

Back Country Horsemen of Idaho



2009 Annual Report

BOISE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

YEAR END REPORT 2009

The Boise chapter had a summer club ride and potluck north of Idaho City.

The BBCH chapter had a work project at Jenny Lake Trail and are planning in 2010 a 30-40 mile ride in the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness Area to improve trails and work on cabins at a ranch in the wilderness area.

CACHE PEAK BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN CHAPTER

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

The Cache Peak chapter had rides at the City of Rocks and Castle Rock. There are two new Forest Service Rangers and they attend the CPBCH membership meetings.

CPBCH adopted the Ranger Trail as a work project.

The National Trails Day event on June 6 was rained out.

The chapter had a work project scheduled packing out wire from the Castle Rock State Park.

EAGLE ROCK BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

2009 REPORT

ERBCH closed out the year with 45 members, four children included. Our chapter worked on Tie Canyon and on the North Palisades Creek trail bridge.

May 9	Spring Fling hosted by Connie and Mike Bowcutt with obstacles and potluck
May 16-17	Tie Canyon trail work party
June 5-7	Stoddard Creek ride hosted by Mel Daniel
June 20	Big Elk Creek ride hosted by Vern and LaRene Smith
July 11	ERBCH hosted BCHI BOD meeting
July 25-26	Coyote Meadows ride hosted by Mitch Christensen
August 1-2	Big Basin ride hosted by Lane McVey
August 15	North Palisades bridge work party
August 19	Summer picnic hosted by Mitch and Kathy Christensen
September 27	Harriman Park ride hosted by Cindy and Sam Cook
December 12	Christmas party hosted by Mike and Connie Bowcutt

HEARTLAND BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

YEAR END REPORT 2009

The first meeting of the year, February, was delicious desserts at Dowdy's followed by a meeting. The Outdoor Show in Lewiston in March was a topic of discussion. Many good items were donated for a raffle. A call for photos was put out. The program was on Barefoot Trimming by the Simpson's.

In March, after a plentiful and pleasing potluck at Davenport's, the meeting started. The Outdoor Show was again discussed. NAIS, which consisted of registering and moving of all animals on the premises, was discussed. The consensus of the group was voluntary registration rather than mandatory. The Mountain Trail Challenge was discussed and a committee was set up. Also on the agenda, were the Arling Trail restoration and trail rides.

The April meeting was a breakfast ride/meeting at VanGrunsvan's. The Outdoor Show, NAIS, Mountain Trail Challenge (MTC), and the Mud Creek ride were on the agenda.

May, was a potluck/packing clinic at Becker's White Tail Arena. MTC, projects, and rides were discussed.

June, found us at Hemminger's in New Meadows. We ate there as well! The MTC as well as a Trail Challenge Clinic to be put on by Helen Glidden the day before the MTC was on the agenda. Also, discussed was the BOD meeting coming up and rides and dates.

Kleint's favored us with a BBQ dinner potluck in Donnelly in July. Discussed were the BOD report, Arling Trail project, and many rides.

In August, we were at the Revaul's residence with food as usual. The treasury was full from the MTC. Many rides, projects, and the Payette Coalition were noted.

Fun, food, and a festive mood were in September at Larry Bauer's home. Discussed were trail rides, Payette Coalition, Calendars, Election of Officers and Meetings.

Another potluck meeting at Rittersbacher in October. Discussed was the Arling Trail, trail rides, convention, calendars, Life Flight, election of officers, meetings, NAIS report, etc.

No meeting in November. December was our Christmas Party and of course, potluck. Fun is the key word, also.

HIGH DESERT BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

ANNUAL REPORT 2009

In 2009, the High Desert BCH chapter's monthly membership meetings/potlucks were held at member's homes.

Susan Lehman initiated a chapter web page: www.highdesertbch.org.

A Forest Service ranger has been attending the membership meetings, the same Forest Service ranger for Cache Peak BCH.

High Desert partnered with the Off Road Association and the Geo Cache Club cleaning the North Rim. They filled five dumpsters with trash. The National Trails day event on June 6 was rained out. It was rescheduled for August.

Porcupine Springs Campground work project in June involved working with the Forest Service as a trail maintenance project and to build a horse riding loop, which included constructing four horse corrals for overnight camping. The trailer parking area doesn't require reservations. Liberty Pipe in Jerome donated materials for the new corrals and a hitching rail.

Rim View Trail is the chapter's adopted trail.

High Desert had several trail rides three work projects and three overnight campouts.

High Desert sponsored the November BOD meeting and the 2009 BCHI Convention In Twin Falls.

BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF NORTH CENTRAL IDAHO 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

2009 was a year for North Central to honor the work & dedication of it's members. The chapter bestowed our first Lifetime Membership to long time members Don & Lorraine McPherson. An incentive program was also developed this year giving members who participated with trail projects, chances for a drawing with cash prizes. Our hope is that the incentive award will breed some healthy competition for the number of projects attended & at the same time members will have fun doing it.



The chapter also recognized our 2008 Heroes - Don & Lorraine McPherson and 2009 Heroes - Roger & Janice Inghram with an etched rock noting "Extraordinary Efforts" & showing the year presented. Both awards were presented at the 2009 Christmas Potluck & End of Year Awards Program. Don & Lorraine McPherson our "Good Will Ambassadors" again won the chapter's traveling silver bell for bringing in the most new members in 2009. Four members were also recognized for attending every 2009 chapter meeting: Clara Armstrong, Phil Foster, Janice & Roger Inghram. Chapter members were recognized by the USFS under the long standing 500 Miler Award Program that honors trail miles worked & projects accomplished. North Central Idaho membership for 2009 consisted of 57 Families & 18 Singles totaling 146 members.



2009 Activities & Projects

- John's Creek Trail maintenance
- Conducted the USFS Defensive Horsemanship Training at the rodeo grounds in Grangeville
- Annual 'Fun Ride' on the Don & Linda Carr Ranch
- National Trails Day at Wilderness Gateway
- Info booth at Kooskia Fish Hatchery open house
- Weed Spraying on the Moose Creek Ranger District & Lochsa Ranger District
- Fog Saddle Feed Bunk Replacement off the Selway River
- Smokejumper pack support project
- Windy Saddle hitch rail construction, campground cleanup & hazard tree reduction project at Seven Devils

PANHANDLE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

2009 YEAR IN REVIEW

The Panhandle chapter had a spring ride in April at Fish Trap and had a Spring Tune-up Clinic for the horses to have their spring Vaccinations and Coggins tested.

May - Heyburn Clean-Up Project

June – Marie Creek Trail Clearing and Clearing the 4th of July Pass Trails

June – Bernard Peak Trail Ride, Marie Creek Trail Fun Ride, Ladies Nipper Ride on Canfield Mountain.

July – Meeting and Annual Pot Luck, and our chapter's work project was clearing the trails on the 4th of July Pass and the St Joe Work Project at Red Ives

August - 4th of July Pass Ride

September - 2nd Annual Trail Challenge

September – Escure Ranch Work Project

December – Annual Christmas Party and Installation of Officers, Door Prizes, Awards, Slide Show and White Elephant Game

PRIEST RIVER VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

The Priest River Valley chapter began 2009 with our regular monthly meetings to conduct routine BCH business and plan the Chapter activities for the year. The seasonal work began on the Memorial Day weekend with the annual campout and work weekend at the Reynolds Creek campsite, Priest Lake Ranger District. The Chapter teamed up with members of the NE Washington BCH Chapter, North Idaho Chapter members and the North Idaho Saddle Mule Club. This work weekend is the first effort to open and “log out” trails in the Priest Lake area after the winter blow down. This is a great opportunity for volunteers to meet and greet other trail users over the holiday weekend and spread the word about the BCH mission. The weekend began with a retirement party for Dale Schrempp and great meals were prepared by our own chapter member Julie Copley and her kitchen staff. Many miles of trail were logged out and repair work done with both power saws and hand tools.

Other trail projects continued through the summer. The Chapter fulfilled grant obligations with two weekend work parties in the Hughes Meadow area and the Salmo -Priest Wilderness trails. Chapter members also assisted the Forest Service by packing in supplies and materials for trail repair and maintenance work accomplished by Forest Service personnel. Other BCH Chapters continued to help the Priest River Valley chapter with these projects.

The PeeWee Creek trail system was adopted by the Priest River Valley Chapter many years ago and the Chapter continues to maintain that trail system, a stock water system and improve the trailhead facilities.

In preparation for the maintenance season, members attended Defensive Horsemanship and Chainsaw Certification, training conducted by the Forest Service. In June the Chapter held our annual fundraising event, the PeeWee Poker Ride. The event drew over 100 riders. In July, the Chapter again sponsored a Competitive Trail Ride at the PeeWee trailhead. Everyone that participated enjoyed the competition and thanked the Chapter for the sponsorship. Prizes for the events were donated by local businesses.

Throughout the riding season our chapter members also got together for more “social” trail rides, organized by our chapter trail boss, Jack Lamb. Our year ended with our Christmas Dinner party and gift exchange, and the election of new Chapter Officers for 2010.

**SALMON RIVER
BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN
ACTIVITIES OF 2009**



All our meetings are potluck, whether in the Salmon Public Library basement or at someone's home during warm weather. We have no meeting in October due to hunting season and no one would come! We have several new folks on the Salmon-Challis NF---Karen Dunlap, Deputy District Ranger for the Leadore RS; Chris Grove, Middle Fork Ranger stationed in Challis; and Liz LaPorta, Forest Trails Coordinator, also in Challis. All have attended meetings to keep us updated on happenings with trails, monies, contracting, etc. since the stimulus money hit.

Following our successful 2008 State Convention in November celebrating 30 years in existence, it was decided to honor those members with 30 years of service. Thus, the following were presented with logo-engraved glass mugs: Richard and Jennie Smith, JoAnn Carroll, and Val and Sara Johnson.

We reiterated our official **Camp and Trail Rules** to the membership:

1. No ATVs or motorcycles on rides.
2. All stock must be maintained in a healthy and humane condition.
3. No stallions in camp or on the trail.
4. No loose horses or mules on the trail.
5. Dogs must be contained or controlled and remain in camp.

John Burns and Val Johnson, State Directors, attended the Board Meeting in Lewiston in March. Also attending to help with the bucket raffle were Marge Light, Shirley DeCora, Marcella Hendricks, Celeste Bingham and Sara Johnson.

Our Chapter enjoyed our annual Easter Ride with yummy food and spiritual services (27 riders, 50 in attendance), held a packing demonstration at the annual Mule Sale at the Fairgrounds, and helped with a Horse Clinic, all in April. We do a highway clean-up in April and November each year. We nominated long-time member and retired Salmon NF Supervisor John Burns for the BCH of America's Double Diamond award, based on his unending dedication to educational programs, his group presentations, and wonderful record-keeping. He didn't win, but we got his name in front of a lot of folks so they'd know how much we appreciate him. In late May folks worked on clearing trails in the Wagonhammer Creek complex. We were happy to hear that member Celeste Bingham was the \$500 from May's calendar drawing.

The Rich Rodgers Memorial National Trails Day Ride on June 6th saw many BCH folks involved, from marking trails and providing logistical support, to actually riding. It was noted that member Shirley DeCora has ridden all 11 rides.

The local Whitewater Therapeutic Riding and Recreation Assn. (WTRRA) Director gave an informative presentation on their mission, their desire to make their arena and surrounding area user friendly to the public, and the programs and activities they'll be presenting. Donations by organizations and individuals were encouraged. Several members participate in horse shows, trail courses, and other activities, plus help with the riders. Celeste Bingham won the costume class dressed as a wolf in Red Riding Hood's clothing. It was outstanding, her photograph even made the front page of our local paper!

On a long July weekend we aided the BLM in a big fence modification/more-wildlife-friendly project near the Montana border out of Leadore. Several members participated, worked hard, ate well, enjoyed campfire time, took several rides, and saw the rare pink dandelion that grows in this remote area.

As part of the mentoring process several members wished to be involved in, they set up an all-day packing demonstration for a 4-H camp on July 21st. The County Agent reported positive comments when a survey of the kids was taken at the end.

Several rides were taken over the summer sponsored by various members. Twelve members, for the second year, manned places with their horses or mules along the route of the Salmon Marathon, from Tendoy to Salmon along the back road. This is getting to be quite a big affair and we add "spice" to folks' run, we were told quite often. There were over 200 runners this year. This is an official marathon and qualifies runners for the BIG ones!

Val Johnson and Marcella Hendricks attended the Board Meeting in November in Jerome, and we had seven folks attend the Convention in Twin Falls on Saturday. We really hooted and hollered for our chapter's Hero of the Year, Marcella Hendricks. Great fun was had by all.

The year is always capped off by a big potluck dinner with steaks provided by the owner at The Ranch, a wonderful holiday setting with plenty of room, libations and ambiance. This year, a cowboy poet shared several poems followed by the usual rowdy gift exchange/thievery.

SAWTOOTH BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

The Sawtooth BCH chapter developed a web site: www.sawtoothbch.org.

Their chapter work projects have been primarily chainsaw work for clearing trails.

The chapter had a breakfast ride and Sawtooth has been sending a representative to attend the land developer meetings in their local area.

Sawtooth BCH participated in the Day of the Cowboy by having an information table at the local tack store.

Members of the saw tooth chapter volunteered at the summer's three Cowboy races.

Jo Heiss attended many meetings with the local multi-use organization, Big Wood Back Country Trails.

Bill Flaherty completed five hours of trail work for the chapter.

SELKIRK VALLEY BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

February membership meeting at Wayne and Marge Nishek's residence in Bonners Ferry. Julie Copley presented a Dutch Oven Cooking Demonstration

At the March membership meeting, Dr. Marie Meschke, DVM, gave a discussion on vaccines, fly predator control, worming meds, and contagious equine metritis that has been infecting stallions and affecting mares.

April Membership meeting Duke Guthrie from Boundary County Weed Control presented an informative Power Point presentation on Noxious Weeds and Control Methods. Josie Imper placed third place in the Outdoor Show Winter category photo contest and also received the People's Choice Award- Congratulations Josie!!!

May Membership meeting/spring ride and potluck at Steve and Sarah Larkin's in Naples. Snyder Guard Station, -chapter members rode the Deer Ridge Lookout Trail No. 35 and cut several windfall trees out of the trail. Camp hosts, Lanny and Carole Wigren and Judy Goodwin tended camp and had homemade spaghetti and garlic bread awaiting the hungry horse riders upon their return. Everyone enjoyed the potluck dinner.



SVBCH Chapter chainsaw and pack containers: Stihl MS290-20" Chainsaw purchased in April 2009 with SVBCH chapter funds, Columbia Tractor in Bonners Ferry, Idaho gave the chapter a discount. Additional items stored in the pack boxes are an extra bar, extra chain, bar cover, spare spark plug, file, handle, saw tool, 2 wedges, and a combo gas/oil can. A single bit ax, a pair of chaps, collapsible bucket was donated by members. Other members volunteered to sew the two canvas box pads (3hours). Another chapter member built 2 fixed wooden pack containers (sixteen hours of construction time) with leather latigos and leather straps to secure the items in the packing boxes for a pack animal to carry for work parties one side is for the chainsaw and chain saw tool kit, spare chain, etc. and the other side is for a balanced container for hand tools, gas/ oil container, first aid kit and a water container. These packing boxes were patterned after the Montana Nine Mile Remount packing boxes

June rides- Camp Nine, Buzzard Mtn, Snow Lake ride/Bottleneck Trail ride, West Lake Trail ride

July rides-Callahan Creek Trail ride, Schweitzer Mountain ride, Two Mouths Lakes ride, Trout Creek Trailhead campout- trail rides to Pyramid Lake, Ball Lakes, and Big Fisher Lake- day rides from the trailhead camping area

August -Keno Mtn Work Project: SVBCH provided pack animals for their supplies/chainsaws and two mounts for Bonners Ferry USFS personnel. At the drop off point, the USFS personnel hiked 12 miles on foot to clear any deadfalls through the Goat Mountain trail.

Divide Lake work project- hauled 1200 pounds of water (150 gallons) in 5 gallon containers for IPNF (Bonners Ferry District) USFS work project at Divide Lake, provided 9 pack animals.

SVBCH Embroidered Logo Patches: Our chapter purchased caps and patches- Caps are available on the www.svbch.org web site.

August rides: Boulder Meadows Trailhead campout – and trail ride – Orville Heath Trail, Kelly Pass, Rummy Creek and Boulder Meadows.

Trail Creek trailhead work project I n August the tractor work was completed in the parking area and the old log landing was dismantled and restacked for burning at a later date by the USFS. SSVBCH members reported the USFS did a fantastic job rebuilding the trail relocated the creek crossing for easy access across the creek bed.

September rides-Snyder Guard Station day ride- chapter members rode on Ruby ridge and the Ridge Trail, Apache Ridge (start at Browns Mill) –day ride

December: Christmas Party at Arleen Mackinnon's and elections for 2010

SQUAW BUTTE BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES for 2009

The chapter had a number of goals that were started in 2008 that we continued to pursue in 2009. A major emphasis was placed on continued and expanded outreach to the federal agencies, other outdoor groups, and the public. We accomplished this goal in a number of ways. We developed working relationships with the Payette and Cascade Ranger Districts as well as continued our long term & productive relationship with the Emmett Ranger District. These relationships provided Squaw Butte with some very interesting projects to work on as well as gave us "voice on trail" management issue regarding the areas these districts administer. We also manned informational booths at horse events, hosted events for the public, and partnered with another trail user group for National Trails Day.

January: January was our planning month. The 2009 chapter leadership team met to wrap up the previous year, audit the books, and plan the upcoming season. Contact was made with all the local ranger districts to see for which projects they were interested in soliciting volunteer help. These projects were worked into the upcoming year's schedule.

February: February was our warm-up month. The chapter along with the other two chapters in southwestern Idaho took turns manning a BCHI information booth at the "Horse Affair" held at the Boise fair grounds. This was an opportunity to visit with the public about the organization and to advertise the upcoming "Back Country Skills Clinic". We also held our first ride of the season at Celebration Park along the Snake River. This area is likely to be snow free and it is a fun place to ride horses, which are often full of vim and vigor after a couple of months off.

March: By March we were 'back in the saddle' hosting rides and clinics and attending training. The Emmett Ranger District hosted a "First Aid Certification Class" which was free to BCHI members. A first aid card is required before taking the Forest Service sawyer classes and having trained members make us all safer in the back country. The "Little Butte Ride and Dutch Oven Cook off Potluck" has become a well-attended annual tradition with the Squaw Butte Chapter. Combining riding and food, it provides a social setting for riders and non-riding family members.

The last weekend of the month was our 6th Annual "Back Country Skills Clinic". This year members and guests participated in a full day of lecture and hand-on presentations. Each year the number of attendees grows and the presentations become more varied. Highlights this year included "What to bring and what to leave behind"; buying, selling, and transporting stock presented by Larry Hayhurst, the state brand inspector; and One Step Horsemanship presented by Dr. Hayes, equine vet and former Idaho State veterinarian. Marybeth and Bill Conger led the presentation and discussion on "what to bring and what to leave behind" on a pack trip.

Larry Hayhurst, the state brand inspector, talked about buying, selling and transporting stock in Idaho. Interest in the subject was high and Larry answered a lot of good questions and sparked a lively discussion.

Dr. David Hayes, Idaho state veterinarian and a very popular speaker at past clinics, kept his audience riveted to their rather cold wooden seats with his "One Step Horsemanship", insight into how horses think and how to safely work around them. The focus of his presentation was to ask for 'One Step' from your equine partner; not the entire dance choreography. He has augmented Ray Hunt's teachings of seeing the smallest try and rewarding it.

Shannon Allison, former trainer for Simplot Livestock Company in Grand View Idaho, provided a trail horse demonstration that was very well received. Always popular and very well attended was the hands-on Packing classes. Both beginner and more advanced packing techniques were demonstrated and attempted by all who were interested or just wanted to give it a try.

April: Squaw Butte sent a delegation to Lewiston to the spring Backcountry Outdoor Show & BCHI Convention. This event was a great time. The Idaho Horse Expo was held in April at the Nampa Horse Center. It is sponsored by the Idaho Horse Council and was another great opportunity to let the public know about BCHI and how to become involved. We also held our third ride of the year in the Hard Trigger area of the Owyhee Mountains.

May: We gathered for our bi-annual clean up and pick up of our adopted 2 mile stretch of Highway 52 along the Black Canyon Reservoir. The Emmett Ranger District hosted a Sawyer A/B training class. The classroom portion of this training was held at the ranger district office. The hands-on portion was held along Third Fork Road, west of Sage Hen. The chapter ended the month the 2nd Annual Yard Sale. This sale is a very successful fund raiser and helps members get rid of a lot of stuff taking up space in their house, barns, and tack rooms.

June: Once June arrived we were ready to take on the weekend work projects that we had scheduled and planned back in January. Mother Nature was not on our side this year and all project planned for the month were weathered out and had to be rescheduled.

July: The highlight of July was a multi-day trip to the Bull Trout Lake. Members of the Squaw Butte and High Desert chapters spent a long weekend riding, clearing trail, eating and relaxing around the camp fire. The weather wasn't done with us yet, as it rained every day during the trip. We rescheduled the National Trails day project with the Cascade Ranger District. The "Men" of the group, built a replacement bridge to one of the hot springs, while the "Women" spent the day riding and clearing the Yellow Jacket trail south west of Warm Lake. Both teams were dead tired when they finished. After dinner a spectacular lighting storm provided entertainment until a heavy rain forced us into shelter.

August: Projects in August were in areas that still had snow in July. The chapter worked a number of trails on West Mountain, north of Ola. Trail projects for 2009 had excellent member turnout. This made the work go faster, allowed us to complete a lot more miles of trail and made for some really great potluck dinners after the work was finished.

September: We finished up the last of the work projects with a return to Wilson Corral on West Mountain to complete work on two trails. Again member turn out was excellent, the weather perfect and the riding scenic. The chapter also spent a great weekend on the western edge of the Sawtooth Wilderness camping at Grandjean. What a perfect way to end the project season.

October: With the coming of October our work season ended. As the hunters entered the high country, we moved our actives to Circle G River Ranch for the 4th annual "Packers Play Day". This open-to-the-public event is a great way to improve your horsemanship while having a great time playing on your horse. The Gem-Boise County 4-H Horse Program members catered the lunch as a fund raiser. Kids and adults who have attended the event in the past say that they really look forward to our play day because it is so much fun.

November: November brought a winding down of our activities. We gathered for the annual fall clean up and pick up of our adopted 2 mile stretch of Highway 52 along the Black Canyon Reservoir. As snow comes to the high country our rides move to the desert and a ride was held in the Owyhee's. The BCHI calendars were delivered and members were encouraged to sell them to friends, family and to consider giving them as Christmas gifts. December: We finished off the year with the elections of the 2010 leadership team and the annual Christmas party.

TREASURE VALLEY BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

The Treasure Valley chapter had a work project on the Crooked River to pack in explosives to remove rock.

The chapter sponsored an Education clinic /obstacle course.

The chapter had a work project to post a sign on the More's Creek summit at the horse camp site to recognize TVBCH for their volunteer work at the site.

TVBCH was asked to assist with the mustang roundup at Challis to offer a pack demo and to provide foster care for a mustang.

Wendy Coome and Ken Nungesser attended a State Legislature meeting in June regarding the future allocation of RAC funds.

The Treasure Valley chapter teamed with the Boise and Squaw Butte chapters at the Horse Fair and Horse Expo.

TVBCH had a trail clinic at Thistle Ranch, a trail clearing project at Whoop Em Up, packed tools for the USFS, had a group brand inspection for members and cleared several trails during the summer.

Twin Rivers BCH Annual Report 2009

February: We had our Annual Chili Ride hosted by Bob & Laurel Kuther. Twenty one riders enjoyed this beautiful day and the great feed afterwards!



March: Our big event this year just like the last couple was the Back Country & Outdoor Show, consuming almost all our time and energy. This is a three day event open to the public with many vendors, demonstrators, and activities for youths. The show was the end of March this year, and we had our best attendance with perfect weather. We pulled it off again with help from several other chapters across the state. This has been an annual fundraiser for BCH of Idaho.

April: We started on a two year project with the Umatilla N F removing several old drift fences in the Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness in the Southeast corner of the State of Washington. We had a great turnout for the work days, rolling wire, pulling posts, and packing the wire out on our stock.



May: We were again a demonstrator at the Clarkston and Asotin, WA School Districts "5th Grade Rendezvous". We did a skit as a prospector packing his mule and heading to his claim. The animals are always a hit with the kids.

We again had to move to private ground to hold our annual Poker Ride, as the snow was too deep to clear the trail in the forest. No one seems to mind and the only problem we had was the cattle in the area using our stakes to mark the trail as scratching posts, so we had a few riders going the wrong direction at times, but since it is open hillsides, everyone eventually made all the check stations.



Memorial Day weekend, we had our annual project at Billy Creek, Craig Mountain Wildlife Management Area for Idaho Fish & Game. This year we rebuilt two corrals that had to be redesigned after a new building was built in the old corrals after the Chimney Complex Fire burned down the old building. We also relocated two hitchrails. We had a great work crew and were able to go on several rides in the area. Some of the members that stayed over for a few more days rode over to the Dough Creek Cabin that our chapter adopted and install a sign and did some cleanup work.



June: The snow finally receded enough that we decide to cut out the Poker Ride loop in the Umatilla NF for our National Trails Day Project. This is one of the most popular riding loops, as it is only about an hour's drive from town and there is almost always wildlife to view.

Another annual event, the Boy Scout Pack-in ended up being a trailhead project of cutting bull thistle by hand and then brushing our Poker Ride trail a little better and relocating a 150' stretch of trail to eliminate two muddy creek crossings. The boys did a great job, and still had a lot of time to play.



Dough Creek Adopt-A-Cabin in the Craig Mountains outside of Lewiston, Idaho was our next project. Members rode down from the top of the mountain and created a fire break around the cabin with a brush cutter, scraped and painted the window frames, cut bull thistle by hand and anything else we felt needed done. The one thing we had not planned on was breaking a window, so this was scheduled to fix on another trip.



Our chapter was contacted by the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area to see if we would be interested in building them two non-motorized access gates, which we were glad to do. These were installed by a contractor that was replacing fences after another of the big fires of 2007. (Sample of gates. These are on Idaho Fish & Game Property)





Snow had finally melted enough that we were able to go to Feather Creek in the Clearwater N F and brush and clear this five mile loop. They are building a new ten mile loop that connects to this trail, so in the future there will be more area to ride here. This is a very popular trail for mountain bikes. We did not work quite fast enough, as we were all caught in a major cloudburst before we got back to the trailhead. Lots of stories to tell!!

July: We help our fifth annual Kid's Kamp at the Pony Club near Deary ID. This is a great facility and some pretty country to ride in. Twenty five eager youths had a great time with fun, games, riding, and learning, all part of the agenda.



Corral Creek Trailhead in the Nez Perce NF was our next outing. Here we scouted out the old Mill Creek Trail and did extensive work brushing, clearing, and tread work. The hope was to make this a loop ride by opening up trails that have not been open for years. Some hardy women from BCH of North Central Idaho made this loop as we were working on it, but they never plan to go back. Horses stepped on their tails going downhill it was so steep in areas. We installed some direction signs on the Driveway Trail #431 as a clear cut and logging roads made it hard to find the trail in one section. We did a great fun ride to look over some of our accomplishment the last day.



Our last forest service project for the year was on the Upper Basin Interpretive Trail for the Clearwater NF. This is a five mile loop that needed lots of brushing. We also repaired a broken pack bridge that was a hazard to stock. This was great place to be working, as it was over 100 degrees in the valley and in the low 70's in this beautiful country.

August: Our chapter had a celebration of Don Uhlman's life at Hellsgate State Park. Don passed away in July and had been an active member of our chapter from the very beginning. Don rode his mules at Hellsgate Park on a regular basis

when not in the back country. We are working with Hellsgate State Park on constructing a shelter in the stock area as a memorial to Don. We hope to have this done by spring. Below are pictures of Don Uhlman on his last of many work projects with TRBCH.



Don Uhlman with his spoiled dog and pesky mule.



Bob Henriksen & Don Uhlman



October: We were back at Hells Gate State Park relocating two hitchrails that were installed by our chapter in the early 1990's. The park is expanding a parking lot for the archery area and adding an ATV training area, and they asked us to move the hitchrails to reduce congestion and improve safety.



November: Our chapter has a great working relationship with Washington State Dept. of Fish & Wildlife. We have some completed projects and several more planned for the coming year. A popular place to ride is their property on Joseph Creek. The access was not good for stock until they let us redesign a gate to make it stock friendly. We will be expanding

the trailhead on Joseph Creek this winter, adding a hitch rail and fire ring and repairing fencing in the area. We also will be installing hitchrails at Asotin Creek Trailhead and Fordyce Trailhead.



December: A great turnout for a delicious Prime Rib Dinner at the Guardian Angel Retirement Home. Many of us are close to becoming residents!! This was a last chance to pickup those last calendars to sell and buy. Gifts were brought and donated to Toys for Tots. We have been donating for several years now to this worthy cause. Stories and drinks were flowing as many reminisced on the past years accomplishments

Using the figures provided by BCHA, the value of the volunteering Twin Rivers BCH did this year was \$78,600.00 and our members logged over 13,500 miles on their vehicles.