



TRAILS & TALES NEWSLETTER

654C Thain Road, Lewiston, ID 83501

www.twinriversbch.com

Meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 14th, 7:00pm
Idaho Fish & Game Building
3316 16th St, Lewiston, ID

Comin' round the Mountain

WHOA!!!!

I understand, at the last meeting, a motion was made and passed that a TRBCH member on a BCH project could not ride by him/herself. This was produced, no doubt, by my "Pizza Day" at Troy, OR. The concern is noted and both recognized and appreciated.

At times, persons need to ride "alone". Forgotten articles at trailheads, appointments to be kept, material or messages to be procured or delivered. The list goes on.

We all joined the horse world realizing the risks. Thus we have the Liability clause in our membership application. Wouldn't be better to let your fellow members know that you have to accomplish a task that requires traveling alone? Then if things don't seem right they can sort it out.

This motion is both restrictive and unenforceable.

Please rescind this motion.

Bill Correll

Umatilla NF

TIN CAN TRAIL Sept. 18th

Bob Hough (509-256-3338) is trail boss for the Tin Can Trail Ride. Make sure you call in case there are any last minute details. The trail is for experienced stock and tough dudes!! Meet at the Washington State DOT YARD in Anatone at 7:00 am.

Bring a lunch.

2011 BCHI Calendars

For our new members that have not had the opportunity to sell calendars, this is the biggest fund raiser for BCH of Idaho.

Two thousand calendars are printed with all pictures provided by members of BCH of Idaho. The calendars sell for \$20.00 each. You may be thinking that this is kind of spendy for a calendar, but you are

getting much more than a calendar. There is a card inside to fill out for drawings. January through November 2011 one lucky person will win \$500.00 cash each month. In December, the luckiest person drawn will have a choice of a \$6000.00 Cabela's Gift Card, or a \$6000.00 Cenex Fuel Card, or the opportunity to split these cards 50-50 Pick up your calendars and start selling!!

Lisa Swanson (Cell # 208-305-1331) has agreed to be in charge of the 300 that our chapter has to sell. Please call her and make arrangements to pick some up to sell to family, friends, and others. There has not been a dues increase for BCH of Idaho since we started hosting the Backcountry & Outdoor Show and selling the calendars, so do your part to keep BCHI solvent without dues increases.

A side benefit for our chapter is that 25% of the sales our chapter make are returned to our chapter.

Washington Fish & Wildlife

Lick Fork Fence Project Grant, Oct. 2-3, 9:00AM

The grant has been approved by Washington Dept. of Fish & Wildlife. We will do some purchasing of materials and some fabrication work ahead of time, and then plan to go on site at the Fordyce Trailhead to install the access gates, new fence brace posts, and hitch rails Oct. 2nd and the 3th if needed. Rod Parks is trail boss (208-791-3246). Be sure and call so if there are any last minute changes, he can call you. Be sure and check your mileage from home to the project. More details will be emailed out later.

**BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF IDAHO
STATE BOARD MEETING & CONVENTION
HOSTED BY NORTH CENTRAL IDAHO
November 5th & 6th, 2010, Grangeville, ID**

Friday, November 5 State Board of Directors Meeting - 2 Directors per Chapter

8:00am – 4:00pm PST (*Chapters not able to sent representation, contact State Chairman*)

9:30am PST State Foundation Meeting – 1 Representative per Chapter

Friday Location - Super 8 Motel Meeting Room & Lobby

Continental Breakfast provided. No host lunch

Saturday, November State Convention hosted by North Central BCH

Open attendance. 8 voting delegates/Chapter.

7:30-8:30am Registration

8:30am-4:00pm Annual Meeting (*Evening Banquet will follow*)

Saturday Location – Grangeville Elk’s Lodge

Continental Breakfast & evening banquet provided. No host lunch.

-Lodging(BCH Rate)Super 8 Motel 983-1002 \$65+tax, Gateway Inn 983-2500 \$60+tax

-Remind your chapter to compete for the Chapter Display Traveling Trophy

-Ask members to bring/send photos for the Photo Contest

Full details, Photo Contest Forms, and registration forms can be downloaded at www.bchi.org

Registration is \$40.00/person and must be in by Oct. 1st or raises to \$45.00/person.

Kid’s Kamp

It was reported that George Hatley would like Kids Kamp to stay at the Pony Club but the fee is still a question. A long discussion took place on the future location. We will wait for Pat Bogar before continuing. Julia and Evelyn, who were injured at Kids Kamp this year, are healing well.

Clearwater N F

www.fs.fed.us/r1/clearwater/ After you open it up, go to “current conditions” and there is a link for trail conditions and other info.

Hells Gate State Park

Next Meeting: Tuesday, 28th of September, 2010, at 09:00 at the Hells Gate State Park Visitor Center. Deliverable items include: Update on Cost Share Challenge Partnership Grant and Assessment for possible relocation of the Boundary Division Trail. Subjects to be discussed: 1) Long Term O&M of trails and 2) Review of Final Draft of designated trails to be open for public use or closed for restoration. [*Please Note: It is imperative that all*

group representatives be present at this meeting, given the importance of the Final Draft Review]

Don Uhlman Shelter final plans are approved. Doug Head is the construction boss. Bill Correll hopes to get a slab poured for the building and then wait until this fall to do the fabrication of the building. When a date is set, an email will be sent out for help.

Over the Hill

Idaho Fish & Game

THE REST OF THE STORY

A DAY WITH ROD PARKS

As I slipped into the cold water at Billy Creek Boat Launch on the Washington side of the Snake River, I wondered what the day would bring. Rod had organized a work day at the Dough Creek Cabin, which TRBCH has adopted, and had to ride from Billy Creek to Dough Creek. As the Chapter had passed a motion that a member can’t ride alone on a Chapter project, I felt obligated to join Rod. Besides that, I’d never ridden from Billy to Dough.

The back eddy at Billy carried me, my saddle and dry cloths upstream then kicking furiously I crossed the main current and on into the slack water on the Idaho side. You need to time this exercise between jet boats as it’s rather unnerving to a Pilot. Now this sounds difficult but envision the Sea Otter with a meal of clams on his belly and you’ll get the picture. Rod welcomed me on the beach and we were soon at the new Tack Room. Great pegs for the bridles and halters, racks for the saddles and pads. Little Girl was Rods mount for the day and he allowed me to ride Rusty. We needed a pack mule and as luck would have it “B-B” was lame. Ask Rod what “B-B” stands for some time. Rod saddled Roscoe, dependable and time worn. Then came Rod’s infamous garbage cans for the chain saw, loppers, gas, Weed eater and wood preservative.

The trail goes up Billy Creek and for the most part it follows an old logging road. Rod assured me that we were not almost to the top of Craig Mountain, but only about half way there. Finally we headed south and paralleled the Snake River.

The latest fire did a lot of damage on Craig Mountain. It was extremely hot and the fire crowned so most of the trees were destroyed. Scrub brush, willows and trees in the draws were all consumed. Canadian thistle is prevalent along with Star Thistle. The Hills, Rock formations and Draws still hold a grandeur that is hard to beat. There are still a lot of slopes and ridges covered with native bunch grasses.

We eventually crossed Billy Creek for the last time and headed thru a north slope which was covered with burnt timber. Once beautiful pines are now blackened stobs. They've started to rot and fall. It will be interesting to watch Mother Nature mend these slopes and you can see a lot of healing already. Rod and Karen had gone up this trail previously, cutting downed trees across the trail. As they got into some larger trees, their saw wasn't large enough so they had to quit and try another day.

We tied up the stock and Rod had the 44 Stihl throwing sawdust in no time. One trick sawyers use is to stab the blade into the center of a log, saw up and down without cutting clear thru on top or bottom. This is used when the pivot point is not obvious. Guess what! Rod stuck the saw! Luckily he had cut pretty close to the top and with a few strokes from his saddle saw it broke open.

This all happened on what I call the "Mid Trail". Most of it has a good tread and there are sections that look like it was built 5 or 6 feet wide. There's an old tale that the Army built this or parts of it in their pursuit of the Nez Perce and needed the width for their cannons. This trail goes clear into the Salmon River country and is a breath taker in the spring when the flowers are in bloom. Try some of it. If you want to ride it all, you'll have to have Rod or Rusty Bentz lead you.

Rod and crews have done a lot of work on this trail, particularly thru the thorn brush patches. Coming out on a bare ridge, we looked down on the Dough Creek Cabin. There we relaxed, ate our lunch and enjoyed the cool breeze coming up the draw. As Rod swept and coated the cabin floor and porch with wood sealer, I used the weed eater around the cabin and hitch rail. Fish and game personnel had done some weed eating and thistle cutting previously. Rod took over the weed eating and soon had the upper hitch rail and outhouse area scalped.

I measured the table and work bench for formica. That will make it a lot easier to keep clean. For members that haven't been to this cabin you need to see it. In less than three days a great bunch of volunteers completely rebuilt it after it was destroyed by fire. It is fully stocked except for food with 4 bunk beds. Good stock water and there at this time a supply of wood for the wood stove. You can access it from Madden corrals in about 3 hours.

The ride back was uneventful except when Rusty wanted to go back via of Rod's short cut. Rod said that Betty Barnes has a name for this short cut. {censored} This is the first major fire in some of this

big timber for years and yet here is "fire weed". It must stay dormant for decades.

Going back down Billy Creek we saw three nice bucks. This brought the total of buck counts to five as we had seen some closer to Dough Creek. It got pretty warm so cold refreshments at the barn were really enjoyed. Not everyone has a fridge in their tack room. Riding Rusty was a pleasure. He doesn't have the power that my Holstein has but he's smoother. I've ridden Peruvian Pasos before and Rod's are just as smooth and easier to get into the saddle.

Karen treated us to a piece of delicious cake which topped off a great day. Rod said, in my weakened condition he'd better take me back over the river in his boat.

Mission accomplished; Bill Correll

P.S. The garbage cans rode great both coming and going!!

Clearwater NF

Windy Ridge Packing Project Aug. 12-16

Pack-in and Install Culverts/corduroy Removal

The location of this project was at the junction of Windy Ridge Trail #167 and Trail # 531. The Favor's old hunting camp is located a few hundred yards away.

If any project was deemed to be a success just by the experiences of the participants, this is one. One was a retired road Superintendent, two retired from the State Highway Department, a truck driver actively working in warehousing, a Biologist and a retired Boeing parts scheduler.

Meeting at the boat ramp in North Lewiston, we drove up Highway 12 past Wilderness Gateway in Idaho on the Lochsa River. Forest road #107 took us up to the Lolo Motorway. A few ROUGH miles West put us at the Twelve Mile Saddle trail head. There we set up camp, ate a spaghetti dinner and met our Clearwater Forest Contact, Tim Lewis. Tim had brought a well used but still serviceable motorized wheelbarrow. After much advice from our retired road people, Tim proceeded down the trail early on Aug. 13th.

None of us had been on this trail and by the time we had gone eight or nine miles we wondered where the job site was. As we ate lunch, Scout Rod Parks, sped away on his Peruvian Paso, returning in about ten minutes to let us know we were only about a mile from the job site.

By the time we had set up camp, Tim had arrived. We discussed the job and some of the old corduroy was removed. In the morning, the corduroy

removal was continued. The streambed was dug down and widened. John Partridge bolted the (3) 36” diameter half section culverts to the 4x4 timbers to make about an 8 foot culvert. This was laid in the stream bed. Tim Lewis, Jim White, and Leroy Hough had gone east of the job site to locate some large rock for the side walls. After these were laid, they found a good source of dirt to fill between the side walls. Bob Hough, Norman Hough and I went west about 600 yards to a good source of rock, baseball to football size for fill with the dirt. These rocks were hauled in 5 gallon buckets set in panniers as we couldn’t find any gravel panniers not in use.

With the size of crew, material availability and desire to get the job finished, we were through by 2 PM. This gave us time for a ride to Cook Mountain where you can see a large amount of the North Fork of the Clearwater River. Sunday morning some of the crew rode out Trail # 531 while the rest of us broke camp. Two other things stood out on this project. One was the dedication of Tim Lewis in cleaning of water bars and dips as he trundled back to the trailhead with his motorized wheelbarrow. The

other was the Dutch Oven cooking Jim White had volunteered to do. It was delicious and plenty of it. Although, it was a close call on the Baby Back Barbeque Spare Ribs. However, that is another story.

Project Coordinator; Bill Correll

Weed Seed Free Forage

Remember, weed seed free forage is required in all national forests in Idaho and on any public land in Washington.

Washington State Suppliers

http://www.nwcb.wa.gov/WWHAM/WWHAM_suppliers.htm

Idaho State Suppliers

<http://www.idahoweedawareness.net/netcenter/library/weedfreeforage.html>

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 have it included in the newsletter.

Calendar of Events

TRBCH Meeting	Sept 14	7:00 PM	Idaho Fish & Game Facility
Tin Can Fun Ride	Sept. 18	7:00 AM	Meet at Anatone DOT
Lick Fork Grant Work	Oct.2-3	9:00 AM	Fordyce Trailhead, Asotin Creek
TRBCH Meeting	Oct. 12	7:00 PM	Idaho Fish & Game Facility
BCH of Idaho Annual Convention & Director’s Meeting	Nov. 5-6		Grangeville, ID