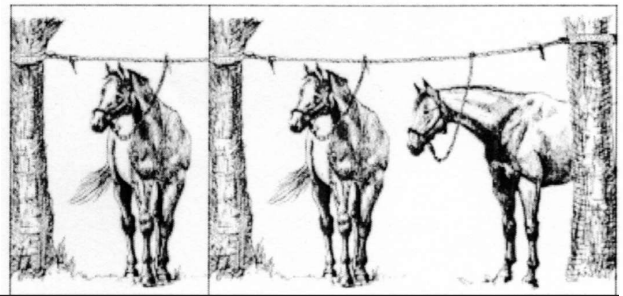


HIGHLINE

Inland Empire Backcountry Horsemen
P.O. Box 30891, Spokane, WA 99223

www.iebch.com



September 2010 Volume 10, Issue 9

Volunteer!

Trail Challenge

By Mary Wheatley

We are about to launch our first Trail Challenge event!! Thanks to all members who have graciously agreed to help with set up and the tear down, and all the other tasks needing to be completed. Our event is happening at the **Busy Bee Ranch** (*directions below*).

We will begin set up on Thursday, Sept. 16th at noon. Everyone is welcome to come lend a hand!!

The **event begins on Saturday, Sept. 18th** at 8:30 with a walk thru of the course for the registered riders. The **Challenge begins with the first contestant at 9:00 AM**. Concessions will be available from the Pony Club members from the Busy Bee.

Hope to see all of you either at the set up, tear down or during the event! You may contact either myself at 448-1917 or **Nicole Knowles** at 455-7549 to volunteer or ask any questions. ★

Directions to the Busy Bee Ranch: 14910 W. Craig Road - Airway Heights WA

From the WEST

- Traveling WEST on St. Rt. 2 from Spokane, drive thru Airway Heights until you come to Blue Crick RV on the right.
- Turn **RIGHT onto Craig Road**.
- Proceed down Craig Road approximately 3 miles to a curve to the left.
- The Busy Bee will be on the right side approximately one half mile after the curve.

Get to "Yahoo'n"

by Amy Conner

Yahoo Groups is set up and ready for action. Several of you joined and I'm looking forward to us using this as a discussion board. For those of you who haven't signed up, please consider doing so. The more of us who start using this, the more valuable it will become. Another tool available is Facebook. We have a Facebook profile that is also being used for impromptu rides. I know of one group who recently connected through the internet, went to Mt. Spokane and had a marvelous time.

I will be at the membership meeting to answer any questions and to help set up these things for anyone who would like some help getting started. I know it can be challenging to start using things like this. If I can be of any help, please let me know! ★



MEMBERSHIP MEETING INFORMATION

Membership Meetings are the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Inland Northwest Wildlife Council Building.

*****Back to the regular location*****

6116 N. Market, Spokane, WA

See you there!

Social 6:30 PM Meeting 7:00 PM

SEPTEMBER MEETING
Tuesday, September 28, 2010



BCH Elections coming in October!

See related article, "Why BCH?" on page 5

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MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the *Inland Empire Chapter of the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington* is to preserve and enhance the right to use horses and mules for recreation on public lands.

VISION STATEMENT

Develop and keep trails open for responsible recreational use.

Objectives to Achieve Our Goals

- ★ To unite equestrians to achieve the mission and goals of Backcountry Horsemen.
- ★ To encourage citizen involvement in political and governmental laws affecting public lands.
- ★ To be proactive in interpretation and implementation by local land managers of regulatory policies regarding equine use on public lands.
- ★ To educate and inform land users and managers about the etiquette, impact and historical use of recreational lands.
- ★ To recruit, introduce and educate interested horsemen to the use, safety and enjoyment of trails and the backcountry.
- ★ To be a proactive volunteer in building and maintaining trails.
- ★ To provide social activities for equestrians.
- ★ To support BCHW and BCHA.

Leave No Trace

By Teresa York

Horses have been used for transportation across our country for centuries before we began thinking of our impacts on the environment. Now, as an accepted mode of transportation into the wild areas, horsemen are asked to minimize their impacts similarly to hikers. Since a horse's hoof can exert up to 1500 pounds per square inch through a hard metal shoe, the potential destruction from horses is huge. Horsemen that modify their activities to help protect heavily used areas demonstrate their concern for a sustainable resource

To minimize your impact when riding horses and using pack stock, follow the general seven LNT principles, plus consider these horse-specific principles:

7 LNT Principles (<http://www.leavenotracedude.com/Int-principles.shtml>)

Plan Ahead (<http://www.leavenotracedude.com/plan-ahead.shtml>)

Durable Surfaces (<http://www.leavenotracedude.com/durable-surfaces.shtml>)

Waste Disposal (<http://www.leavenotracedude.com/waste-disposal.shtml>)

Leave It (<http://www.leavenotracedude.com/leave-what-you-find.shtml>)

Campfire Impact (<http://www.leavenotracedude.com/minimize-campfire-impact.shtml>)

Respect Wildlife (<http://www.leavenotracedude.com/respect-wildlife.shtml>)

Courtesy (<http://www.leavenotracedude.com/considerate-of-others.shtml>)

Dispose of Waste Properly

- Pack it in, pack it out. Inspect your campsite and rest areas for trash or spilled foods. Pack out all trash, leftover food, and litter.
- Deposit solid human waste in catholes dug six inches deep at least 100 feet from water, camp, and trails. Cover and disguise the cathole when finished.
- Pack out toilet paper and hygiene products.
- To wash yourself or your dishes, carry water 100 feet away from streams or lakes and use small amounts of biodegradable soap. Scatter strained dishwater.
- Rake or scatter manure at all rest stops and when breaking camp. ★



HIGHLINE

The **HIGHLINE** is published monthly by the *Inland Empire Chapter of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington State*.

Christine Bennett, Publisher

Views expressed in the Highline are the sole responsibility of the author and are not necessarily the official view of IEBCH.

Submissions are welcome and encouraged. Send by 9am the **4th of each month** to:

Ken Carmichael, Editor
10804 W. Seven Mile Rd.
Spokane, WA 99224

or Email:
kcarmichael2225@gmail.com

AFFILIATIONS

The IEBCH is a chapter of the **Back Country Horsemen of Washington State** (www.bchw.org) and the **Back Country Horsemen of America** (www.backcountryhorse.com).

MEMBERSHIP

Please complete and sign the application/waiver for all renewals/new memberships. They need to be updated yearly. ★ Dues are due January 1.

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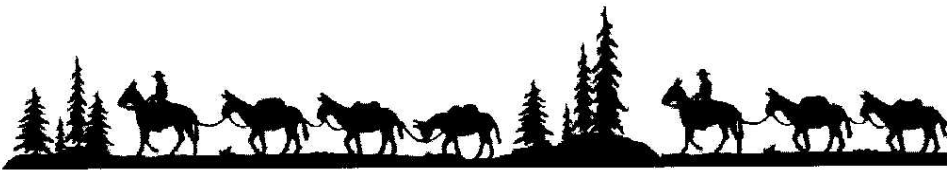
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President's Saddlebags

By Robert Spickard

As many of you may know, our elected President was offered an opportunity to pursue his passion for playing the Saxophone with Tuxedo Junction. He resigned as our President because of conflict of schedule and I have been given the pleasure of stepping into his position. We wish him well and appreciate his hard work and dedication over the past year. John assures us he will remain active, but just not on Tuesday evenings.

Which brings to mind an important agenda item of **nominations of elected positions at September 28, General Meeting.**

We will add nominations and have the **election at the October General Meeting** where the positions of President, V.P., Secretary, Treasurer, Alternate State Director and two Board Members at Large. The elected Board will then appoint additional board chair members for Education, Legislative, Membership, Newsletter, Publicity, Trail Boss/Rides, Trail Boss/Work Parties and Ways and Means.

Also at the **September meeting**, we expect to have a **program speaker to explain the (required) importance of developing a multi-user plan for the recent state purchase of 2,772 acres known locally as "Rustler's Gulch."** BCH has been involved from the get-go late last year and participated in August during formation of a Citizen's Advisory Group (CAG) to help develop a draft "master plan" in collaboration with the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW), which now manages this extraordinary property. The CAG quickly recruited a WSU grad student who will focus his master's degree program on the plan. In short, BCH has a place at the plan table, but BCH members will need to actively participate with other user groups to insure adequate staging areas, access points and well-planned horse and multi-use trails. We would like to thank Greg Sweeney, Eloika Lake Group and Tammy Allen, Eloika Lake resident whom have put this bullet train in place to insure our considerations and desires for restoration, preservation and enhancement for equestrian use of Rustler's Gulch for generations to come.

Located between Horseshoe and Fan/Eloika lakes 30 miles north of Spokane in southwest Pend Oreille County, the "West Branch Little Spokane Wildlife Area" has been designated for non-motorized hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation. So far the CAG strongly supports this view.

"The purchase guarantees the West Branch of the Little Spokane River will remain open to the public and ensures public access to Horseshoe and Blue lakes, but especially to Fan Lake, where the lease for the public boat launch expires in six years." source: www.wildliferecreation.org

Ride: Please plan on joining **Scott Wiggins** and myself on Saturday, September 25th for a riding tour of the area. (See the article on page 4 for time, place and directions) .★



Membership

By Shirley Carroll

Welcome to new members: **Aline Cook**, Spokane; and **Donna, Bob, and Katie Oliver** - new from Olympia. They live in the Garden Springs area and Donna would like to find someone in the area to ride with.

IEBCH now has 144 members. **We do need some volunteers for different activities.** The best way to get to know each other is to get involved and it is lots more fun than just paying your dues. Let's hear from everyone and see you all at the meetings! **Please contact Bob Spickard at 953-8485 if you are interested in volunteering.** ★

Cache for Cash

****NEW****

For Sale: Alfalfa and grass hay
\$115 per ton
Mel Pederson 509-926-7730

For Sale: Creme De La Coosa
18 year old brood mare "Beautiful Chestnut" Registered \$1,500.00
Sire: Coosa Lad Dam: La Toya Halter, Performance. Under Saddle at 3 and 4 years old.
Judy Holbert 481-0792

For Sale: Lord Coosa's Star (Romeo)
01 year old gelding "Beautiful Chestnut" almost as tall as is mom already \$2,500.00
Sire: Lord N Master Dam: Creme De La Coosa
Show quality, Western Pleasure
Judy Holbert 481-0792 Very Sweet Personalities, come take a look to appreciate!

For Sale: Saddle
16" Circle Y saddle, dark oil, some silver, very comfortable, excellent condition, \$600, **Call Nicole at 509-455-7549** or **horseride8@yahoo.com.**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	PLACE	DESCRIPTION	OPEN TO...	CONTACT
September 21	Perkins Restaurant 12 E Olive Ave	Board Meeting	<i>Members Only</i>	Bob Spickard: 953-8485
September 28	SEPTEMBER LOCATION 6116 N Market St, Spokane	Membership Meeting	<i>Guests welcome</i>	Bob Spickard: 953-8485
September 18	Busy Bee Stable	Trail Challenge	<i>Guests welcome</i> * ALL RSVP	Mary Wheatley: 448-1917
September 25	Rustler's Gulch	Ride	<i>Guests welcome</i> * ALL RSVP	Scott Wiggins: 868-1641
October 2	Mt Spokane State Park	Ride	<i>Guests welcome</i> * ALL RSVP	Barbee Scheibner: 624-6292

Rustlers Gulch Ride

By Robert Spickard

I have been giving **Scott Wiggins**, Kountry Kritters Farm and Feed owner and our "Gentleman on Horseback" Trail Boss a bad time about when he could have a **ride out in his backyard on West Branch Little Spokane River Wildlife Area, aka Rustler Gulch**. At the last General Membership Meeting we decided on **Saturday, September 25th, butts in the saddles at 10 AM**. Scott indicated that he and his daughter have ridden the area extensively and will be giving us a great tour. (*directions >*)

This is one of the areas that have recently been purchased with Conservation Futures and is now being managed by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. We have been tracking, providing input and pledged volunteer help for restoration and improvements in this area. It is yet another opportunity for BCH to be involved from the ground floor of becoming a stakeholder and establishing equestrian use amenities for generations to come.

From Scott: BCH-ers.. ...I used to ride up here from the "Y" camp and we would play Cowboys and Injuns when I was a kid, this is a nice area to ride and after you have been there, it is one you can come to anytime and ride (if you get "lost" just go on top of a hill, look for the mountain and ride toward it and you'll come to your truck) every good thing we like to ride on is in this area, water, streams, lakes, ridges, log roads, clean area, minimal downed material, basically you can ride anywhere here and not have any impact...come on up and join us, I would bring a lunch and just have some fun....

For ride info and to RSVP please give Scott a call at 509-868-1641 or e-mail him at KDLYLE@Peolepc.com ★

Directions

- From the big city area, go north on Hwy. 2
- Continue 3 miles north of Riverside High School
- Turn West on the Main Eloika Lake Road, that is about half way up the hill
- Go about 3 miles to the Division Road
- Go north, in 2 or so miles Division becomes Horseshoe Lake Road just continue to follow the road until you go down a steep hill at the bottom of the grade there will be a turn-out, this is the unofficial north-west entry.
- There is room for about 4 trucks and trailers on the side road but **we can park on the county road also.**

Palouse cattle rancher and trail guide George B. Hatley offers pack trip enthusiasts sage, practical instruction.

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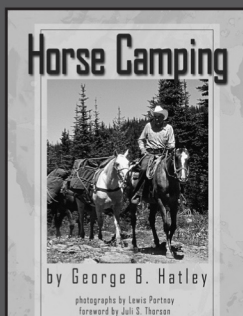
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Date Change!

Mt Spokane State Park Ride

By Barbee Scheibner

The date for this ride has been changed from October 9th to October 2nd. Barbee Scheibner will lead this ride. Meet at the paved parking lot at the horseshoe bend, Kit Carson Rd. about 2 miles up from the Park entrance. It will be 'feet in the stirrups' at 10 AM. Bring a lunch; it will be a relatively easy ride - Considering we are on a mountain. **RSVP** 624-6292 ★

Mt. Spokane State Park Facility Plan

By Ken Carmichael

On August 12th the Washington State Parks Commission approved the Mt. Spokane State Park Facility Plan. This was started about six years ago as the Trail Plan by the Mt. Spokane State Park Advisory Committee. When State Parks staff became involved a few years ago the process slowed down and was expanded to include facilities.

It has been a long and difficult journey as we worked on this project and the work is not over. The document that was approved by the Commission does not deal with many of the details that the Advisory Committee had developed. Therefore, we will continue to work on the project and improve Mt. Spokane State Park for equestrians, other recreationalist and protection of the natural and cultural resources.

There will be many trail work party opportunities that we will participate in. We look forward to continually improving Mt. Spokane State Park. ★

**...preserve and enhance
the right of responsible
horsemen to use horses
and mules on public land.**

Why BCH and Why Belong?

By Ken Carmichael

This is an "opinion piece", my opinion for what it is worth. Why do we have BCH and why do we belong? Roughly and concisely **the mission of IEBCH is to preserve and enhance the right of responsible horsemen to use horses and mules on public land.** That is pretty straight forward. Is this the reason you belong to IEBCH?

How do we do this? Basically there are four things that we do to directly affect this mission:

1. We conduct work parties to design, develop and maintain trails and trailheads for equestrians.
2. We follow the Leave No Trace principles when using our horses and spread this information through our education program to BCH members and the public.
3. We actively engage with government officials through our legislative program to ensure that they are aware of the wants and needs of equestrians and also the influence that we can exert.
4. We actively participate in advisory committees and other public input opportunities with a variety of land managers to ensure that they are familiar with BCH and take our concerns and input into consideration when decisions are made.

We have specific committees and individuals responsible for organizing these important events. These are essential to the success of IEBCH. However, for these activities to take place we must also maintain an organization to support them. This requires that we have chapter positions such as a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, state director, membership, newsletter, publicity, ways & means and a variety of other positions. In fact there are about 40 positions in our chapter.

So back to the question "Why BCH and Why Belong"? Is preserving equestrian

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Shirley Carroll - 448-1214

IEBCH Store

Carol Chase - 796-3724

Isla Durham - 466-4225

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Christine Bennett - 253-833-0963

rights important and worth it – to you. Preserving our equestrian rights does not happen on its own. It takes work. If this is why you belong to IEBCH consider being part of the solution by volunteering for one of the many IEBCH positions. Elections are in October and membership renewal is in January. **Will you be there helping us accomplish our mission? ★**

Riverside State Park – Inland Road

By Ken Carmichael

For those of you that travel through Riverside State Park by the ORV area you are aware of the condition of Inland Road. This has been a torture treatment for vehicles, horse trailers and horses for many years. Part of the problem has been that the county owns both ends of the road and State Parks owns the center portion, near the ORV area.

For several years we have worked toward having only one owner, the county as State Parks does not have the equipment to maintain a road. At the August 12th State Parks Commissioner meeting the Commissioners approved trading their portion of the road to the county in exchange for some unimproved roads the county has owned in the park. These are roads that while on a map could never be found on the ground.

Our hopes are that with the county owning the entire stretch of the road that maintenance will be improved. This has yet to be proven but we look forward to working with the county to improve the road. ★

Editor's Note: *The following article appeared in the Riverside State Park Foundation newsletter. Ken Carmichael*

Centennial Trail Designated as a National Recreation Trail

By Douglas King, Centennial Trail Ranger

There is a new sign on the Centennial Trail letting you know that it has been designated as a National Recreation Trail. While we have always thought pretty highly of the Centennial Trail and the unique blend of recreation that it brings to Riverside State Park and the Spokane area, it is nice to be recognized at a national level.

Under the National Trail System Act of 1968 which authorized creation of a national trail system comprised of National Recreation Trails, National Scenic Trails and National Historic Trails, the Secretary of the Interior has designated the Spokane River Centennial Trail to be a National Recreation Trail. The National Recreation Trails Program supports designated NRTs with an array of benefits, including promotion, technical assistance, networking and access to funding. Its goal is to promote the use and care of existing trails and stimulate the development of new trails to create a national network of trails and realize the vision of "Trails for All Americans."

This honor was given to the Centennial Trail as the result of a lot of work from The Friends of the Centennial Trail. You can find out more about joining or supporting the "Friends" at www.spokanecentennialtrail.org

So what does it mean for you? The Centennial Trail will now be promoted nationally on the American Trails website. As a matter of fact the Centennial Trail was the "featured trail" on the day I wrote this. Trail managers have another resource to go to for assistance with the management and development of the trail. National Recreation Trails are also eligible to compete for federal grants that the trail otherwise would not be able to compete for. Most importantly it means you have another reason to be proud of our Centennial Trail.

For more information on the National Recreation Trails Program please visit www.americantrails.org/nationalrecreationtrails/ ★

Editor's Note: *The following article appeared in the Riverside State Park Foundation Newsletter. The kiosk was a project created by the Riverside State Park Advisory Board. Thank you to REI for their support. Ken Carmichael*

Bowl & Pitcher Kiosk Installed

By Caren Hubbard

The new educational kiosk at the Bowl & Pitcher is almost finished. The informational panels should be completed by next week and ready for installation. A huge 'thanks' to the Park Staff for the kiosk construction as well as administrative involvement in getting this project off the ground.

For those of you who may not remember, the kiosk was financed by an REI grant a few years back. The process involved in receiving permits for construction and placement of any structure near ecologically or culturally sensitive areas requires multiple agency evaluations in order to receive the required permits. After the permitting process was completed, it was decided by the various state agencies that the original location was unacceptable and we were back to square one in locating an acceptable site for the kiosk.

With the help of Park Manager, Chris Guidotti, and Rangers Mac Mikkelson and Audra Simms, all agencies finally signed off with our new proposed site and construction and placement was started. There will be 6 different informational panels, which will educate park visitors on the history of the Bowl & Pitcher, general park history, flora & fauna, local ecology and recreational opportunities in the park.

A special thank you to REI for providing the financial grant which enabled us to produce this educational kiosk. We appreciate their patience during this long process of project completion.

We invite all you readers to visit the Bowl & Pitcher and check out this new and exciting information kiosk. ★



Editor's Note: *The following article appeared in the Riverside State Park Foundation newsletter. Wal-Mart awarded the Foundation a grant to do trail improvements. The Foundation worked closely with the Riverside State Park Advisory Board to determine what trails needed improvements. Thank you Wal-Mart for your support. Ken Carmichael*

Wal-Mart Trail Grant update

By Mike Brixey

At long last, trail work associated with the Wal-Mart trail grant has been approved to begin. This has been an extended process that needed to have substantial review by State Parks and other agencies to insure that the work did not result in any adverse impacts to the Park.

The first section of trail addressed was the lower part of Trail 210 that connects Bowl and Pitcher to the Centennial Trail. This was a fall line, braided trail section that sees heavy use and was severely eroded. The work was performed on April 17th. The new trail section traverses the slope and has 2 climbing turns. As a bonus, the trail configuration results in better sight lines at a major trail junction and slower speeds when approaching that junction.

The next work day was May 15. The crew moved to Trail 400 in the Deep Creek area. The work consisted of re-establishing drainage to channel water off of the tread. Water had created significant erosion gullies that had to be repaired. Approximately 700' of trail was addressed. The day after the work was done, some of our epic Spring rains tested the completed repairs. They worked beautifully with no new erosion noted.

The third work day was on July 11th using the DNR fire crew. This work was on trail 410 in the Pine Bluff area. This was also a section of fall line trail that saw significant rock fall and erosion. The rerouted trail traverses the slope with 6 climbing turns at a substantially lower grade than the original portion. The new section is almost 3 times longer than the original and should serve ascending trail users in a much more user-friendly manner. The old trail was thoroughly reclaimed to halt future erosion. This trail is only roughed in and will require additional work once fall rains add some moisture to the soil and allow better compaction of the tread.

On a discouraging note, personal circumstances have forced Suzanne Rivers to resign from the Foundation and Advisory Board. Suzanne was instrumental in securing the grant from Wal-Mart and was a driving force in seeing the project to this point. She will be greatly missed.

I continue to serve as work supervisor on the work days. If anyone is interested in helping on this important project, please contact me at mbrixey@wildblue.net or 292-8625. Greta Olson will be contacting volunteer groups and setting up work days.

★



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IEBCH MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

1 **New Member** **Renewal** Member# _____

Current Members: *changes* *no changes*

PRINT Name(s):

(1) _____

(2) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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Email: _____ @ _____

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Newsletter (choose one): email or USMail

County: _____ Legislative District: _____

- Dues are deductible as charitable (501(c)3) contributions for income tax purposes.
- Dues may be considered ordinary and necessary business deductions.

Who referred you to BCH? _____

2 All dues are per calendar year (including chapter, state and national). **Please select either Program A or B.**

➤ Program A	Family	-OR-	Single
Membership	<input type="radio"/> \$64		<input type="radio"/> \$47
Optional Chapter Donation	<input type="radio"/> \$_____		<input type="radio"/> \$_____
TOTAL	<input type="radio"/> \$_____		<input type="radio"/> \$_____

¹Includes chapter, state & national dues

-OR- one of the following **optional BCHW memberships**

➤ Program B	Family	-OR-	Single
Contributing	<input type="radio"/> \$80		<input type="radio"/> \$76
Sustaining	<input type="radio"/> \$115		<input type="radio"/> \$111
Patron	<input type="radio"/> \$265		<input type="radio"/> \$261
Benefactor	<input type="radio"/> \$515		<input type="radio"/> \$511
Lifetime			<input type="radio"/> \$1200*

Program B additional funds help support BCHW programs

*IEBCH Chapter dues continue to be due every year

Total Enclosed \$_____ (Checks payable to IEBCH)

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3 **LIABILTY RELEASE Each member MUST Sign!**

Recognizing the fact that there is a potential for an accident wherever horse use is involved, which can cause injuries to horses, riders and spectators and also recognizing the fact that Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, Inc., including chapters, officers, directors or members cannot always know the condition of trails or the experience levels of riders or horses taking part in trail rides or other BCHW events, I do hereby release and hold harmless the above named from any claim or right for damages which might occur to me, my minor children, or horses. Minor children names: _____

Adult Signed (1): _____ Signed (2): _____ Date: _____



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