

TWIN RIVERS BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN TRAILS AND TALES NEWSLETTER

P O Box 1633 Lewiston, ID 83501 www.twinriversbch.com

Meeting: Tuesday, June 10th, 7:00 pm. Idaho Fish & Game Building 3316 16th St. Lewiston, ID

Comin' round the Mountain

Special Announcement: Kid's Kamp Meeting, June 9th, 6:15 P M

This meeting will precede our regular chapter meeting at Idaho Fish & Game Office.

4H Trail Class Course, June 12, 3:00 PM

Nez Perce County Fairgrounds, Lewiston Orchards, Pat Bogar(509-243-5300) needs help setting the course up on Friday and maybe some help tearing down after it is over. Give her a call and help out. This is right in town, so some of our new and old members that don't make it out to the work projects; this might be an easy place to help out!

Free Handouts

At the next meeting there will be some South East Washington Noxious weed booklets furnished by Nelle Murray. She is the Asotin Noxious Weed Board Coordinator. These booklets are of a size you can put in your saddle bag so when you see a suspicious weed it can be identified and reported to her. What has that to do with horses and riding the "Range?" Just one way to try to keep our environment clean. Some weeds really take over the native grasses, like star thistle has. Some weeds are poisonous to livestock. This can become a game with a group. Who can identify the most weeds? Or who can discover a new one. Rod doesn't get to participate as he's had an advanced course working at Bill Creek. Be sure and pick up your copy.

More Free Handouts

(Strings Attached! If you get a set of free tree saver straps, Bill wants to see you at Corral Creek on his work project!!)

I have some Seat Belt Material left over from our last Tree Saver Project. Anyone that plans on going into the Forest and High Lining that doesn't have a set of

Tree Savers, I'll gladly make them a set. All I need to know is about how long you need them. There's a loop in one

end and a 'D' ring in the other. You should have them long enough so the "D' ring goes thru the loop allowing you to run the rope thru the first Halter rope loop which gives you some added purchase to tighten the whole thing. Follow that? Good. There is a small choice of colors but after a few trips they're so camouflaged it won't matter anyway. In fact they get so camouflaged the some people have been known to have left them in the trees!

Bill Correll (509-243-8500)

Umatilla N F

National Trails Day - June 6th

We will be clearing the Fordyce Trail, Asotin Creek Drainage, for this year's project as we were not able to clear it for our scheduled poker ride earlier in the year due to the deep snow. We will have a potluck dinner after the work is completed Saturday night. The chapter will provide the meat for dinner. **Work will start at 9:30 am.** Bring your loppers, as the brush is heavy on the first part of the trail. For those that will be able to spend the night, there will be a fun ride on Sunday. Remember that weed seed free feed is required. Since we will be doing volunteer work, an access pass will not be required for this project.

Directions: Allow one hour drive time, From Clarkston; take Hwy 129 South to Asotin. Turn right before the bridge over Asotin Creek, entering Asotin, on Asotin Creek Rd. #110. When you come to a "Y" keep right and stay at creek level. This road will change back and forth from paved to gravel. The third time it changes to paved, there will be a house in the middle of a "y" intersection. Go right on Lick Fork Rd. #181. Follow this for a few miles and you will go past a couple barns on the right and cattle guards. After the second barn, look for ED FORDYCE TRAIL sign

along the left side of the road and a large grassy area. You are there!

Clearwater NF

Feather Creek Trail Project, Monday, June 8th

Work will start at 9:00 AM. This trail is a five mile loop that can be cleared with chainsaws. This will be the third year our chapter has cleared this trail. Bob Shelton (208-877-1125) is trail boss. Please call Bob and let him know if you can help and to get directions.

Upper Basin-Morris Creek Trail Clearing Project

Bob Henriksen (208-835-6722) has agreed to be trail boss. Hopefully the snow is gone and we can set dates for these projects very soon and get on the calendar.

Kid's Kamp July 8-12

Mar Bogar reported that we will have liability insurance coverage for the Pony Club this year since all kids will be members of TRBCH. We are hot and heavy into the planning stages. Applications are on the chapter website. Deadline is June 15th to return the applications. Kamp is limited to 25 kids between ages of 8-18. Sign up sheet for help will be at the meeting.

Nez Perce NF

Corral Creek July 17-19

The Corral Creek trail project is offered to Twin River's Back Country Horsemen to reestablish route marking and clearing limits on Mill Creek Trail No. 318. **Work starts at 8:00 AM**

Our portion of this trail starts at Corral Creek Camp Grounds and is a gentle creek grade trail. They run cattle in that area and the cowboys have established another trail going west that more suits their line of business. The 319 Trail intersects the 318 trail and also needs some signing and clearing. There is about one mile of rather steep grade on this one. The 319 Trail is also known as the Doc Denny Trail. The Marble Point Trail No. 328 is also in this project and as I haven't ridden this trail will have to question some of North Central people and Laurie Doman. The Driveway Trail is the old sheep drive trail. It has good wide tread, nice grade but when they ran a haul road thru it they lost the trail in a short section and needs some directional signs. For persons that want to stay in camp but want to contribute to our cause can always find something to do on the fence around the camp grounds. A little fire wood can always be used at our campfire. The Chapter will furnish the Saturday evening meal so as the time approaches we will need to know how many plan to attend. There is a nice vault toilet and stock water. Bill Correll is trail boss. (509-243-4855)

Hells Canyon NRA

Cathy Conover has approved our bid to build two stock access gates. Tom Barnes is doing the final welding and hopes to have the gates finished this week.

Back Country & Outdoor Show

Some of our Board of Directors, Mark Bogar, and Karen Parks met with the Lewiston Chamber of Commerce along with the Chairman of the Inland Empire Outdoor Show. Their report indicated the Show was a success and they made \$10,000 with an estimated count of 5000 people coming to see the show. Discussion of merging of the two shows for next year was discussed. Another suggestion was made of discontinuing the two shows in the spring and work towards a Summer Show at Hells Gate State Park. Details of the options will be discussed at June's chapter meeting. So show up and give directions for the next meeting with the Chamber on the Thursday after our meeting.

Over the Hill

Poker Ride

Snow was the main event for this years Poker Ride! Just like last year, we had to move it to Headgate County Park, as there was too much snow on the Fordyce Trail. Private land owners again were very helpful in letting us conduct the ride on their property. It was about as perfect of weather as you could have. You could see three different states from the top of the ridge. We had over one hundred riders and 117 hands sold. The games at the check stations again were a hit with the riders. We had no pizza riders, which is good news. Keeping the stakes up that marked the trail was a challenge, as they were natural scratching posts for the cows in the pasture. We marked the trail the evening before, and over half the stakes were knocked down by the time the ride started, so the beverage station crew was in charge of re-staking. The cook shack had a great variety of food and almost sold out on hamburgers. Thanks to everyone that helped make this a success for another year. Betty Barnes, as usual had all the bases covered. There is talk of trying Fathers Day weekend next year, and maybe we can give the snow time to melt. Over \$200.00 in prize moneys were paid out and we had a great selection of door prizes this year. Thanks to everyone for participating.

Idaho Fish & Game

Billy Creek Project

What a beautiful week for trail riding. The group showed up Saturday afternoon and then we made plans for the work on Sunday. We had several fence post holes to dig and about 150 feet of rail fence to build and make two new gates to access the corrals. The

work group was lucky that Rod had already installed the two hitchrails. Billy Havens gets the award for picking the worst post hole to dig. A big rock that just would not give slowed down the work for a while, but a bunch of support from others on rock bars got the hole close enough to where we got the fence built. We now again have five separate corrals, and a nice new tack room in the barn. Everyone was able to go on a nice ride up Billy Creek Canyon in the afternoon. Some rode out on Monday as others rode in. The rest of us went on a scenic ride overlooking Madden Creek and Captain John Creek. Tuesday we all rode to Dough Creek Cabin and installed the Adopt-a Cabin Sign and measured the area under the lean-to for a deck. This was our big game day, as we saw several bunches of deer and elk, but no bear. Almost everyone was lucky enough to see a snake or two before the weekend was over!! Stu, the Billy Creek buck, short for Stupid, named by Katie Hendrickson, visited us on several occasions and was often upset that we were sitting and laying in his yard!

Dough Creek Cabin

We need to pick a date for a fun ride to Dough Creek and do our maintenance around the cabin. Windows need painting, thistles need cut and a fire break needs made around the cabin and outhouse.

Umatilla National Forest

Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness Project

The final pack trips of wire and posts have been hauled out. There were twenty loads of wire and post in all. We had our first mishap with a pack mule rolling down

the hill and branding himself with the t-post barb, but the word is he will recover fine. Again thanks to everyone that turned out and helped. If we can get a crew like this on the next three sections that we have to tear out, this will be one of the best projects we have had in years. We should have the calculations for reimbursement for fuel at the meeting. Please show up for your check!

Weed Seed Free Forage, Washington State

Guest Speaker, **Nell Murray**, Asotin County Weed Board advised us that the county is now in charge of the old Asotin F@G check station. It is a great place to distribute information. They are planning to have a washing station there in the future. She asked if TRBCH members would be interested in manning the station and exchange a bale of weed seed free hay with non certified hay to make the public aware of the new rule. The fine can be \$5,000 if you do not have certified hay. Washington's certification program is very strict. Here is a website for a list of sellers of Weed Seed Free Forage, which is required on all forest service land since January 2009. http://www.nwcb.wa.gov/WWHAM/WWHAM_suppliers.htm The list is going to have to grow or pellets may be the only way to go!!

TRBCH Newsletter Editor/ Website Articles

Rod Parks rp053101@cpcinternet.com (208)791-3246 Please send all info for the newsletter or website to Rod at least ten days before the next meeting to get it included in the newsletter.

Calendar of Events

National Trails Day	June 6th	9:30 AM	Umatilla NF/ Fordyce Trail
Feather Creek Project	June 8th	9:00 AM	Clearwater NF/ Palouse District
Kid's Kamp Meeting	June 9th	6:15 PM	Idaho Fish & Game Facility
TRBCH Meeting	June 9th	7:00 PM	Idaho Fish & Game Facility
Trail Class Setup	June 12th	3:00 PM	Nez Perce County Fairgrounds
Kid's Kamp	July 8-12		Pony Club, Deary, ID
TRBCH Meeting	July 14th	7:00 PM	Idaho Fish & Game Facility
Corral Cr. Work/Play Project	July 17-19	8:00 AM	Nez Perce NF