

Twin Rivers BCH Annual Report 2016

TRBCH Annual Chili Ride-February 21

The Chili Ride was held at the Kuther Ranch in Peola area. Lorelei McNamee was our trail boss. She took us on a new route this year with many fields and canyons to ride through. We even picked up one of the landowners who joined us for the ride and had some history on some the places we went to. The most interesting thing we saw was a well that had a hand pump that appeared to have been adapted to operate with a gas motor. We saw several groups of deer, and found a deer carcass that had gotten tangled in some old electric fencing. We collected all the wiring and packed it out so another deer would not experience the same fate. After the ride, everyone moved up to Bob Kuther's Shop and we had a great potluck meal. Stories were told and it was pointed out that we did not have any pizza riders. I think that is two years in a row without pizza.

First Aid Training March 3rd

Twenty one members attended the training at Cutting Edge Credit Union. Jim Babino is a great trainer and concentrated a good share of the time covering issues that we may meet on the trail. It was very interesting to learn how much CPR has changed over the years. Chest compressions at the rate of 120/minute are vital to provide oxygen to the brain until a defibulator arrives. This training can be invaluable if one of our members get hurt or has any medical emergency. If you call 911, it is best to call from a land line. If you do call from a cell phone, be sure to give the address and city you are calling from, as cell phones may go to another city other than where you are located when you call.

Hellsgate State Park Project, March 11, Lewiston, ID

Rod Parks and Carl Paulson installed three new water bars, repaired two, and made two rock water bars on the trails at the park. The new water bars were rubber belting to make crossing easier for mountain bikes. Poe Asphalt donated the belting and the state park purchased the treated timber and bolts to assemble them.



Cummins Creek Fun Ride, April 2, WDFW

The Cummins Creek trail ride has become an annual event for some TRBCH members. This year, members wishing to caravan to the trailhead were to meet at the rest stop near the top of Alpowa Grade at 8:30 AM. Half of our crew arrived just barely on time, so we waited there an extra 15 minutes just in case there were any stragglers. When we reached the trailhead upriver just a few miles, we found that a good share of our riding group for this year had gone ahead and were there, ready and waiting to ride. Lorelei McNamee led the way up the trail. The first few miles through the Washington Fish and Wildlife area were all open. After we crossed onto the Umatilla NF there were several logs across the trail. Don Klement provided the chain saw for the trip. Lunch break was called about six miles up the trail, and after a long lunch, we decided to turn back. We saw one large group of North American Sheep watching us from their beds as we passed.

Primeland Spring Outdoor Event, April 16, Lewiston, ID

The Dutch Oven samples were a hit and went fast. I think we had more youth riders this year than we ever have had. The royalty and members walked many miles in the round pen with some big smiles from the kids! Thanks to everyone that brought their stock and walked their legs off.

Green Gulch Trail Marking, April 25, Washington Fish & Wildlife Area (WDFW)

Members rode on ATV's and removed about a quarter mile of fence and used the t-posts to mark the old cattle trail from the top of Green Gulch to the top of the road above Rodgerburg, WA on the Snake River. This makes a nice six hour loop ride.

Kid's Kamp Work Project, WDFW

The new 500' waterline is installed at Smoothing Iron Ranch. Bob Hough, Rod Parks and Tom Barnes did the labor with some help from two WDFW summer interns. Thanks to Bob Dice from WDFW for getting us the materials, excavator and other equipment to get the work accomplished. We will be able to fill water buckets at the upper barn during camp from now on!

Wilderness Gateway Campground Cleanup, May 14-15, Clearwater-NezPerce NF

Most of us arrived Friday evening and had some great Chicken Noodles provided by Billie Havens. Before dinner we did some cleaning in the camping areas as there had been a real wind storm and all the pavement was a mess with limbs and pine needles. Saturday, we continued cleaning up the camp areas, sprayed all the gravel areas with chemical to kill the weeds, and sanded and scraped the picnic tables. Lorelei McNamee and Karen Parks started staining the tables and kept the rest of us busy staying ahead of them with the belt sanders and wire brushes. The tables looked real good. After lunch the four of us that had stock had plans to ride up to Huckleberry flats, but the trees across the trail kept us from making it there. We cleared about 10 trees across the trail and then decide it was time to return so we would not miss out on the potluck dinner. We had plans for a big ride on Sunday before we went home, but the rain dampened our plans. Don, Billie and Rod went to Loop "B" to help the FS crew with clearing brush until after about an hour and a half we were all soaked to the bone and the chipper was broke down so we quit for the day without a ride. It rained all the way home, so we were glad we did not try to ride.



Fun Ride Pre-ride, June 3rd, Lewiston, ID area, Idaho Dept. of Fish & Game (IDFG)

Kruze Meadows Parking lot was a busy place as some members cleaned up the litter. Other dragged magnets across the gravel picking up nails to cut down on flat tires. This is the third year we have dragged magnets and each year we get less to haul away. Other members saddled up and rode the route clearing brush and cutting out down trees and marking the trails for the big day on the 4th. Thanks to all the eager workers and Idaho Fish & Game for letting us use this great location to host our ride in the Craig Mountains.

TRBCH Fundraiser Ride, June 4th

We could have not had a better day for the ride. We sold 147 hands with 35 of them being youth riders. We paid three places for adults and three for youths. There were no incidents on the trail and, as usual, riders enjoyed the games of chance at each check station. Thanks so much for Idaho Fish & Game letting us use Kruze Meadows for our fundraiser ride and the support from all the riders.

Dough Creek Cabin Adopt-A-Cabin Project, June 5th (IDFG)

We met at Madden Corrals and saddled up for the ride to the cabin. It was supposed to get to 100 degrees in the valley that day, so we wanted to get there, get the work done and back out before it started roasting us. There were not as many trees across the trail as we anticipated from the 2014 fire, but was quite a bit of brush to clear. The area that we treated to kill the grass around the cabin did not look as good as we had hoped. We pulled some big weeds by hand and mowed down the others with string trimmers. Some cleaned up the cabin and the rest went to cutting scotch thistle with shovels and loppers in the immediate area around the cabin, trail to the water, and around the outhouse. One window was broken at the cabin. We patched it up the best we could and measured it to buy a new one to replace it. We hope to get it packed down and installed before winter. We got done a little before noon, ate lunch, and then headed back up the trail. We were very lucky that the day did not get as hot as predicted and we had cloud cover. The animals as well as all of us were happy to see the trailers back at the corrals. IDFG purchased two new windows and members installed them in September.

Kid's Kamp Pre Kamp Setup, June 12, Smoothing Iron Ranch, WDFW

We had a great crew of workers. We had the wall tents set up in no time. It took us a while to get tarps over the tents. The other crew had all the stock pens set up by the time the tents were done. Then we all started hauling the supplies from the basement while others set up the chapter awning, table and chairs. Tom Barnes washed out the hay barn for the boys to sleep in. With all the workers we had, we were done by noon and had a great lunch made by Pat Hough and Karen Parks. Thanks everyone!

Kid's Kamp 2016, June 14-18, WDFW

This was the year of the rain. I do not know what is better, rain or 100 degree temperature like we had a few years back. We ended up with 23 kids and their stock, eight boys, a new record. Kids handle the weather much better than the members, but all survived thanks to the warm house. While the kids were learning how to use highlines, one horse got loose at the corrals, ran off, and did not get found for four days. The horse had some injuries when found but has recovered. We thank all the presenters that donate them time to work with the kids.



North Fork Clearwater River Multiple Projects, June 14-25, Clearwater-NezPerce NF

The 14th we all arrived at the meadow past Kelly Creek Trailhead with rain most of the way in. The morning of the 15th, the forest service crew arrived and we started figuring out our loads. Tim Lewis, FS, had given us a couple four foot culverts to pack in as well as supplies for the trail crew to pack to Bear Creek on Kelly Creek Trail. We had eight pack animals, so had no problem getting everything there. The next morning we drove back down the North Fork to Weitas Creek and loaded up some personal gear and headed across the newly repaired bridge and up the trail to Weitas Guard Station to spend the night. We anticipated an easy day, but it took us five hours, cutting down trees with the chain saw, to make it the seven miles to the guard station. The off and on rain did not make the ride any more enjoyable. Our hay and grain and spray materials were hauled to the guard station by FS pickup. It was really nice to have the cabins to stay in and dry out our wet clothes. The project was spraying noxious weeds up Weitas Creek. On the 17th, we mantied up eight bales of hay, two horseback sprayers, and two backpack sprayers and headed another eight miles up Weitas Cr. to Windy Cr. There were several more trees to cut out, but nothing like the day before. We left with our loaded pack stock at 9:30 am and got back at 6:30 pm. A late dinner and another night in the nice cabins. On the 18th, we packed to Windy Cr with camp gear and had plans to spray in the afternoon, but rain arrived as we were setting up camp, so no spraying that day. Kearstin Edwards, FS, showed up to pack one of the horseback sprayers back down to West Virginia Flats where she planned to use it the next day. Her horse did a little bucking demonstration with the spray tanks, but settled down after a while. The morning of the 19th, it was still too wet to spray so we went for a ride up trail # 174 as Jim White wanted to put a game camera for IDFG on the ridge. We cut some trees and made it about 2 miles and then turned around as too many trees and had to get back to spray weeds. Jim & Billie sprayed the area around Windy Cr. with backpack sprayers for spotted knapweed, sulfur cinquefoil, canada thistle, and hounds tongue. Rod used a horseback sprayer on the trail from Windy Cr. to Johnagan Cr. Steve hauled water to Rod in the horseback sprayer. On the 20th the dew was too heavy to spray so we headed to Liz CR Cabin as none of us had been there before, 2.5 miles away. We ran out of gas in the saw before we made it, so back to spraying in the afternoon. On the 21st, we packed up camp and headed back to our vehicles at the North Fork and drove back to camp at Kelly Cr. Tim Lewis had four more culverts for us to pack in to Bear CR on the 22nd, and then we packed out the trail crew to Kelly Cr trailhead. We rested on the 23rd, and then packed two employees from the Great Burn Study Group into Hanson Meadows on Kelly Creek on the 24th. We had originally planned to do a fun ride on the 25th and head home on the 26th, but decided we had maxed out our fun with all the riding and packing and headed home a day early. We had a great crew and figured out how to pack some odd loads without any mishap. Well, there were two pizza events when Rod's saddle horse went back to camp without him to Windy Creek and then the next day Steve's saddle horse decided to do the same. We could not get too upset since they did not go clear back to the trailhead, 16 miles away. The FS trail crew and the Great Burn crew did a great job of keeping their loads to packable sizes and weight.





Kid's Kamp Appreciation Dinner, July 28th, Anatone, WA

Vic Dalosto treated workers from Kid's Kamp to dinner and drinks at the Anatone Café for the efforts members put into trying to find his daughters horse that ran off at Kid's Kamp. Indego's horse was found after being gone for several days. We are all thankful the horse was found and appreciated the dinner that Vic treated us to.

Hunt Idaho Expo, Aug. 27th Idaho Fish & Game Office, Lewiston, ID.

Jim White, Pat Bogar, & Rod Parks were ready with a horse and mule to discuss with the attendees packing skills and hands on learning some of the skills they have acquired. There were over three hundred members of the public that signed up for the event, but we only had about eight people that had any questions or were interested in what we had to offer. We all felt that the location of where we were set up completely out of sight of the other vendors lead to our disappointing showing. Many kids got to pet the horses, so they had a good time.

Ten Mile Trail Clearing Project, Aug27-31, Clearwater-NezPerce NF

Gospel Hump Wilderness, Trail # 415 trail clearing project this year was a real challenge. We thought there were a lot of trees down last year, but it was nothing compared to this year. Jerry & Linda Lane and Bob Hough wore themselves out the first day. Rod Parks joined them that night and tried to motivate them for the rest of the trail. I don't know if I motivated them, but we cut out 140 trees that day after about 80-90 trees the day before. The 29th we packed camp up to Ten Mile Meadows and just cut out what we could not get over or around. The next day was halfway relaxing as we only cut out around 60-70 trees. Over ninety percent of the trees were all in wilderness and done with crosscut saws and axes. Thanks to Jerry and Rod for the sharp saws.

Lewiston Roundup-Clearwater-NezPerce NF Booth

The FS set up a booth for three days with information on stock use and packing before the rodeo. Mike Welling from our chapter and Steve Didier from NCI Chapter went as volunteers to help. Mike reported there were some great handouts, but the participation was pretty disappointing.

Panjab Trailhead Chapter Outing Sept 30-Oct. 2 Umatilla National Forest

Panjab is located in the Umatilla NF in Washington, about 60 miles southwest from Clarkston. The facilities are very nice for stock. There were seven members that were there all or part of the weekend. Three of us rode up Meadow Cr Trail Friday. Some of us made a nice loop ride on Saturday up Panjab Creek Trail, around to Oregon Butte and back down Turkey Cr. Trail. Sunday, some took a short ride up the Tucannon River Trail and then home. The weather was great, just a little rain Friday night. Everyone pooled their food together and we ate like kings. Thanks to Billie Havens for scheduling the outing and Sam Duncan and her for doing almost all the cooking. There were some trees across the trail in an old burn area that were challenging and then there

was the little detour when Rod went the wrong way. It is amazing how things look different after fires and twenty-five+ years since the last time riding there. We really enjoyed the loop ride and already have plans to go again next year. The FS campgrounds and trailheads are fee areas if anyone has plans to use the area.

Mountain View trail ride, WDFW, Grande Ronde River Area

Six members Bob Hough, Brad and Rhonda Alboucq, Lorelei McNamee, Billie Haven and Michelle Barnes met at the Anatone Cafe at 9am Sunday, Nov 13. We pooled horses and vehicles and left Anatone by 9:15am and arrived on Wash State Fish & Wildlife land on Mountain View around 10:30am. After packing one horse with tools we headed up the trail to Big Saddle where we started down hill to the Historical Hall Trail. In doing so we by-passed some brush to be cleared on a return trip. We cleared brush on the upper part of the Hall Trail and rode on down the trail that did not require much work. We rode back up the hill to a big pine bench where we took time to have lunch. After lunch we headed back, but the group wanted to detour around to check out the Mountain View Cemetery and Mountain View School House. The School House has fallen in. It was last used in about 1955. So with the detour we will have to go back probably in the Spring of 2017 to finish the project.

TRBCH Volunteer Efforts for 2017

Dollar Value \$70282.858

Volunteer Work							
Trail Work Hours			Trail Miles		Education	Public	Admin
Basic	Skilled	Recon	Wilderness	Other	& LNT	Meetings	Service
802.5	403	21.5	12	16.5	106	10	81

Transportation			Equipment Hours		Horses & Mules		Donations
Travel	Personal	Stock	Power	Heavy	Quant	Stock	Dollar
Time	POV Miles	Haul Miles	Hours	Hours	Stock	Days	Amount
373.2	6024	4930	28.5	11	102	194	\$ 115.00