illinois Valley River, a tributary of the Rogue River.

For the last several years a large log has been laying across one of the trails. It was on an old logging road. It was past-time for that log to go!

On February 12, 2022 four of our volunteers, and myself, stepped up to pack in the saws and other tools needed to take out a section of that log and to do some brushing and widening. Bill and Susan Cease, Mike Rebsamen, Terry Bendock and myself spent a pleasant day working on what I call the 'five year clearing plan'. We trimmed and cut back far enough to not have to redo it for five years.

As the pictures attest, it was a stellar day for fun trail work and was enjoyed by all.

Check out this link to find this ride. [https://www.oregonhikers.org/field\\_guide/West\\_Fork\\_Illinois\\_River\\_Loop\\_Hike](https://www.oregonhikers.org/field_guide/West_Fork_Illinois_River_Loop_Hike)

If you're coming from a long way there's a great horse camp at Lake Selmac with miles of trails. Stay there and then zip over to IRFP for a day ride. [https://www.josephinecounty.gov/departments/parks/lake\\_selmac.php](https://www.josephinecounty.gov/departments/parks/lake_selmac.php)



*Bill and Terry moving the big log cut out*



*Susan Cease getting onto the pruning*



*Job done – It's a freeway!*

But alas, the fun had just begun! Doing reconnaissance of the trails found much more to do for 2022. The Dogwood Trail needed widening and trees trimmed back, the Link Trail to the Ridge Trail needed lots of brushing and cutting, and the River Trail, all of it, needed logs cut out and sever brushing all the way to the Rogue River.

To top this off, we had the great surprise when Park Ranger Nathan Seable contacted us and ask if we'd like another parking lot on the other side of the Illinois River off the day use area. Now, when was the last time you had a Public Lands Ranger ask you that? Of course, we said yes! Our Westside parking area is very nice, but it is out of sight of the Rangers and park hosts. There had been some problems with vehicles and trailers being vandalized in the past. The State Parks was ready to address these issues and work with trail users to mitigate, patrol the Westside, and provide an alternate seasonal parking area. Their plan for next year is to pipe gate the Westside and open and close the gates daily.

In the winter the Illinois River is too high and dangerous to cross. In the spring it carries fish to spawning areas. Therefore, the Eastside parking area will be closed from late October until April. The Westside lot will still be available year-round.

Additionally, getting that other parking lot required the collective efforts of State Parks, BLM and Fish and Wildlife. Ranger Seable and his crew, along with Todd C. Neville of BLM put their heads together and made those land issues happen. Next, Fish and Wildlife found us a crossing that would not harm the aquatic life of the river. Our hats are off to Ranger Nathan Seable. It is always a joy to find a ranger with a background in ranching, riding, and working with equestrians.



Another huge advocate for this project and the upkeep of the park is the Friends of the Forks and the Illinois Valley Community Development Organization (IVCDO). Roger Brandt and Lynda Naydol are big supporters in the community and were a great help in assuring community support.

Starting in February with opening story of the big log, work parties in April, May, June, July and September have found all trail work done and a new Equestrian only parking lot on the Eastside of the Illinois River Forks State Park. And with a new trail and river crossing from that new parking lot. If you'd like to explore the new Equestrian Parking area this year before it closes, or go next year, just go to <https://stateparks.oregon.gov/index.cfm?do=park.profile&parkId=71>.

Hats off to all the wonderful volunteers from the Illinois Valley community, BCHO Sourdough, State Parks, BLM and Fish and Wildlife, and Friends of the Forks and IVCDO, for making this all come together and be a great success.



Ranger Nathan Seable, Oregon State Parks and Cate Bendock, BCHO Sourdough Chapter



# Navigating E-Vehicles

Submitted by Melanie Kate-Mason  
Emerald Empire Chapter

*Edited March 28, 2023 due to change in circumstances.*

E-Vehicles are becoming more and more present on trails even though they are prohibited on many of our trails. As we know, they are a safety risk to pedestrians and horses and it is important to document and report these incidents to authorities immediately. Document with location, date and time for future reference and our records of incidences.

In October, as my horse and I were riding along the trail at Elijah Bristow State Park, an E-Vehicle came towards us very rapidly, startling both me and my horse. The rider finally saw us when they were nearly upon us then spun around and went up and around on another trail. I reported this immediately to the State and to our local Park Manager, as we were recommended to do on the recent BCHO zoom on E-Vehicles. Two weeks later, two of us riders had another encounter with an E-Bike, only this time the rider stopped and pulled his bike off the trail, turned it off and engaged in a pleasant conversation. He was not aware that E-Bikes were not allowed on the trails as there are no posted signs, even though I had been given the assurance from the Park Manager that signs would be posted ("It helps with the justification for posting signs"). Another two weeks and I encountered a couple of E-Bikes followed by an E hoverboard. My horse DID NOT know what the latter was and started to explode, while I had the reins in one hand and my camera in the other, hoping to control my horse! Of course, this person went around the corner and "hid" behind a tree. I reported all three incidents immediately with the photo of the hover board.

Despite our conversations and letters to the State and Park Manager, an E-Vehicle event was held for 2 days at Elijah Bristow State Park last summer 2022, which included camping for participants. This gives the E-Vehicle community mixed messages that they can use the Park. Another one of these events was planned for this summer 2023, despite our expressed concerns last year and LOTS of riders reaching out to us with concerns of this event! The Park's response (was) that they did not hear (enough) objection to hold this event even though multiple horse people and groups did last year and this year, citing SAFETY as a BIG concern!! My feeling (was) that an accident with an injury involving a horse (would have) to happen in order for them to understand how serious this is! As responsible equestrians, who value safety, this (was) NOT an option!

Going forward for all of us, it's my realization that we



ALL have to be more vocal with contacting our State Parks and other agencies how serious this is. In my last encounter (with the E hoverboard), I was lucky not to have gotten dumped and hurt, or my horse taking off.

We have managed to make progress communicating with the mountain bike riders about speed and corners riding down trails and mountains at high speeds. This is another level, of course, with these E-Vehicles having the capability of higher speeds of up to 35 mph or more!

Since I started this article for the newsletter over a month ago, events changed TODAY, March 28th 2023. Due to the outpouring of emails to the Park Manager and copied to the State Parks, which included the legal language of the Parks Administration guidelines clearly stating that E Vehicles are not allowed in State Parks, Oregon Administrative Rules 736, WE WERE HEARD! This event is now relocated to another venue THIS YEAR! Signs were put up 2 weeks ago. Never give up, even when it seems that you are running out of time! We proved that persistence, facts, level headed testimonies and photos pays off. We were asking for 2 things to happen: signs posted at the Park stating no E Vehicles allowed and move the E fest (hopefully this year) to a different, more appropriate location.

I have considered buying a Go Pro camera for my helmet or something similar for documenting encounters. Immediate reporting is key including reporting to Park Managers, State and local authorities (put their phone numbers in your phone). Partner with other horse groups to write more letters while continuing to write letters regularly to the authorities until signs are put up for no E Vehicles. Familiarize yourself what these different class bikes look like for your reporting! Size, color, equipment on bike. IMMEDIATELY include photos in emails. Also, report to the State Parks ([stateparks.oregon.gov](http://stateparks.oregon.gov)). When you ride at any public lands that does not allow E Vehicles, document and report immediately to that agency!

EVERY REPORT is vital!! This is a Tsunami, a huge movement that is growing. Let's come together now in this effort to stop them on our public lands and trails!



# Allen Creek Horse Camp

Submitted by Becky Wolf

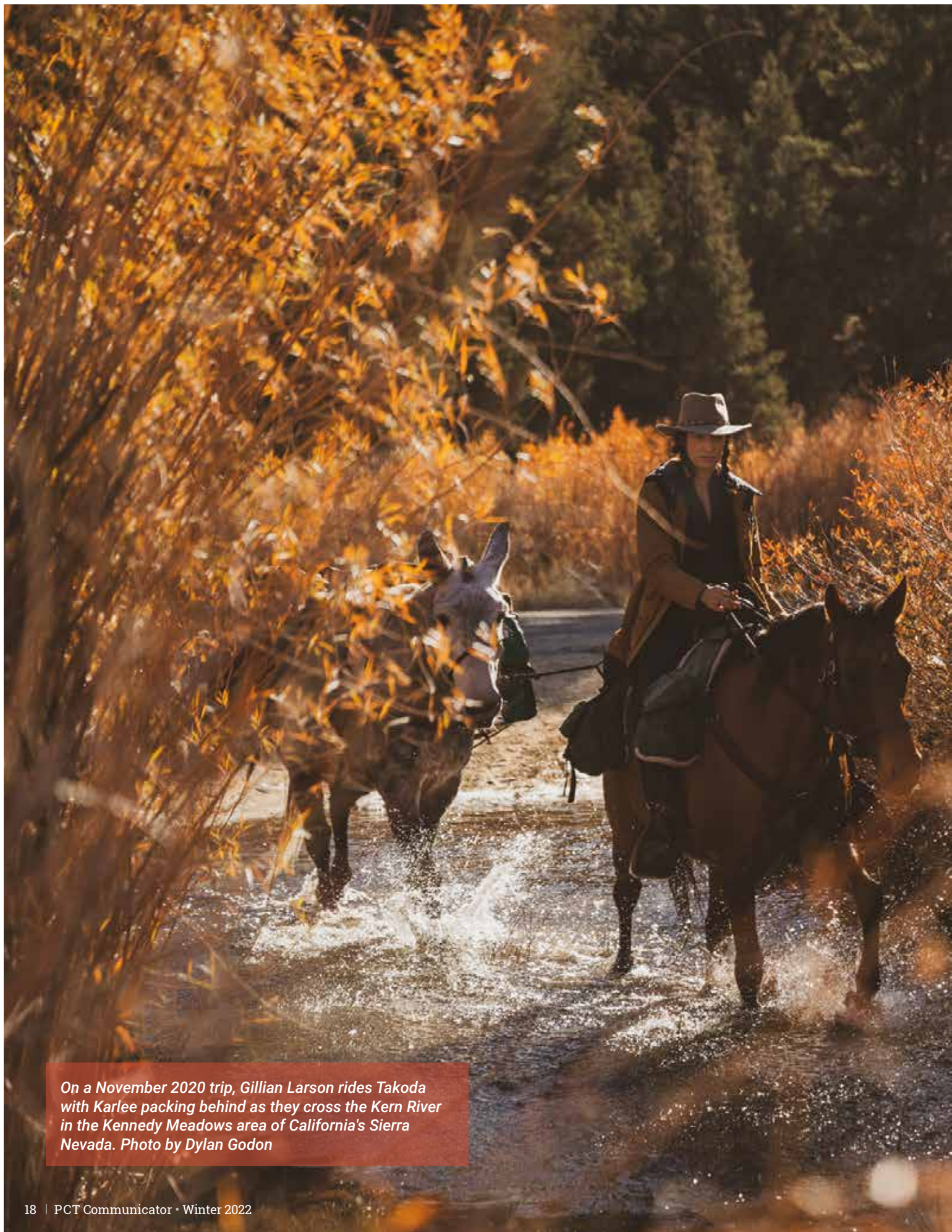
BCHO and OET completed a new 4-horse steel corral at Allen Creek Horse Camp in the Ochoco National Forest in July 2022. BCHO adopted this camp in 2016 in a volunteer agreement with USFS Prineville office. We have been working on completing the camp with steel corrals ever since. We partnered with OET who supplied the funds through their grant program for the purchase of all the steel panels and gates for the corrals and then BCH volunteers welded and installed them all in cement. We also collaborated with OET on finishing up the signage of the new USFS approved trail system out of camp. We now have five completed loops. OET volunteers installed many of the signs at various intersections along the routes. We were also able to install walk-thru gates out of the campground and one on the trail itself.

The photos show the last completed corral and on of the walk-thru gates.

We are planning on having a BCHO state ride at the camp on July 7,8,9, 2023.







*On a November 2020 trip, Gillian Larson rides Takoda with Karlee packing behind as they cross the Kern River in the Kennedy Meadows area of California's Sierra Nevada. Photo by Dylan Godon*



# Taking Stock of Horses and Mules on the Trail

By Gillian Larson

*It's a glorious morning as you trek on the PCT. After a day off-trail and the luxury of soap for you and your clothes and with the contents of a re-supply box tucked in your backpack, you're eager to get back under that blue sky with the tang of pine in the air. As you set off, you glimpse a puff of dust just above the ridge ahead. A couple of switchbacks later, you meet a wrangler on a horse leading a couple of mules with boxes covered in canvas tarps, another wrangler on horseback behind.*

*You were really hitting your stride, but you step off the trail and wait on the downhill side as the string goes past. The riders tip their hats to say "thanks."*

For many, such moments are shared connections, but some trail users might set off again wondering why stock aren't kept to separate trails. In reality, though, horses and mules are far more beneficial and far less harmful to the Pacific Crest Trail than many might suspect.

## Trail Built on Horses' Backs

For starters, the trail couldn't exist in its current form without stock animals.

Horses and mules contribute mightily to maintaining trails in wilderness areas. They are often used to carry in timber for bridges, equipment for building and maintaining trails, and supplies for crews. In addition, search and rescue often rely on equine power to reach people stranded in difficult terrain or to transport injured trail users unable to walk. Supplies for backcountry ranger stations and camps come in via pack trains, which also carry out trash. People whose age or physical limitations prevent them from accessing the wilderness are more likely to be able to experience its splendor thanks to horses carrying them into the backcountry.

Well into the 20th century, stock carried the majority of backcountry visitors. Horse and mule use was so ingrained

in the common concept of backcountry recreation that in the Wilderness Act of 1964, the landmark legislation that protected our natural outdoor resources for future generations, part of the official designation of what constituted a "wilderness area" relied on earlier stipulations from the 1920s calling for an expanse large enough to allow at least a two-week pack trip. Accessing the backcountry without the support of stock was unimaginable to most.

That changed in the second half of the 20th century. Between 1965 and 1979, the number of people using the wilderness increased by nearly 300%, according to a U.S. Department of Agriculture report, and it became clear that wilderness areas couldn't sustain stock used to support this many visitors. Large group outings with dozens of stock animals were mostly abandoned, but damage had been done to public perceptions of outfitters and their horses and mules.

## A Lighter Stock Footprint

Attitudes, as well as laws, have since changed – a lot – to lessen stock's impact on trails. Stock use has fallen to historically low levels even as the total number of trail users has grown. Wilderness areas have "heartbeat" rules that include horses, limiting group sizes. Long-distance permits issued by the Pacific Crest Trail Association allow no more than three head of stock per rider. And there are prohibitions against stock in certain areas: for instance, Crater Lake National Park requires stock users to camp in designated sites, while the Glacier Peak Wilderness identifies fragile areas where stock access is denied.

Most equestrian groups are taking trail stewardship seriously as well, including advocating "Leave No Trace" approaches. Guidelines about where and how to secure stock overnight in the backcountry are designed to prevent damage to trees, soil, water sources and vegetation and to minimize accumulation of manure, especially at





campsites. Among other things, stock users are prohibited from tying animals directly to trees, directed to camp on durable surfaces, prohibited from camping within 200 feet of water sources, and required to use certified weed-free feeds. Organizations such as the **Back Country Horsemen of America** promote an ethos of awareness, education and conservation as they work to reform the practices related to stock in the wilderness.

You resume your beautiful walk on the PCT, perhaps thinking about how wilderness usage has changed, when you come across the calling card of a pack train: a line of green road apples scattered down the middle of the trail. Again you wonder about stock's place on trails because that is certainly "a trace."

## The Scoop on Poop

From an environmental view, manure is not a danger to the trail or its users, studies say.

*Giardia duodenalis*, which is spread through fecal contamination and can cause serious illness, is a real threat on the PCT. But the giardia that afflicts people most likely does not come from horse or mule manure. Multiple studies have found little to no evidence of giardia in manure from privately

owned stock or from commercial pack stations. According to a study published in 2000 in the *Equine Veterinary Journal*, the type of giardia that makes people sick is not the same as that which infects horses, and there has been no documentation of any cross-species transmission.

In fact, the nonprofit **Equine Land Conservation Resource** says there are no known toxic effects on humans due to exposure to horse waste, and the **Environmental Protection Agency** has excluded manure from solid waste regulation because it contains neither significant amounts of hazardous material, nor exhibits harmful characteristics.

Manure is also, according to data, not a danger to ecosystems' health. Although many seeds can pass through equines' digestive tracts virtually unaltered, and some of these seeds have been germinated in laboratories, an article published in *Plant Ecology* in 2001 states that researchers couldn't get these seeds to grow under the conditions that typically exist in the vicinity of a trail. It's not clear why, though it could be because they get dried out, kicked around, trampled underfoot, or lack other crucial components for successful growth. A similar experiment published in *Forest Ecology and Management* in 2008 found that while some native seed samples recovered from manure would sprout, none of the non-native seed samples survived.





Invasive weeds are an ongoing backcountry problem. They can enter protected areas in a variety of ways, such as via human clothing or shoes, vehicle tires, tents, backpacks, and the fur and feces of numerous animals, but it's not clear that stock are a significant source. Researchers who examined the dispersion of invasive plants such as knapweed in a paper for Montana State University in 2017 found that the same species exist in similar proportions on both hiking-only and stock-approved trails. Horse manure may contain non-native seeds, but it does not appear to elevate the spread of invasive plants.

Stock feed is another possible source, but weed-free certificates for stock feed are required on wilderness and public lands along the PCT.

*But still ... must there be manure on the trail?*

An average-sized horse or mule produces about 35 pounds of waste a day. Its waste weighs more than its daily food because of the high water content necessary for stock to safely digest their dry forage. Most horses will poop up to a dozen times a day. They are also one of the few species that can defecate while walking, making it impractical and even dangerous in certain trail areas for riders to dismount, tie off their horses, and make their way back up the trail to spread out manure. Fortunately, a horse in motion naturally disperses its manure to some degree.

*Manure is not stock's only signature you notice. For the rest of the day, you can see hoofprints in the dust and an occasional deeper gouge.*

## Trail Wear

Due to their greater weight and the shape and consistency of their hooves, equines do exert more concentrated impact on soils and vegetation in comparison to hikers. But the amount of damage to the land is related to the frequency of footfalls. A **U.S. Forest Service** report in 1983 showed that the first footfalls on terrain cause considerably more damage than successive steps, and by sheer usage numbers, horses and mules are creating far fewer footfalls on trails than humans. Once trail structures become hardened by usage, they are less susceptible to additional impacts. What counts as "damage" on untouched ground is not necessarily problematic on an already well-worn and heavily traveled trail such as the PCT.

## Share the Trail, Share the Joy

Like most PCT users, those who bring stock on the trail are trying to be considerate and respectful of their fellow trail travelers. This sort of consideration is essential in all directions as we all work to make outdoor spaces accessible, welcoming, and sustainable for a diverse array of uses and users. Our shared love of the PCT and public lands unites us. We all benefit by collaborating to ensure protection of public lands and access to hiking and equestrian trails. Together,

we can work to protect our natural spaces from threats like encroaching development, resource extraction pressures, climate change and lack of funding for conservation and maintenance projects. May we all walk softly in our way.

*As the sun climbs the sky, you cross a sturdy bridge that keeps you out of a rushing creek. You pass a well-supplied and happy-looking work crew using picks and saws to clear a damaged stretch of the trail. And you come across another string of road apples. You kick them off the trail, where they will decompose and nourish the soil, and continue on your merry way. 🍏*

Gillian Larson began exploring the outdoors on her first horse at age 7. She has since completed more than 13,500 backcountry wilderness miles, including thru-riding the PCT three times as well as the Continental Divide Trail. Today, Gillian shares her passion for backcountry riding through her handbooks, private consultations and trail planning services, and group workshops. Learn more at [www.gillianlarson.net](http://www.gillianlarson.net).

Gillian Larson rides Zahra with Karlee packing in summer 2021 on the Knife's Edge section of Washington's Goat Rocks Wilderness. Photo by Jodi Johnson

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April					
Date	Time	Chapter Cal.	Event Title	Location	Description
Apr 22-23		Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR booth at Klamath Equestrian Center Tack Sale - Pam Lehto 541-892-3144	Klamath Equestrian Center, 779 Miller Island Rd, Klamath Falls, OR 97603	HDTR will have a booth at the Klamath Equestrian Center Tack Sale: Sat. April 22nd.
Apr 28-1		Emerald Empire BCH Chapter	EEBCH - East Cascade OET/BCH Camp out		
May					
May 5-8		Territorial Riders BCH Chapter	TRBCH - Timothy Lake/PCTA Work Party	Clackamas Lake Campground, Oregon	Contact Tim Lagasse, territorialriders-dir@bcho.org for details.
May 18-22		Columbia Gorge BCH Chapter	Columbia Gorge campout	Cyrus Horse Camp, Prineville, OR 97754	Annual camp clean up & rides
May 19-22		Emerald Empire BCH Chapter	EEBCH - Cyrus Camp out		
May 20	09:00AM - 04:00PM	Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR Spring Tune Up - Boehner's property - Cindi: 530-260-8121	15600 S Poe Valley Rd, Klamath Falls, OR 97603	Mark your calendars for May 20th for the 2nd Annual HDTR Spring Tune-Up at the Boehner's from 9am-4pm.
June					
Jun 2-5		Territorial Riders BCH Chapter	TRBCH - Riley H.C. & Trails work party	Riley Horse Campground, NF-1825, Rhododendron, OR 97049	Actual Date TBA - Contact Dan for more information, territorialriders@bcho.org
Jun 3-4		BCHO State Calendar	CH Pack String Pack Clinic	109 Stanley Rd Eagle Point OR 97524	0900-04:30pm
Jun 17-18		Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR Poker Ride Fundraiser	Gerber Reservoir	BCHO will be hosting a fun filled Saturday, with a Poker Ride and a Monte Carlo style card game. These events will be held at the equestrian horse camp at Gerber Reservoir. The Poker Ride will start at 9:00 AM.
Jun 17-18		Sourdough BCH Chapter	High Desert Trail Riders Poker Ride & Monte Carlo Night		
Jun 23-26		Columbia Gorge BCH Chapter	Columbia Gorge Senger campout	Senger's place, Wamic	
Jun 24-25		Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR Rye Spur Trail Clearing	Rye Spur 37819 Falls Hwy, Fort Klamath, OR 97626	
Jun 30-3		Emerald Empire BCH Chapter	EEBCH - Yoran Lake Trail Repair		
July					
Jul 1-2		Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR Raffle & Membership booth at Fort Klamath Roping	Fort Klamath OR	
Jul 7-10		BCHO State Calendar	BCHO State Ride	Allen Creek Horse Camp, Oregon	
Jul 8-9		Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR Blue Lake Fish Packing	Gearhart Mountain	



Jul 9-10		Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR Deming Creek Corral project		The corrals will be two twenty foot square and will connect to the steel corrals that are there. The wooden corrals burnt up.
Jul 13-17		Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR Marble Mountains Pack Trip - Betty: 541-891-8220	Marble Mountain Wilderness Fort Jones, CA 96032	HDTR Marble Mountains Pack TripContact Betty Applebaker for more information: 541-891-8220
Jul 14-17		Emerald Empire BCH Chapter	EEBCH - PCT/Pengra Pass		
Jul 17-18		Territorial Riders BCH Chapter	TRBCH - Pack Support for Kids with Cancer		Contact Dan territorialriders@bcho.org for details.
Jul 18-19		Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR Pack Support IN (for Anthony B.)		
Jul 22-23		Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR Pack Support OUT (for Anthony B.)		
<b>August</b>					
Aug 3	07:00PM - 08:00PM	BCHO State Calendar	BCHO President Call		BCHO President Call
Aug 19-20		Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR Four Mile Lake corral build	Fourmile Lake Fort Klamath, OR	We have enough pipe to build 4 more corrals and we will start getting the pipe ready as soon as the weather gets warmer.
Aug 22-23		Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR Pack Support IN (for Anthony B.)		
Aug 26-27		Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR Pack Support OUT (for Anthony B.)		
<b>September</b>					
Sep 9-10		Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR Chapter Picnic & Ride		
Sep 11-12		Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR Pack Support IN (for Anthony B.)		
Sep 14-18		Columbia Gorge BCH Chapter	Columbia Gorge campout	Cyrus Horse Camp, Prineville, OR 97754	
Sep 15-16		Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR Pack Support OUT (for Anthony B.)		
<b>October</b>					
Oct 6-9		Columbia Gorge BCH Chapter	Columbia Gorge campout	Gibson Prairie Horse Camp, Oregon 97055	
Oct 21	08:00AM - 01:30PM	Public Equestrian Events	Clackamas 4-H Tack Sale	694 NE 4th Ave, 694 Northeast 4th Avenue, Canby, OR 97013	The Clackamas County 4-H Tack Sale is a fundraiser for the 4-H Horse Advisory Committee.
<b>November</b>					
Nov 2-5		Public Equestrian Events	Oregon Trail Summit 2023	Coos Bay, OR	
<b>December</b>					
Dec 9	02:00PM - 05:00PM	Columbia Gorge BCH Chapter	Columbia Gorge Christmas party		Christmas dinner & gift exchange



# ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS

## Membership Reminder

### Fellow Back Country Horsemen of Oregon

If you have not already renewed, it is that time again to renew our annual memberships for 2023. Please note, BCHO now encourages members to either join BCHO or renew your membership online at <https://www.bcho.org/membership-form/>. A Single Membership will be \$35, and a Family Membership will be \$45 for 2023. Still a bargain though for everything Back Country Horsemen does to keep riding accessible to our members!

If you would still like to join or renew for 2023, membership in a BCHO Chapter helps keep you in touch with folks who are doing rides and projects in your area. In addition, please know that we at the BCHO State level have plans for ongoing education, projects and opportunities to get together that make membership in BCHO so rewarding. Also asking that you take a moment and make what we want to do possible by considering making a Tax-Deductible donation through the Website.

[WWW.BCHO.ORG](http://WWW.BCHO.ORG)

If you find it easier, you can also still join or submit your renewal through your local chapter as well. Also, chapter specific dues will not be collected during the online registration process. If your local chapter has any chapter specific dues, that amount will still need to be paid to your local chapter in addition to dues paid online to BCHO.

Thank You, Tim Lagasse, BCHO Membership Coordinator

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Tim Lagasse, BCHO Membership Coordinator

PO Box 488

Colton, OR 97017

[membership@bcho.org](mailto:membership@bcho.org), 503-314-7712(C)





# Back Country Horsemen of Oregon, Inc.

## Membership Application

**Yes! I would like to help preserve Horsemen's rights  
to use stock on public lands.**

### BCHO Membership Dues

Single	\$35	_____
Family	\$45	_____
Patron	\$100	_____
Benefactor	\$250	_____
Sustaining	\$500	_____

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (ZIP)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Telephone) (E-Mail)

New\_\_\_\_Renewal\_\_\_\_ (Please check)

The membership dues collected here are paid to the state and national organizations. Please select the Chapter nearest to you. Note: Some Chapters have additional dues, please pay them directly. [See Map of Chapters, www.bcho.org/chapters/](http://www.bcho.org/chapters/).

<input type="checkbox"/> Columbia Gorge, Hood River	<input type="checkbox"/> Steens, South East Oregon
<input type="checkbox"/> East Cascades, Bend	<input type="checkbox"/> Sourdough, South West Oregon
<input type="checkbox"/> Emerald Empire, Eugene	<input type="checkbox"/> Territorial Riders, Oregon City
<input type="checkbox"/> High Country Wilderness Packers	<input type="checkbox"/> West Cascade BCH, Salem
<input type="checkbox"/> Chapter	<input type="checkbox"/> Member At Large
<input type="checkbox"/> High Desert Trail Riders, Klamath Falls area	

Our newsletter the Highline, will be emailed to you at the address you entered above.

☐ Check here if you prefer to receive the newsletter by US mail.

☐ Check here if you prefer to exclude your email address from the information sent to BCHA.

(Please note, excluding your email address will prevent you from receiving three emailed BCHA newsletters per year)

**Mail your application along with your check to:**

**Tim Lagasse, PO Box 488, Colton, OR 97017**

**For questions email [membership@bcho.org](mailto:membership@bcho.org)**

Liability Release: Recognizing the fact that there is a potential for an accident where ever 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.**

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/](http://bcho.org/membership/)



BCHO Highline  
C/O Sara Lagasse  
PO Box 488  
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(503) 504-9248

