

BCHO



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF OREGON

The Highline

APRIL 2024 ISSUE

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Welcome to your New and improved Highline!!!

There has been much blood, sweat, and tears over the new Highline facelift, ok, mostly just sweat.

The main reason for the new look is due to the need to cut costs. The Highline has been the most expensive item to produce and ship within the BCHO organization. When it's all said and done, it's been about \$900 - \$1200 per issue X 3 a year. Also let's keep in mind that postage and design labor are always increasing. The final straw was on the last issue when they started charging us \$25 per errors that they made, and they didn't even print the proof that I had approved which lead to missing and duplicated pages in the printed copy. They considered it a favor when they provided a credit for their error. Also, the printing date would always be a guessing game as to when they would actually print it, they never knew when they could get it processed. This is after I spent about 8 hours gathering the ads, articles, pictures, and calendar; then reviewing it all and meticulously labeling each article, and the other files and sending them with any additional up-dates in the email.

I have had enough; we needed a better service and product for a better price. There's got to be a better, faster, way to produce our Highline. I started to get a few quotes, one was from Montana and as I was talking to the sales representative, who was very interested in what we do as he and his wife love to pack in the back country with a string. I let him know that he needed to look up BCHMT, he was really happy to know that BCH is also in his state too. I told him that I'm sure they would welcome him and his wife with open arms. However, for the Highline, I had to move on as he was much more expensive than I had expected. I even investigated having a FedEx store design, print, and ship. However, they wanted me to take them all home after they were printed and create and add the shipping address labels myself. That was a hard pass with a Simon Cowell "it's a no from me" moment. That's when I did one last google search for a 'print

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BCHO State Officers

President

Leonard Smith

president@bcho.org

~

Membership

see your local chapter

~

Public Lands Director

Becky Hope

pld@bcho.org

~

Education/LNT Director

George Johnson

education@bcho.org

~

Newsletter Articles

Sara Lagasse

newsletter@bcho.org

~

Newsletter Advertising

Lisa Rodriguez

advertising@bcho.org

~

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

Come To A Meeting And Make A Difference

Columbia Gorge Chapter

When: The 3rd Wednesday of the month

Where: Hood River Saddle Club, 4384 Belmont Dr., Hood River, OR 97031

6:00pm—8:30pm Please confirm meeting with Joy Senger, columbiagorge@bcho.org

East Cascades Chapter

When: Monthly on the second Monday,

Where: Abby's Legendary Pizza 1938 S Hwy 97, Redmond, OR 97756

6:30pm—8:30pm Please confirm meeting with Rhonda Marquis, eastcascades@bcho.com

Emerald Empire Chapter

When: the 2nd Wednesday of each month

Where: Emerald People's Utility District, 33733 Seavey Loop Rd., Eugene, OR 97405 6:30pm—

8:30pm Please confirm meeting with Barbara Dumsenil, emeraldempire@bcho.org

High Country Wilderness Packers

When: Held by conference call as needed ~ Please confirm meeting with contact

Contact: Mat Wooley, hcwp@bcho.org

High Desert Trail Riders Chapter

When: The 3rd Tuesday of each month

Where: Waffle Hut 106 Main St, Klamath Falls, OR 97601

6:30pm Please confirm meeting with Betty Applebaker, hdtr@bcho.org

Sourdough Chapter

When: Monthly on the second Monday,

Where: Foots Creek Chapel, 913 Foots Creek Rd, Gold Hill, OR 97525

6:00pm—8:00pm Please confirm meeting with David Browne, sourdough@bcho.org

Steens Chapter

When: Held as needed ~ Please confirm meeting with contact

Contact: SteensBCH@gmail.com

Territorial Riders Chapter

When: The 2nd Tuesday of every month

Where: Beaver Creek Fire Dept., 22310 South Beaver Creek Rd., Beaver Creek, OR 97004 7:00pm-

9:00pm Please confirm meeting with Dan Dahlke, territorialriders@bcho.org

West Cascades Chapter

When: The 1st Wednesday of each month

Where: Elmer's Restaurant, 3950 Market St. NE, Salem, OR 97301

Dinner at 6:pm Meeting at 7:pm

Please confirm with contact Arden Corey, westcascades-pres@bcho.org



Highline 2.0

(Continued from page 1)

shop by me' and it took me to a business park in Oregon City (close to where I live). At this point what do I have to lose? I have to admit, after getting a few quotes that were way out of budget, I was starting to think, what have I got myself into, "for Pete's sake!!" I was a bit nervous going into this print shop, it looked so professional and clean. As I entered the door the smell of paper hit me, and the colored paper was neatly tucked in 'color order' in convenient cubbies behind the counter was a refreshing visual to focus on as I gathered my thoughts. I didn't want to forget any of my questions. I was certain they will need 30 minutes, and all the managers to scrutinize what they need to do to provide a quote, just like at FedEx, I was worried. However, with a copy of the Highline in hand, I went in and asked if "this is something that they can produce?" Without the guy even opening a page he quickly said "yes", I was a bit shocked and quickly started to ask all my other questions. His answers were all "yep, that's not a problem, we do it all the time" so then that's when I got really

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Why should I get involved with BCHO

"How many of us explore why we would get involved with an organization like BCHO?"

From the desk of ..

Past President BCHO, Duane Miller

How many of us explore why we would get involved with an organization like BCHO? For equestrians, is it to have social events with other equestrians? Is it to be involved to see the mission of BCHO succeed? Is it to be around others with knowledge to learn? Is it to have the ability to learn more about our forests and wilderness, and how to protect them? How to keep our resources available for the future generation? I know these are all reasons my wife and I joined this organization. To be a part of a group of great people with common goals as equestrians. To try and ensure we continue to have access to areas we all love to recreate in.

At the last board

meeting it was brought to the board's attention that members are disgruntled about topics they feel the board is not addressing. As past State President I would attest that trying to meet everyone's needs and requests is a big and time-consuming task. As I looked around the meeting room I realized those in attendance were the same people I see at every board meeting. Some of these people are filling more than one position to try and meet all of these needs. So, I will challenge every member to consider challenging yourself and consider stepping into one of these positions, either at the chapter level or at the state level., to help decide the direction the organization needs to go in. It is easy to question the decisions made, but it is helpful to be present and involved in making those decisions.

Having new faces, new

input, new ideas, is healthy for the organization at all levels. I can say having been a state director, board member and state president has been a rewarding, educational learning experience.

Presently the Vice President Nominee position is open. It is a great opportunity for someone to step forward and learn more about the organization and be involved in the decision making and future of BCHO.

Highline 2.0

(Continued from page 3)

brave and said, “what if I designed the Highline and emailed it to you then what would my Quote be?”, he said “around \$500- \$600 depending on how many I needed per issue.” And so, with the green light from a President’s Call, the next call was to Marty asking for help on what platform would be best. He and I looked at a few and he provided me with some really helpful guidance and templates to use, but it just was not really working as well as I thought it could. Feeling a little deflated and talking it over with Tim Lagasse, he said “Why don’t you give MS Publisher a try and see if that works for you, you already know Microsoft programs and its already on your computer.” And so, a few YouTube video’s later to get me started and many hours to re-create the Highline basic fonts, formatting pages and getting everything perfect, here we are.

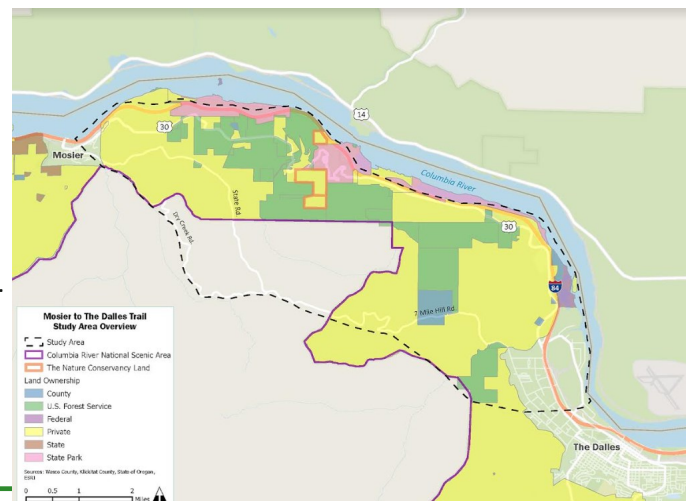
Sometimes when things have pushed you to the point that it’s no longer enjoyable, you just need to try something new. Knowing that change is uncomfortable and challenging makes it hard to start the process. But with God in my life and hope in my heart, we can’t grow at what we are doing until we go through the process. And this was no exception to the rule.

Now without any further ado, I happily present your New Highline, please enjoy.

Proposed New Trail In The Columbia Gorge

In the summer of 2023 a collaborative group began to develop a plan to create a recreational trail that was originally conceptualized in the Management Plan for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. The area is a mix of USFS, state and private land, all of which is within the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area. The “Mosier To The Dalles Trail” would lie between Oregon Hwy 30 and State Rd/Sevenmile Hill Rd. On the east end at The Dalles city limits Wasco County acquired 187 acres for “recreational purposes”. That property borders the Fort Dalles Riders Club property. The project is being led by Friends of The Gorge and the USFS. Also included in the planning are area Tribes, Wasco County, the cities of Mosier and The Dalles, community representatives and other interested parties and individuals. The first comment period results by users were (in order of number of responders) - 1) hikers, 2) bicyclists, 3) other, 4) equestrians. We do not know what makes up the “other” category.

There are many questions yet unanswered - access points, parking (especially for trailers), and are e-bikes included to mention a few. The date of the spring open house and second comment period have not been set, but it is important that equestrians be heard when they are. Project information and maps can be viewed at mosiertothedallestrail.org and to sign up for email updates. The form includes a space to identify an affiliation with an organization.



BCHO Tech Corner

BCHO uses Google Apps for our online resources because they're free for non-profits like us. Currently, there aren't any other companies offering similar services entirely free.

For members that need access to the BCHO online services requires a personal Google account. BCHO assigns online resources using your primary email address provided with your membership application. If your primary email address is already a Gmail address, you're good to go! For others please continue reading for further instructions.



If your primary email services is provided by another company, and your email address ends with @aol.com, @msn.com, @outlook.com, @me.com, @icloud.com, or any non-Gmail address you will need to establish your primary email address as a valid username to login to a personal Google account. This will not affect or change how your email now works, but will allow you to access our BCHO online resources.

Tip: You can use any email address you own to create a Google account and add it to an existing Google account. Doing either won't change how you receive emails through your existing email provider.

Perform one of the two methods below to get access to assigned online resources.

Method 1

I don't currently have a Google account. I'd like to create one using my primary email address to access BCHO's online resources.

Create a Google account using your existing email address.

1. Go to the [Google Account Sign In page](https://accounts.google.com/signin) at (<https://accounts.google.com/signin>).
2. Click **Create account**.
3. Enter your name.
4. Click **Use my current email address instead**.
5. Enter your current email address.
6. Click **Next**.
7. Verify your email address with the code sent to your existing email.
8. Click **Verify** on the email you received.

Method 2

I have a Google account with a Gmail address, but it's different from the main email address I used to register with BCHO. I'd like to add my primary personal email address to my Google account as an additional username.

Add an alternate email address to my Google account.

1. Open your [Google Account](https://myaccount.google.com/) (<https://myaccount.google.com/>). You might need to sign in.
2. Select **Personal info**.
3. Under "Contact info," click **Email**.
4. Next to "Alternate emails," select **Add alternate email or Add other email**. You may need to sign in again.
5. Enter an email address you own. Select **Add**.
6. Verify your email address with the code sent to your existing email.
7. Click **Verify** on the email you received.

Summary

Now when BCHO assigns an online resource to your BCHO registered email address you will be able access them directly without problems. Questions - email Marty DeVall at web@bcho.org.



Trails, How to get involved with the ones nearest you!

Hi, my name is Joy Trevey Lowell, I was asked to write about trails. Possibly because I was at the PNER Convention and heard Oregon Equestrian Trails, or OET as they are known, speak about trails. As a member of the BCHO, I spoke about getting involved in your local chapter.

"There's no need to explain why trails are important to a distance rider". If we don't have places to ride, we won't have a sport to enjoy. In the State of Oregon, we're pretty lucky to have so much government land, but laws could be changing. E-bikes want access to all the trails mountain bikes have access to. Also, not enough horsemen are speaking up about what matters to them. Horsemen have so many ways to recreate that we all have our own individual groups we belong too. This is unlike IMBA, the International Mountain Bike Association, which has an incredibly strong voice about trails issues because they are united in their goal. Their goal is to have access to every trail that exists. Yes, That Is Their Stated Mission!

We on the other hand have; wilderness packers, trail riders, gaited clubs, distance riders, NATRC riders, etc. You get the picture. We are splintered and because we are, we do not have as strong a voice as we could. There are trail advocacy groups out there, like BCHO and OET that are re-building corrals, clearing trails, and that have established relationships with the Government agencies that be. They don't care what kind of horse you ride or group you identify with. They just need your help to keep trails open to equestrians. You do not have to be a horse packer to join the chapter nearest you.

Clearing brush and rolling logs off your favorite trails system with a group of like minded individuals gives you such a sense of community and something you need to experience to understand. This also allows you to learn what changes are going on in your area. Most of us say, "we don't have time", but the truth is, maybe we worry that we have to change our lives a lot to be a part of another trail group. Not so, most meet once a month and create a calendar based on what needs to get done in their area.

You choose how you wish to be involved. We all have our talents. If we don't get involved with those advocating for our trails, we have no voice in the trails that matter most to us! Please re-read that again.

If you absolutely cannot give of your time, then your financial support is absolutely needed. BCHO has a lobbyist in Washington DC representing our interests and showing the man hours in money that these groups are putting in to keep trails open. BCHO only has three paid positions because these people work for this cause FULL time. They are in it because they believe in what they are doing and we need to stand behind their efforts to safeguard our future use. Here is the link to support Back Country Horsemen of America, which represents all the states that have chapters in them. There are 23 States. Most recently we have been fighting to keep E-bikes out of the Wilderness and off our trails.

<https://www.bcha.org/giving/>

Below are two maps of Oregon. One is the map of Oregon Equestrian Trails, which has 12 Chapters, the other is Back Country Horsemen of Oregon, which has 9 Chapters. Locate the one nearest you. Single memberships are \$30. or \$35. depending on which you join. A small price to know what is happening to the trails around you.

Here is an opportunity for those looking to have some fun helping out. This is from the Emerald Empire Chapter of the BCHO. I will be volunteering too, but not on June 21 to the 23 as that is the weekend of the Pacific Crest Ride. Every Chapter of either organization has projects like this. You do not need to be a member to help!

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Trails, How to get involved with the ones nearest you!

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hey horse people,

As many of you may know, the trails around White fish Horse Camp have needed to be logged out for some time. The BCHO could use any kind of help you can provide. Feed them when they get back, hold horses, move brush, and of course if able to log out, fine too. The BCHO has been working with the FS to arrange free campsites. If you can assist with any part please let us know. These are the dates the Crewleaders are available. We need to know ahead of time if you're available to help or know somebody that might be. This is a great opportunity to discover the Metolius-Wynn trail and help those clearing it.

Contact:

Becky Hope, BCHO Public Lands Representative

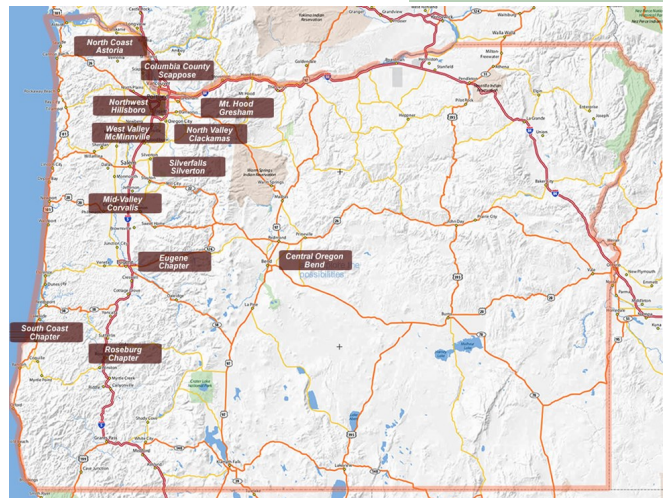
6fhope@gmail.com 541-337-3138(C)

June 21-23, Sonya Margerum Crewleader

June 25-30, Pat Marquis Crewleading

July 20-21, Lisa Rodriquez Crewleading

Map of OET Chapters



Map of BCHO Chapters



Joy Trevey Lowell

joytreveylowell@gmail.com

If you know of a trails issue in your area, please feel free to contact me and give me the best person to contact about it. This includes Idaho, Washington and Western Montana. As I will be writing about trails issues for this area. Your feedback is welcome.

Plant awareness and fun....



Indian Paintbrush

It plays a crucial role in supporting pollinators and wildlife by providing nectar for hummingbirds, bees, and butterflies.

Guidebooks!



www.nwhorsetrails.com

Plant awareness and fun....



Oregon Iris

The Oregon Iris can range from blue to purple, and occasionally even yellow to white.

TBM SADDLES

Trail saddles for the 21st century / tombsaddles@gmail.com

TBM Saddles is the result of years of hard work in the saddle and tack industry. Although we provide saddles for all disciplines, our focus is on trail riders and packers. Those of us involved in TBM Saddles have over 200 years of combined experience in the saddle, tack and leather industry. We also offer custom saddle fitting for the most comfortable fit for you and your Mule, horse or donkey. All saddles feature 10yr warranty on tree. One year warranty offered on material and workmanship.



The Outrider



The Montosa



Working Trail Saddle





OREGON HORSE COUNCIL

OUR MISSION
Strengthening,
Representing, and
Advocating for the
Equine Lifestyle
Across Oregon.



OHC Provides Marketing & Value to Equine Businesses & Organizations throughout Oregon!

- Marketing sales, promotions, events, and more through our active website, popular Facebook page, and regular e-newsletters
- Discounts to attend trainings and programs such as the Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue courses
- Legislative alerts and representation of the equine industry at the local, state, and national levels
- Premier directory listings in online and printed directories
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BLM to give 1280 acres to Equestrians to create 'Equestrian Only' Trails known as the Fredenburg Trails

In the fall of 2023 Butte Falls held public meetings asking for input on what trail user groups wanted regarding the 400 acres that was purchased around Butte Falls. All user groups were in attendance. This acreage was purchased as a protective barrier from future fires, as the town barely escaped the Obenchain fire which came within a quarter mile. Although the 400 acres could not accommodate the needs of all three users, the BLM was listening.

Because we showed up and made our voices heard, equestrians were given two square miles (1280 acres). *Thank you Birte Ferguson, for showing up and speaking up for yourself and for all of us! Mountain bikers were given one square mile (640 acres). The Head Resource Manager for BLM in Southern Oregon had her trails guy draw out what he thought might work for equestrians (even though he himself is a mountain biker). Nick loves maps and figuring out trail layouts based on topography. He was able to create approximately ten miles of new trails connecting with logging roads to create approximately 14 miles of trails in total.*

I was then invited to give my feedback on the trails system design as I have known the Resource Manager since the 1990's. As an equestrian and distance rider, I have worked with the BLM for about twenty five years, whether it be clearing trails, creating re-routes around protected habitat, requesting Rec Permits for Equestrian distance events for the Rogue Riders Endurance Club or as Public Lands Director for the Sourdough Chapter of the BCHO, equestrian trails mean a lot to me, especially creating ones safe for our use.

The knowledge used to lay out these trails was evident.

- There are five different loop combinations.
- These trails allow for the possibility of two creek crossings and a ditch crossing, which means a chance for stock to get a drink during summer months. I was told these creeks and the ditch run all year long.
- These trails will be closed during the winter season, as this area is very wet and often under snow that time of year.
- There are views of Mt Thielsen from the proposed ridge trail and a logging road.
- The staging area is for equestrians only which will be a blessing. It was previously a staging area for loggers, very wide and just off the Butte Falls Highway. It is fairly flat and needs regraded, gravel brought in and one tree removed.
- The staging area should be able to accommodate eight or more rigs.
- There will be no overnight camping but it is less than ten miles from Willow Prairie Horse camp.
- As this area is about thirty minutes from the Rogue Valley and the Klamath Falls area, those seeking cooler temperatures for a summer riding experience can easily enjoy the Fredenburg trails once they are built.
- These trails will include hikers, but their access point is from another area and is furthest away from our stag-

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BLM to give 1280 acres to Equestrians to create 'Equestrian Only' Trails known as the Fredenburg Trails

(Continued from page 10)

ing area. Unless we ride to the farthest loop available we shant even see a hiker.

- The square mile given to mountain bikers is also located a square mile away and allows for a different access point. The access point for bikes is below ours, so they will not see where it is we turn off for our staging area.
- Designating new trails that separate users by speed of travel will be essential in the future and this is what we are seeing here.
- The only thing that would give away our trails are horsemen using their GPS apps 'set to Public'. This allows any mountain biker with the same app to see where you have ridden.
- The BLM is now doing the Environmental Assessment needed, which includes a botanist, hydrologist and a wildlife biologist. We are about a year out in needing the Grant to build the trails.
- BLM will assist in a presentation for southern Oregon equestrian groups after the Environmental Assessment is completed.

I cannot think of a recent opportunity where equestrians were given trails specific to our needs. The fact that the BLM had the foresight to separate users by speed was exactly what was needed here, as this affects the enjoyment potential for each user and whether equestrians and hikers become displaced, as we have in so many other areas.

I believe belonging to equestrian trails groups which work with Government agencies to save and maintain trails is essential for us as they see that our trails matter to us. We can make a difference if we are willing to show up for the things that matter most, our future trails. I am thrilled to share this future opportunity with you and will keep you updated along the way.

Joy Trevey Lowell



See You At The Summit

A call for volunteers

See You At The Summit is a program started by a Portland area nurse to provide teenage kids with cancer an opportunity to experience the outdoors in Central Oregon. For one week, these kids, along with support staff, do daily out and back hikes from the Todd Lake campground area. Many of them are still receiving treatments during this time. These daily out and back hikes prepare them for the final hike of the program, Todd Lake to No Name Lake.

This program has been done twice previously. Both times, BCHO members have packed in food, tents and sleeping bags for the kids to allow them to concentrate on the hike up to No Name Lake. An article was written about the event in the November 2023, The Highline.

Back Country Horsemen members meet at Todd Lake Horse camp the morning the kids start their ascent, generally at around 7 AM. At Todd Lake horse camp, we get the gear and food for the kids. Once we get the packing set, we leave on the Met-Win trail and travel on it for about 5 miles until we get Road 380. We travel along the road until we take the final trail up to No Name Lake.

Once we reach the plateau near No Name Lake, the supplies are dropped off and after lunch, we pack up to head back to camp. Typically, we run into the kids along the way and spend some time with them.

The trip totals about 18 miles up and back.

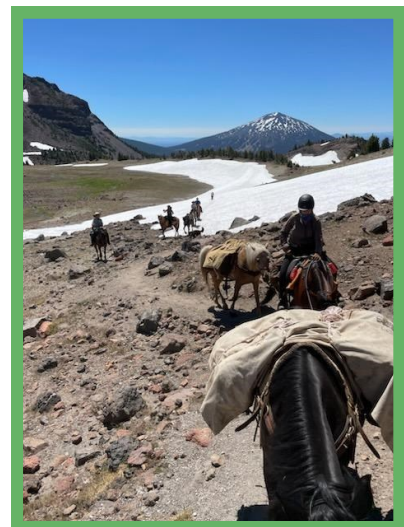
This year, the trip is planned for July 22nd and 23rd. This year, in addition to packing supplies up, we have been asked to pack out the tents and supplies.

I am looking for volunteers to help with worthwhile project. I am looking for 2-3 pack horses/people.

If you have an interest, please contact me at 503-867-0513 or email me at territorialriders@bcho.org. Here is a link to their website: <https://seeyouatthesummit.org/> to learn more about them.

Thank you

Dan Dahlke, Territorial Riders



From the Public Lands desk

Public Lands Update

BCHO Public Lands current activities/notes

- We continue not to be able to have a Volunteer Saw program and are depending on other Volunteer Organizations to get our members saw certified, and with a decrease in available Certification programs. we are having more trouble getting our sawyers certified.
 - We have had to mount an aggressive campaign against a state park that was going to allow a E-Vehicle race in an Equestrian Park did not allow E-Vehicles. We were able to get it cancelled.
 - We continue to have horse camps that are occupied by non-equestrians
 - We have a region 6 wide FS volunteer agreement that seems to be working.
 - We are three years into a limited entry permits in three of our central wildernesses. Some of our members have found it hard to get these permits, some are using horse camps for access. Some chapters are finding increased membership trail maintenance activity due the desire to get a go anywhere any time award permit.
 - We are doing monthly state officer and public land phone calls.
 - Coordinating with another Oregon state equestrian trails organization, sharing information, advocacy efforts, trail activities.
 - Have been losing some trailheads and horse camps due to severe forest fires damage.
 - Some success working with multi-recreational groups working together to build mutual trail systems sometimes sharing the same system, sometimes building side by side trails systems.
- BCHO State Public Lands Focus
- Willamette and Deschutes Forest wilderness limited entry permits looking for feedback, what is working and not working. Use incident form on the BCHO.org website please fill out.
 - Horse Camp incidents again fill out incident form on website, but also keep a copy of it and be sure to make a report to a land manager. Better if you do it but unable please encourage your public land coordinator that it needs to be done.
 - Be sure to report your volunteer hours for your projects to both Land manager and BCHO. Please ask if you don't know how. Also have somebody attached to that projects write an article for that event.
 - Do you have the Volunteer Agreements with your Land Manager? Saw certifications, recerts, First Aid, CPR classes that you need to do your projects.
 - Region 6 doing a North West Forest Planning revision we are keeping an eye on what they arwork-

(Continued on page 15)

Reprint due to error in last Highline

McGivering in the Wilderness

Is that a flag? Is that a saddle bronc? Nope, that's a ripped pannier and fishing gear a flyin'!

If any hiker or fly fisherman had been passing by, they sure would have gotten a show! The only thing we needed was Brenn Hill as background music:

“Watched my mule and my saddle and my day bags and my gun
Buckin' ass over tea-kettle down into the afternoon sun
 She was bent and she was twisted she was bruised up in the back
 We were half-an-hour scoutin' round the meadow for broken tack.”

~lyrics by (click link .. [Brenn Hill](#)), modified by Kara Contreras for our Chancy Mule



That song was MADE for this wilderness rodeo. It was day #7 of our two week Montana pack trip into the Bob Marshall Wilderness. It started off a relaxing “layover day” - Ed and I had packed up our sack lunches, camp chairs, and fishing gear for a lazy day streamside just a few miles up river from our camp at Big Prairie along the Southfork of the Flathead River. Our destination for the day was a large oxbow upstream - a very popular place for outfitters and fly fisherman, nicknamed “Smoke Elser’s Camp”.

As we dropped off the trail into the large meadow of the oxbow, we were surprised to find there was no one else there. One camp was set up, but no one home. We happened to know the travelers, and later saw them on the river while fishing. Leo Rosenthal, Ed’s friend and biologist for Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks, was in the Bob for several days completing a population study - catching and tagging westslope cutthroat. Small world in big country!

It was a perfect day. The sun was hot, but the river was cold. There was a fish bite on almost every cast. Even with my crazy, wand-waving fly fishing habits I was able to land a couple colorful cutthroats. Lunch time had long past and we knew we needed to get back to let our critters graze and help with dinner chores.

The lull of a lazy river day was quickly shattered just two minutes in the saddle, headed out the same exact trail we had come in on. The culprit was a fallen tree with a large exposed root ball. Our Chancy Mule rounded the obstacle, but a small root snagged the belt buckle of the right pannier as she passed by. The pannier gently pulled on her side as she continued walking forward. I imagine it was the same feeling thousands of brush limbs had presented Chancy in the past...walking forward was a natural decision. But unfortunately, this wasn’t a wimpy willow or shrub branch. This small snag was a dried root with some brute strength. The root didn’t budge, and the pannier buckle didn’t budge, and Chancy continued in the opposite direction. The seam by the buckle couldn’t handle the tug-of-war and quickly RRRRRipped.

The sound of the tearing canvas spooked Chancy. She leapt forward, increasing the tension, amplifying the ripping sound effect, and now the entire side panel of the pannier was peeling back, dropping item by item on Chancy’s hooves. In two shakes of a rattler’s tail, she took one more leap and RRRRRIIIIIPPPP - the entire bag was exposed, now fanning out like a regal flag on a rodeo queen’s wall run...only this flag was fanning Chancy onward for a higher and higher score! Everytime she landed, the hard canvas hit her squarely in the rump and up she went again! Around and around the meadow she ran.

(Continued on page 16)

From the Public Lands desk

BCHO Public Lands current activities/notes

(Continued from page 13)

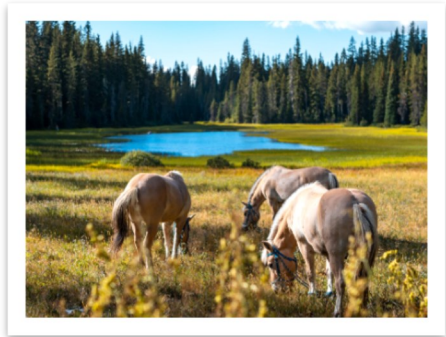
ing on. Nothing hard out yet.

-Encouraging Oregon State Legislators to Pass the Bill on Recreational Immunity follow these links to encourage your legislator to pass this legislation. PASSED

Chapter info:

Columbia Gorge: Chapter watching FS while they are in the concept development of Mosier to the Dalles Trail. Jim Forsman

East Cascade: White Fish Horse Camp and getting the surrounding trails back open. East Cascades is partnering with BLM to help enlarge the Larry Chitwood trailhead at the Badlands and are providing input into the expansion of trailhead and defining hiker/horse and bike trails on Horse Ridge.



Emerald: Harrelson Horse Camp, rehab after Fire damage.

HCWP: Santiam Wagon Road and potential Festival 9/28

HDTR: FS on corral and bridge replacement planning and design for the Bootleg Fire in the Gearhart and packing fish into Blue Lake. Continuing plans for more new corral construction at Fourmile Lake Campground when the snow melts out. Packing support for grip hoist work on large rock and large trees on Divide and Cherry Creek trails. Trail clearing on Rye Spur trail.

Sourdough: BLM offering 1280 acres in the Butte Falls area to Equestrians for future equestrian-hiker-only trails with an Equestrian only staging area. This is in the EA process now. Joy Treveylowell has got her self in a position to write articles to Pacific Northwest Endurance Riders newsletter to talk about what BCHO and OET are doing for the Horse Community...This reaches, OR, CA, WA, ID, MT

West Cascade: Detroit RD turning all campsites over to concessionaires namely the Linn County Parks and Rec and what that means for equestrians in this area. We will continue move forward focusing on BCHO and BCHA Mission Statements

We will prioritize sharing information with other equestrian groups to get their involvement in our efforts to keep trails open and available to all equestrians in our wilderness areas.

Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP), a crucial funding source for trail and active transportation systems, is at risk of being left out of the budget. Call Legislators

PCTA: Jack Rawdin. a Pd Staffer to job to help lead crews to do more detailed work on the PCT in the Mid-Oregon section of the PCT

Submitted Becky Hope, Public Lands Chair

Public Lands Update

Reprint due to error in last Highline

McGivering in the Wilderness

(Continued from page 14)

Though we got quite a show, our horses were more interested in eating than any of the ruckus.

After a half hour of finding all our picnic junk and tack, we had decided to stuff all our belongings into the one remaining pannier and tie it like a pumpkin on top of the pack saddle. This rodeo only lasted one minute in the saddle before the Humpty Dumpty package came sliding off and into the meadow again. On take number three, we decided to get more creative and used an extra rope we had found abandoned at our picnic site earlier. We offloaded as much as we could from the solo pannier onto our own saddle bags, then reinforced the pumpkin load. It miraculously made the two mile ride back to camp.

At camp, Steve Hilbert had an emergency leather sewing kit that was key to patching the large seam back together. Ed was able to reinforce the back of the stitching with a random strip of leather and a rivet set he had brought along "just in case". The sewing party lasted well past bedtime with headlamps for the win.

During our morning pack up, we decided not to use the regular Box hitch, but rather a Diamond hitch. We considered a Basket hitch to help lift the bottom of our sorry panniers and relieve as much weight from the hand sewn sections as possible. We ended up using the Diamond hitch instead, as it both lifts the panniers from the bottom and helps secure the top bag a bit more (as ours was now holding a few more items than originally intended).

The moral of the story is: add rivets, a leather sewing kit and leather pieces to your emergency bag, along with the knowledge of a couple alternative hitches and some creativity! Instead of a panicking moment, it became a problem solving session and a good laugh later. Though the Box hitch is standard for our group - I gained an appreciation for knowing other hitches and knots for the unforeseen Mule Moments every adventure brings!

~ Kara Contreras, HDTR



Smoke Elser's Camp



Fishing the Flathead

(Continued on page 19)

Reprint due to error in last Highline

Timothy Lake 2023 with TRBCHO

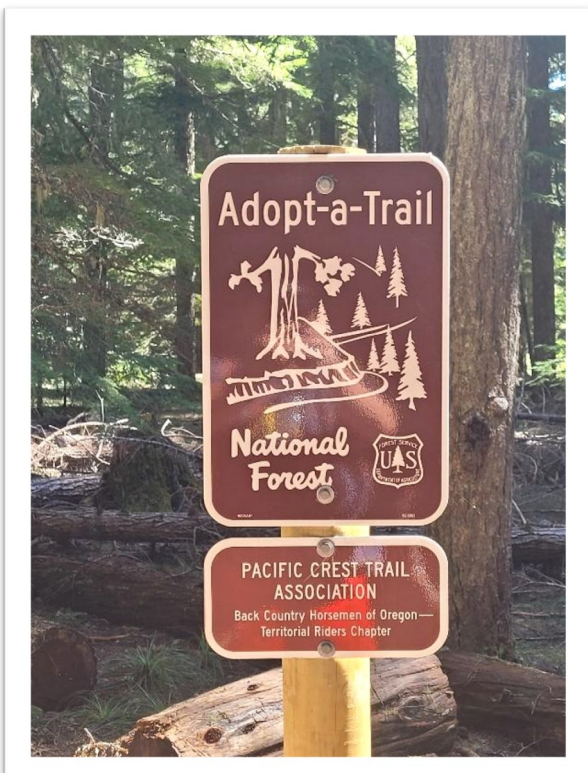
Timothy Lake is the largest body of water in the Mount Hood National Forest. The campgrounds around Timothy Lake provide over 260 designated campsites, making it the third largest camping area in the state. They have added another campsite this year as well, to further enhance the ability to people to enjoy a camping experience at the lake.

There is approximately 12 miles of hiking/riding trails around the lake and the Pacific Crest Trail heads in both directions from Clackamas Lake and Joe Graham Horse Camps providing even more riding opportunities for equestrians.

The TRBCHO has worked at Timothy Lake since 2014 and serves as the caretaker for the stretch of the Pacific Crest Trail in the area from the trailhead for Little Crater Lake to Joe Graham Horse Camp. Individual members act as caretakers for neighboring sections of the Pacific Crest Trail. Each May, we plan for a 5-day log out, allowing members to contribute what they can, depending on their time.



Members Dennis and Rae Ann taking a well-deserved break from clearing trail



One of the trail signs at Timothy Lake area

Territorial Riders works with various groups including Portland General Electric, Pacific Crest Trail Association and the Forest Service to clear trails around Timothy Lake. We participate in the adopt-a-trail program with Portland General Electric, adopting 4 sections of trails around the lake, including the PCT trail along the lake. PGE has signs set up at the trails we adopted to let users know who is caring for those trails. Territorial Riders sets up a base camp at Clackamas Horse Camp, allowing us to ride in multiple directions from the camp. We also can haul to other sites when needed to get closer to some of the trails we work on. This year, the weather was more cooperative and provided some good days to clear trails. Snow on the trail and roads was less than last year, allowing us to get access to all trails.

(Continued on page 18)

Reprint due to error in last Highline . . .

Timothy Lake 2023 with TRBCHO

(Continued from page 17)

We also had a good number of great volunteers to help over the weekend, allowing us to have as many as three crews working at one time. This allowed us to clear around 20 miles of trail during that 5 day logout. The biggest challenge was a tree around 150 feet tall that was down along the trail. It was about 3 feet in diameter with numerous branches, providing a challenge to those that worked on it.

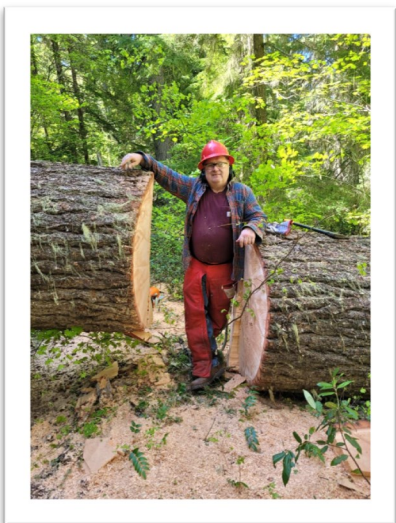
This year, the log count from around Timothy Lake was around 240. The volunteer hours were 239 hours, including recon time for the project. There were 19 stock days committed to the log out as well.

Once the Lake area was done, we headed south along the PCT to clear more trail. During that time, we came along a large log which provided a technical challenge. Two of us had 20 inch saws. The trunk was about 45 inches in diameter. We took out the log in small sections to eventually clear the trail. In addition to the 5 days set aside for clearing, volunteers went in several more days to continue clearing on the PCT south of Clackamas Horse Camp. These efforts resulted in the PCT cleared down to the Breitenbush trailhead. In all, the chapter cleared about 40 miles of trail this year.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who gave of their time to make trails safe for riding and hiking.



Julie with her young horse, first time on the trail



Dan standing in the trunk line after the first section was removed



Tim standing next to a tree across the PCT trail

Reprint due to error in last Highline

McGivering in the Wilderness

(Continued from page 16)



Big Prairie, Bob Marshall Wilderness



Pumpkin Pannier



Diamond Hitch



Ed & Chancy with stitched panniers



Westslope Cutthroat, Lemon Herb Couscous & Rehydrated Broccoli

March

Date	Time	Chapter Cal.	Event Title	Location	Description
Mar 22-25		Public Equestrian Events	NWHF Northwest Horse Fair & Expo	Linn County Expo Center, 3700 Knox Butte Rd E, Albany, OR 97322	
Mar 24-28		BCHO State Calendar	National Board Meeting	Ramkota Hotel, 800 N Poplar St, Casper, WY 82601	

April

Apr 3-7		BCHO State Calendar	Country Marketplace(High Desert Stampede PRCA Rodeo	3800 SW Airport Wy, Redmond, OR 97756	Country Market Place 3800 Airport Way Redmond OR. April 5 1p,-7pm April 6 9am-7pm
Apr 27-28		East Cascades BCH Chapter	ECBCHO - Chapter Ride	Hole-in-the-Ground, Oregon	Chapter Ride to Hole in the Ground Date was tentatively chosen for April 27th, depending on weather/snow conditions @ 11:00.If you want to go and camp, check out the Outback Station website for information! It's private, there's lots of room and you need reservations
Apr 27	09:00AM - 03:00PM	Emerald Empire BCH Chapter	EEBCH Baker Beach Clean up	Baker Beach, Oregon 97439	

May

May 11	10:00AM - 02:00PM	Emerald Empire BCH Chapter	Eugene Ch. OET TRAILBLAZER PACE	Elijah Bristow State Park, Near Eugene, Dexter, OR 97431	
May 15	06:00PM - 07:30PM	Columbia Gorge BCH Chapter	Columbia Gorge chapter meeting	Hood River Saddle Club, 4384 Belmont Dr, Hood River, OR 97031	
May 16-22		BCHO State Calendar	Timothy Lake Logout	Clackamas Horse camp	Dan Dahlke 503-867-0513
May 17-20		Emerald Empire BCH Chapter	EEBCH Pisgah trainings	Mtn Pisgah eugene or	
May 18-19		Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR Spring Tune-Up & Vaccine Clinic	15600 S Poe Valley Rd, Klamath Falls, OR 97603	9am start time Vaccine Clinic with Dr. Goodell & Dr. Rene Saxton Obstacles and pack barrels to practice and tune-up for the season! CONTACT: Cindi Boehner (530)260-8121 Contact Joy Senger 541-980-1745
May 23	10:00AM - 02:00PM	Columbia Gorge BCH Chapter	Columbia Gorge work party	Cyrus Horse Campground, Prineville, OR 97754	

June

Jun 9	10:00AM - 01:30PM	Territorial Riders BCH Chapter	TRBCH Ride - Horning Seed Orchard	Horning Tree Seed Orchard, Colton, OR 97017	Contact Dan, territorialriders@bcho.org
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Jun 15-16	East Cascades BCH Chapter	ECBCHO Field Day	Sisters Cow Camp, Forest Service Rd 15, Sisters, OR 97759	Casey to do presentations at 10 and 2. The Chapter will put up several demo stations. Highline, hobbling, Light on the Land (LNT), gear demos. The goal of this clinic is to learn basics and to get questions answered, not to help people hands on with their horses
Jun 21-24	Emerald Empire BCH Chapter	EEBCH Whitefish Horse Camp/trails	Whitefish Horse Camp, NF-60, Crescent, OR 97733	
Jun 21-23	East Cascades BCH Chapter	ECBCHO Night Ride		On horseback route security for the Cascade Lakes Relay. Friday evening to early Saturday morning in the Fort Rock area. Contact Sandra if you are willing to help out with this Chapter fundraiser.
Jun 22-23	Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR Rye Spur Trail Clearing	Rye Spur Horse Camp, CQQC+V4, Lake of the Woods, OR 97601	8am start time CONTACT: Ron Stewart (541)892-0547
Jun 25-1	BCHO State Calendar	BCHO White Fish Pat Marquis	Whitefish Horse Camp, NF-60, Crescent, OR 97733	
Jun 28-1	Emerald Empire BCH Chapter	EEBCH Robinson Lake-Deer Butte Project		
Jun 29-30	Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR 4 Mile Corral construction projoect	Fourmile Lake, Oregon 97601	8am start time CONTACT: Ron Stewart (541)-892-0547

July

Jul 2-3	Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR Water Trough installation at Cold Springs TH	Cold Springs Trailhead, Oregon	9am start time CONTACT: Ron Stewart (541)-892-0547
Jul 9-13	East Cascades BCH Chapter	ECBCHO - Met-Win Todd to Quinn Work Party		Trail work party to clear the 6.8 mile section of the Met-Win trail between Todd Lake HC and Quinn Creek trail. For questions or to participate, contact Amber.
Jul 12-15	Emerald Empire BCH Chapter	EEBCH PCT North Diamond Peak		
Jul 12-15	Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR Warner Mountain chapter trip (day rides)	Pepperdine Horse Camp, Cedarville, CA 96104	Warner Mountain chapter weekend trip with day rides Pepperdine Horse Camp CONTACT: Betty Applebaker (541)891-8220
Jul 19-22	East Cascades BCH Chapter	ECBCHO - Whitefish HC Work Party	Whitefish Horse Camp, NF-60, Crescent, OR 97733	Tentative date for our Chapter work party to clear trails out of Whitefish Horse Camp. Campsites will be made available for work party participants. Contact Lisa for questions or if interested in participating.
Jul 20-22	BCHO State Calendar	BCHO Whitefish Horse Camp Lisa Rodriguez	Whitefish horsecamp	

Jul 20-21	Hight Desert Trail Riders	HDTR Fish Packing to Blue Lake	9am start time HDTR Fish Packing with ODF&W into Blue Lake from Blue Lake Trailhead in Gearhart Wilderness CONTACT: Betty Applebaker (541)891-8220
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August

Aug 2-5	Emerald Empire BCH Chapter	EEBCH Waldo 100	
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September

Sep 14-16	Columbia Gorge BCH Chapter	Columbia Gorge campout	Cyrus Horse Campground, Prineville, OR 97754	
Sep 28-29	BCHO State Calendar	Santiam Wagon Road Festival	Fish Lake, Oregon 97524	for more Information Becky Hope 541-337- 3138 6fhope@gmail.com

October

Oct 1-4	Columbia Gorge BCH Chapter	Columbia Gorge campout @ Gibson Prairie Horse Camp	Gibson Prairie Horse Camp, Oregon 97055	Jim Forsman
Oct 19	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. 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.

December

Dec 8	02:00PM - 05:00PM	Columbia Gorge BCH Chapter	Columbia Gorge Christmas party	Hood River Saddle Club, 4384 Belmont Dr, Hood River, OR 97031
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March

Mar 15	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. 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.
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Please verify event with listed contact or chapter meeting contact on page 2

Oregon's wonderful wild plants we all ride by

How many times do we ride by a plant and say "what is that flower?" or "is it invasive or native to the forest?"

In order to preserve the natural look on the trail its also helpful to know what the plants are.

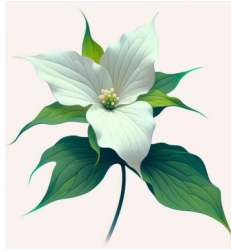
So I thought that it would be fun to identify a few common plants we see on the trails on the west side of the state with a random fun fact and see if you can find them during your trail ride this season.

If you wish to find out the scientific names and more information on them, I highly encourage you to google or ,my favorite, a good ol' fashioned Oregon wild flower identification book. How many of the flowers below have you seen?



Oregon Grape:

Oregon designated the Oregon grape blossom as the official state flower in 1899. The Oregon grape plant bears dainty yellow flowers in early summer and a dark blue berry that ripens late in the fall. The fruit is tart and bitter, containing large seeds, but can be used in cooking (it's used to make jelly locally). The inner bark of the larger stems and roots of Oregon grape can be used to make a yellow dye. Oregon grape root is also used medicinally.



Trillium:

Named after its characteristic arrangement of three leaflike bracts and flowers in parts of three.



Calypso orchids: or Fairy Slippers

are typically 10 to 14 cm in height. Their little purple blooms can be a pleasant sight on hiking trails from late March onwards, though in the more northerly parts of their range they do not bloom until May and June. The plants live no more than five years.



Common Horsetail:

This plant has a long history of cultural use with Native Americans and ancient Roman and Chinese physicians using it to treat a variety of ailments. It is still of interest today as an herbal remedy because of its purported effectiveness as a diuretic. Apart from its use in medicine, the stems were used extensively for their abrasive properties, including being used to re-



Ocean Spray:

The wood, known as "Ironwood" in English, was used for many tools and utensils by natives. It was made even harder by heating it over a fire and polishing it with horsetail stems. It was used for roasting tongs "because it won't burn," for digging sticks, fishing hooks, needles, canoe paddles, bows, and spear, harpoon, and arrow shafts, Oceanspray pegs were used in construction, when nails were not readily available.

(Continued on page 25)

There are 2 other

Principles
to
BCHO

The Purpose 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.



Oregon's wonderful wild plants we all ride by

(Continued from page 23)



Tiger Lilly:

The first mention of a lily dates back about 4,000 years. Ancient Egyptians revered the lily and entombed it with their dead. Artifacts depicting the white Madonna lily have been unearthed in ancient cities in Crete, Greece and Mesopotamia. Finding a lily in the wild is like walking back through time thousands of years.



Twin flower:

The common name arises from the twin like nature its plant parts. The pink to white bell-like flowers are nodding and are born in pairs on short, thin Y-shaped stalks, seldom exceeding six inches in height, hence the common name "twinflower". The flowers are highly fragrant and last about seven days, typically appearing in June or July.



Indian Pipe:

Indian Pipe is not a commonly encountered wildflower. The entire plant is a translucent, "ghostly" white, sometimes pale pinkish-white and commonly has black flecks. The leaves are scale-like and flecked with black on the flower stalk



Striped Coralroot:

Corallorhiza striata (*Corallorhiza* – corallion – coral and *rhiza* – root; coralroot and *striata* – striped) refers to the underground stems, rhizomes, appearing like an ocean coral and the dark reddish-purple stripes of the flower.



Washington Lilly:

Habitat for Washington lily ranges from chaparral to open conifer forest including early successional forest at elevations of 1,300 to 7,200 feet. Its range is restricted to the Cascade, Klamath and the Sierra Nevada mountain ranges of Oregon and California.

There are 2 other bonus wild flowers in this Highline on another page, see if you can find them. Good luck

From the Membership desk

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 2024. 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 2024. 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 2024, 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

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

~

Tim Lagasse, BCHO Membership Coordinator
PO Box 488
Colton, OR 97017



“Single \$35”
“Family \$45”



Membership Application

(you can now fill out your Membership On-line at BCHO.ORG)

Back Country Horsemen of Oregon, Inc.

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

(Print Name)

(Address)

(City) (State) (ZIP)

(Telephone)

(Email)

(Please check one)

New _____ Renewal _____



BCHO Membership Dues:

Single \$35 _____ Patron \$100 _____

Family \$45 _____ Benefactor \$250 _____

Sustaining \$500 _____

The membership dues collected here are paid to the state and national organizations

Please select the Chapter nearest to you, below.

Note: Some Chapters have additional dues, please pay them directly.

[See Map of Chapters, www.bcho.org/chapters/](http://www.bcho.org/chapters/)

- Columbia Gorge, Hood River
- East Cascades, Bend
- Emerald Empire, Eugene
- High Country Wilderness Packers
- High Desert Trail Riders Falls area
- Klamath Falls Area
- Steens, South East Oregon
- Sourdough, South West Oregon
- Territorial Riders, Oregon City
- West Cascade BCH, Salem
- Member At Large

Mail your application along with your check made out to BCHO, to:

BCHO-Tim Lagasse, PO Box 488, Colton, OR 97017

For questions email membership@bcho.org

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)

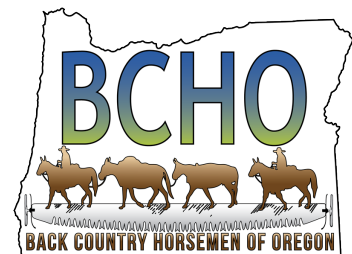
Liability Release: Recognizing the fact that there is a potential for an accident where ever horse use is involved, which can cause injuries to horses, riders and spectators, and also recognizing that Back Country Horsemen of Oregon, Inc., including its chapters, officers, directors and /or members cannot 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.

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

*Signed _____ Date _____

Signed _____ Date _____

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



BCHO website: bcho.org/membership/

BCHO Highline
C/O Sara Lagasse
PO BOX 488
Colton, OR 97017

BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF OREGON

