



EAST SLOPE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

30 YEARS TRAIL TAILS MAR./APR.2010

OFFICERS

President:

Bob Hermance

Vice President:

Ronald Ries

Sec-Treasurer:

Fred Fitzpatrick

State Directors:

Fred Fitzpatrick (09-11)

Connie Manning (10-12)

Alt. State Director:

Bob Facklam (10-11)

Chapter Directors:

Dick Kinyon

Bob Facklam

Dale Sands

Lisa Schmidt

Steve Hutton

Debbie Ries

Jr. Director:

Kelsey Fitzpatrick

Editor: Gary Manning

Email: candgmanning@msn.com

Webmaster: Fred Fitzpatrick

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BCH of Montana:

Chairman: John Chepulis

Beartooth BCH

ESBCH-WEB SITE:

[www.bchmt.org/esbch/
default.html](http://www.bchmt.org/esbch/default.html)

**MONTANA BCH WEB
SITE:** www.bchmt.org

President's Letter

Greetings,

I was just out checking the pasture. The grass is starting to grow so hopefully we will get some rain to help it along.

Over Memorial Day Weekend there will be a group working at the Beartooth. We will be working with the FWP to do some clean up of the area and trail maintenance. Also, we will be going to Mann Gulch and look at a possible future project. The original rebar crosses need restoring, They are in place for the firefighters who lost their lives fighting the fire.

This year looks like it is going to be a fun time in the back country. We have had several people ask about doing a project at an administrative site. So plans are to go to Gates Park the end of August. This is a large project and we will need lots of people to work on bridges and building turn pikes. Please make plans to attend as this should be a fun project. Other projects will be in the newsletter.

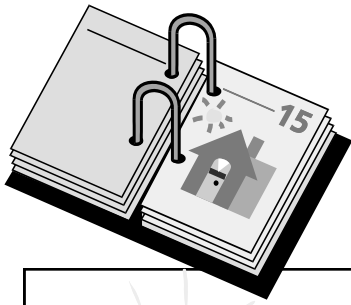
Bob



Back Country Horsemen of Montana

Has a new look on their website please stop by for a visit and check it out!

<http://www.bchmt.org>



HAPPY BIRTHDAYS MAR/APR 2010

Angela Dailey, Will Early, Adam Fitzpatrick,
Tom Osen, Gary Manning, Susan Facklam, Linda
Susor, Stephanie Hutton and Carson Sand

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL

EAST SLOPE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

Unofficial Minutes of the Directors Meeting
February 3, 2010

Opening:

The director meeting of the **East Slope Back Country Horsemen** was called to order at 7:33 P.M. at Bob & LeAnn Hermance's in Conrad by: President, Bob Hermance.

Members present:

Bob & LeAnn Hermance, Steve Hutton, Debbie Ries, Connie Manning, Bob Facklam, Lisa Schmidt, Dale Sands, Dick Kinyon and Fred Fitzpatrick.

Approval of Minutes:

Steve Hutton made a motion to accept the minutes as printed in the newsletter, Motion carried.

Treasures Report:

The treasures report was given; Bills were called for and no bills were presented. On a motion by Dick Kinyon the treasures report was approved.

Correspondence:

There was no Correspondence.

Committee Reports:

The committee was gone over and the chairs were approved by the board a list of the committees and chairs will be printed in the newsletter with names and phone numbers if anybody needs to contact the committee chairs with business or concerns.

Unfinished Business:

It was decided to have the chili feed at Ron and Debbie Ries's on February 27, 2010 at 5:00 P.M. Ron will be getting a speaker for the chili feed as he has a couple of guests lined up.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Apr. 7: Directors Meeting at Bob Hermance
in Conrad 7:00 PM

May 5: Directors Meeting at Bob Hermance
in Conrad 7:00 PM

May 19: Regular Meeting at the U.S. Forest
Service Office in Choteau 7:00 PM

May 29-31: Memorial Day Work Project
Beartooth Game Range

We decided to go ahead and try and do the Ray Creek turnpike project that was cancelled last year.

We also decided to do some trail work at the FWP Beartooth management area on Memorial Day weekend.

New Business:

The board then set the meeting dates for the coming year and they will be the same as last year, with the directors meeting being held on the first Wednesday of the month and the regular meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of the month.

We then set the date for our chapters adopted trails 153 and 177 projects which will be held on June 11-13, 2010.

The board decided to hold off on setting the rest of the projects until we meet with Ian Bardwell the Trails Manager for the Rocky Mountain Ranger District on March 3rd.

The board then asked who would like to attend the convention as delegates and it was decided that Bob Hermance, Ron and Debbie Ries, Gary and Connie Manning, Bob Facklam, Merlyn Huso and Fred

Fitzpatrick would be the 8 delegates for the convention in Bozeman. It was also stated that any member may attend the state convention if interested you can obtain registration information on the state website at www.bchmt.org

Other:

No other business was presented.

Next Meeting:

No board meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2010.

The next regular meeting will be the chili feed on February 27th at 5:00 P.M.

Adjournment:

On a motion from Steve Hutton the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 P.M. by President Bob Hermance.

Signed: *R. Fred Fitzpatrick*



EAST SLOPE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

Unofficial Minutes of the Regular Meeting and
Chili Feed
February 27, 2010

Opening

The regular meeting of the **East Slope Back Country Horsemen** was called to order at 5:30 P.M. in Conrad, MT at Ron and Debbie Rise's: President; Bob Hermance.

Members Present

Bob & LeAnn Hermance, Don Cleveland, Carson Sand, Ron & Debbie Ries, Mike & Erin Galloway, Rochelle & Emma Stoll, Bill & Bonnie Poser, Merlyn Huso, Clete & Bonnie Gregory, Steve Hutton, Lisa Schmidt, Abby Hutton, Will Early, Zane Drishinski, Joe & Helen Suta, Bob Facklam and Fred Fitzpatrick.

Guests Present

Larry Copenhaver - MWF, Ben Lamb – MWF, Jim Graski and Nancy Powell (Lisa's Mom)

Speakers

Jim Graski of Chateau who is retired special forces soldier, whom we helped with the special forces training at Swift Dam 2 years ago gave a very informative talk on what has been taking place within the military regarding the special training for our troops who are being deployed to Afghanistan for service. Larry Copenhaver of the Montana Wildlife Federation talked about the MWF and what they do for helping access issues for sportsman and also watching legislation issues that may come up that could impact Montana Sportsmen. He also presented the chapter with a lot of handouts; newsletters, bumper stickers and such. Ben Lamb of the Montana Wildlife Federation presented the chapter a slide show of the Rocky Mountain Front Heritage Act and explained the ideas and concepts being sought for the Heritage Act. He then opened it up to questions that were extremely

varied and informational from the idea of new wilderness on the front, weeds, grizzly bears and wolves just to name a few. Both Larry and Ben did an excellent job with their presentations and answering our questions and concerns. Thank You Both!

Break

We then took a break and enjoyed our chili feed then we resumed the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as published in the newsletter on a motion by Bob Facklam.

Treasures Report

The treasures report was given and no bills were presented for payment and on motion by Steve Hutton the report was accepted.

Committee Reports

No Committee reports were given.

Unfinished Business

Fred Fitzpatrick gave a rundown of the convention delegates for the State Convention.

New Business

Fred reported on the resolution that himself, Merlyn Huso, Greg and Deb Schatz have been working on that will be decided on at the Back Country Horsemen of Montana State convention in Bozeman. The chapter then voted on how they would like their delegates to vote at the convention and it was unanimous to pass the resolution. We then discussed what item the chapter would like to donate for the State live auction at the convention and Ron and Debbie Ries will find an appropriate item for the auction.

Other Business

No other business was presented

Adjournment

On a motion by Steve Hutton the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Signed: *R. Fred Fitzpatrick*

ESBCH Committee Chairpersons

1. Education – Steve Hutton – Phone: 450-1955
2. Newsletter – Gary Manning- Phone: 453-8010
3. Horse Safety- Don Cleveland – Phone: 467-2267
4. History – Fred Fitzpatrick – Phone: 279-3232
5. Issues- Jim Brogger – Phone: 562-3718
6. Membership – Connie Manning – Phone: 453-8010
7. First Aid – LeAnn Hermance – Phone: 278-5378
8. Equine First Aid – Billie Manning – Phone:
453-8010
9. Legal – Bob Hermance – Phone: 278-5378
10. RMRD F. S. Contact – Fred Fitzpatrick – Phone:
279-3232
11. Publicity – Lisa Schmidt – Phone: 278-0159
12. Social – LeAnn Hermance – Phone: 278-5378
13. Programs- Ronald Ries – Phone: 278-3237
14. Website- Fred Fitzpatrick- Phone: 279-3232
15. BCHM/State – Merlyn Huso – Phone 227-6750

EAST SLOPE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

Un Official Minutes of the Directors Meeting
March 3, 2010

Opening:

The director meeting of the **East Slope Back Country Horsemen** was called to order at 7:20 P.M. at Bob & LeAnn Hermance's in Conrad by: President, Bob Hermance.

Members present:

Bob & LeAnn Hermance, Steve Hutton, Ron & Debbie Ries, Connie Manning, Lisa Schmidt, Dale Sands, Dick Kinyon and Fred Fitzpatrick.

Guests Present:

Ian Bardwell, RMRD Trails Manager

Approval of Minutes:

Steve Hutton made a motion to suspend of the minutes until they are printed in the newsletter, Motion carried.

Treasures Report:

The treasures report was given; Bills were called for and no bills were presented. On a motion by Ron Ries the treasures report was approved.

Correspondence:

There was no Correspondence.

Committee Reports:

No committee reports were given.

Speaker:

Ian Bardwell spoke of the upcoming bids for work to be done on the Gates Park Bridge. Ian also gave us a rundown of what the work on the bridge would include. He also stated that this will all be done without any mechanized support or the use of helicopters. This new proposal could very well be the new way that bridges of this sort are repaired in all Wilderness areas in Region 1 and even all public lands.

Ian also brought a list of projects that the RMRD could use some help on.

Unfinished Business:

We finished setting our calendar and went down the projects list and set the dates for the projects of which will be published in our calendar which will be included in the next newsletter. Ron will be trying to get Gary Olson of FWP to speak at the next directors meeting so we can discuss the Charlie Lincoln ranch and the work that is being proposed for the development of horse facilities on the ranch for sportsmen. We decided to go ahead and try and do the Ray Creek turnpike project that was cancelled last year. The Ray Creek Turnpike project will be done on August 20 – 22 so please mark this date on your calendars as we will need all the help we can get. We will also do some trail work at the FWP Beartooth management area on Memorial Day week-end this year.

New Business:

The board then went over the state convention and the auction item has been purchased by Ron and Debbie Ries and is a metal art coat rack with a scene of a horsemen and pack string packing a bull elk. We then decided on pictures for the picture board that will have to be done for the

convention. Fred will make a disc of pictures and Connie will get them printed and Connie, Debbie, LeAnn and Gloria will put the picture board together.

Other:

No other business was presented.

Next Meeting:

The next board meeting is scheduled for April 7, 2010.

Adjournment:

On a motion from Steve Hutton the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 P.M. by President Bob Hermance.

Signed: *R. Fred Fitzpatrick*

TID BITS FROM BCHA CONVENTION

National Forest Trail Facts

- 16,000 total miles of trail on 9 national forests
- 4,000 miles of trail in designated wilderness
- Parts of three National Scenic or Historic Trails
 - Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail
 - Continental Divide National Scenic Trail
 - Nez Perce National Historic Trail
- 2,100 miles of snowmobile trails
- 1,000+ miles of OHV trail
- 2,250 miles of motorcycle trail
- 10,400 miles of foot and horseback trail

Trail Management Objectives

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Trail Class 1 | Minimal/undeveloped trail Typically not managed for pack and saddle stock |
| Trail Class 2 | Simple/minor development trail Trailway narrow; some brush encroachment |
| Trail Class 3 | Developed/improved trail Trail wide and suitable for pack and saddle stock |
| Trail Class 4 | Highly developed trail Trail wide and suitable for 2 way passage |
| Trail Class 5 | Fully developed trail Not managed for pack and saddle stock |

| <u>Trail Class-Northern Region</u> | <u>% of total</u> |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| # 1 1,486 miles of trails | 6 |
| # 2 7,805 miles of trails | 30 |
| # 3 11,999 miles of trails | 45 |
| # 4 4,891 miles of trails | 19 |
| # 5 12 miles of trails | < 1 |

Sweetgrass Hills Wagon Train 2010

This is an invitation to the 16th annual Sweet Grass Hills Wagon Train. If you are a returning rider, this letter will be a refresher. For all newcomers, this letter will give you some background information and what to expect when you arrive. We started the wagon train in 1994, camping out with our horses and wagons. We've limited our group to 50 people as a way of giving everyone a chance to know all who participate. So we can keep this a family outing and for safety,

no alcohol, drugs, dogs or stud horses are allowed.

Registration fees are \$25 per person or \$60 per family. This covers the cost of food, horse feed, and supplies. **REGISTRATION DEAD LINE IS JUNE 1.**

Our base camp is at the McEwen Ranch on the east side of West Butte. We will plan to arrive on the evening of Thursday, July 1, 2010. Supper of hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided on Thursday. All three meals will be provided on Friday and Saturday. Breakfast and lunch will be provided on Sunday. For those of you who can only come for a day ride the cost is \$10/per person.

Coffee, tea, punch and hot chocolate will be provided. As for sodas and other beverages (non-alcoholic), you will need to bring your own. If you wish to bring salads or desserts, they are greatly appreciated. A walk-in cooler is available for those dishes that may need to be kept cool. A ice machine is also available. A shower is available, but you will need to bring your own towels and personal items. You will need to bring all your own camping gear (tent, sleeping bag, etc.). There is room to park RV's if you prefer not to "rough it". There are no hookups for RV's. The past few years we have had limited wagons participating so there are not a lot of spaces left in the wagons for those who do not have riding stock. We keep our base camp at the home ranch site and go on day rides from there. We ask that everyone pitch in to help with camp chores: cooking, cleanup, setup, etc.

Cards, board games, musical talents, instruments and lawn chairs are a plus to bring. Hay pellets for your animals will be provided. If for some reason you want to bring your own hay or horse pellets, you must have proof that it is certified weed seed free. NO Exceptions. Please show me your proof when you first arrive. As for your entry fee, there will be **no refunds after the 10th of June.**

If you need a map or have any questions, please feel free to contact me at:
406-271-3138 (home); 799-1128 (cell) or email: cgregory@3rivers.net.

Hope to see ya there,

Clete Gregory
530 Blazen Rd
Conrad MT 59425



Sweet Grass Hills Wagon Train 2010

Please return this registration along with your payment to:

Clete Gregory
530 Blazen RD
Conrad MT 59425-9265

Telephone: Home 406-271-3138
Cell 406-799-1128
email: cgregory@3rivers.net

DEAD LINE TO REGISTER IS JUNE 1. NO REFUNDS AFTER JUNE 10.

Your name _____

Number in party _____

Number of horses _____

Will you bring a wagon? _____

Date you will arrive _____

Date you will leave _____

Total payment enclosed (\$25/person or \$60/family) _____

Attending a day ride only, \$10/per person _____

Please fill out the following:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email address _____

Telephone numbers _____

**We limit the group to 50 people so get your
registration in early.**

No Alcohol, No Drugs, No Studs and No Dogs

**We reserve the right to refuse any registration and
this event is by invitation only.**

Summarization of the BCHM board meetings at Bozeman, Montana

The pre convention board meeting included the national directors speaking of the upcoming BCHA meeting in Branson, MO. Chuck Miller gave an estimate of the costs for airfare, motel, and registration which will be around \$1100.00 each. Dave Crawford showed a PowerPoint presentation that he had put together for the work hours that the Back Country Horsemen of Montana did for 2009. The grand total for Montana in dollar value was \$620,936.54 very impressive. Ken Ausk spoke on the Alabama controversy that will be handled at the national meeting. Chuck also said that Dennis Dailey will be giving a talk on front country and back country that they felt might clear up some misconceptions of the two terms. Mark Himmel provided a list of Issues of which included Tester's Forest and Jobs and Recreation act. He also stated that there will be a meeting in Missoula on April 13th at the Region 1 office about the New Planning Rule that is being implemented, there will also be a meeting in Billings on the same day. He then discussed about a few more oil leases that have been retired. Mark also brought up the CDTA trail brochure that is being put together to educate safety between equine and bicycles on the Continental Divide trail, this is just for areas that are not in Wilderness as bicycles are not allowed in any Wilderness Areas. Paul Evenson, Education Chair gave out handouts mostly on Wilderness material for each chapter. Dan Marsh website Chair gave a rundown of the new state website that is now online that Fred Fitzpatrick and he have created. You can check out the new look at the same old address of <http://www.bchmt.org> Charlie O'Leary reported on the meeting that BCHM had with regional forester Leslie Weldon of Region 1 and stated that they had a very good meeting and that all that attended had a very good impression of our new regional forester. Rich Inman gave a brief rundown of TMO's and asked that everybody keep up on them with their local district rangers. Charlie O'Leary also gave a talk on his recent trip to Washington D.C. where he was able to meet with our Senators on S.1470 Senator Tester's Forest Jobs and Recreation Act. He also stated that the bill looks encouraging especially with the recent visit by USDA secretary Tom Vilsack. We then discussed the recent work on an MOU between the CDTA and BCHM and they would rather us to be a sponsor on the new safety brochures. Merlyn Huso reported that he will be discussing the Heritage Act on Montana Public radio on Wednesday March 24, 2010.

We then discussed the Coalition to protect the Rocky Mountain Front and it was decided that even though Merlyn is going off the State Board the board felt that they would like Merlyn to continue with this work and be the representative between BCHM and the Coalition.

Laurie Crawford then gave a report from the nominating committee. She stated that the committee list of nominations are; John Chepulis for Chairman, Mark Himmel for Vice-Chairman, Fred Fitzpatrick for Treasurer, Chuck Miller for National Director and Ken Ausk for Alternate National Director.

The post board meeting was convened after the convention new state board members were introduced and Secretary Kathy Frazier gave them all a handout and her talk on what would be required of them serving on the state board. We then went over the treasures report and it was reported that BCHM made \$2230.00 on the live auction and \$496.00 on the 50/50 drawing so we took in a total of \$2726.00 for the convention; bills were called for and approved for payment.

The board decided to send both national directors and the alternate to the BCHA national meeting as there is going to be a lot of things going on and it was felt that three of them would be better to keep up on all the committee meetings and the handling of the resolution from BCHM.

Jim Albright gave a brief report on the convention for the Gallatin Valley BCH and he reported that they made money on the convention, no further details were given.

We discussed the CDTA safety brochure and it was decided that BCHM would sign onto this project and donate \$100.00 for the project.

Laurie Crawford reported for the nominating committees where she stated that the assembled delegates of the convention elected Chuck Miller as National Director and Ken Ausk as Alternate. She then held the state board elections where John Chepulis became the new Chairman with Mark Himmel as Vice-Chairman and Fred Fitzpatrick as Treasurer. New Chairman John Chepulis then appointed Nancy Pollman of the Bitterroot BCH as the new state board secretary.

The dates were set for the next state board meetings and they are as follows; May 15th at Lincoln, MT, September 11th at Lewistown, MT and December 11th at Missoula, MT all meetings will start at 10:00 A.M. The convention for next year will be held in Butte, MT on March 25-27, 2011. The meeting was then adjourned.

Reported by; Fred Fitzpatrick, Merlyn Huso and Connie Manning

Saw Recertification

Chain Saw and Crosscut Recertification is set for May 1st at the U.S. Forest Service office in Choteau at 9:00 A.M. This is for recertification only. If your recertification is not yet do you should probably take it at this time so you can be in the same rotation as the rest of the Charlie Russell and East Slope members. If you need more information please call Fred at 279-3232 or Mark Himmel at 771-0809.



graphics
factory



MEETINGS

Directors Meetings 1st Wednesday of each Month at 7:00 PM (Place may change and dates are tentative as they are needed ask a board member if you are not sure and would like to attend.)

Regular Meetings are the 3rd Wednesday of each month. US Forest Service Office in

2010 Calendar

East Slope Back Country Horseman

- January 9:** Annual Dinner and Election of Officers and Directors in Dunkirk, Mt at 5:00 PM
February 3: Directors Meeting in Conrad, Mt. at **7:00 P.M.**
February 27: Regular Meeting and Chili Feed in Conrad at **5:00 P.M.**
March 3: Directors Meeting in Conrad, Mt. at **7:00 P.M.**
March 19-21 BCHM State Convention in Bozeman, Mt. at the Holiday Inn
April 7: Directors Meeting in Conrad, Mt. at **7:00 P.M.**
May 5: Directors Meeting in Conrad, Mt. at **7:00 P.M.**
May 19: Regular Meeting at the U.S. Forest Service Office in Choteau at **7:00 P.M.**
May 29-31: Memorial Day Weekend and Work Project (FWP Beartooth Game Range, Trail Work)
June 2: Directors Meeting in Conrad, Mt. at **7:00 P.M.**
June 5: National Trails Day
June 5-6: Whoop -up Trail Days, Parade, Rodeo in Conrad, Mt (Pack Horse Races)
June 11-13: Work Project: (Clarey Coulee or the North Fork of Dupuyer Creek)
June 16: Regular Meeting at the U.S. Forest Service Office in Choteau at **7:00 P.M.**
June 26-27: Swift Dam Weed Spraying
July 7: Directors Meeting in Conrad at **7:00 P.M.**
July 4: Choteau 4th of July Celebration - Parade, Rodeo and Fireworks
July 31 - August 1: Work Project and Poker Ride (Trail Work Middle Fork of Birch Creek)
August 4: Directors Meeting in Conrad at **7:00 P.M.**
August 18: Regular Meeting at the U.S. Forest Service Office in Choteau at **6:30 P.M.**
August 20-22: Gates Park Work Project (Ray Creek Turnpike)
September 1: Directors Meeting in Conrad at **7:00 P.M.**
September 4-6: Labor Day Weekend and Chapter Fun Weekend
September 15: Regular Meeting at the U.S. Forest Service Office in Choteau at **7:00 P.M.**
October 6: Directors Meeting in Conrad at **7:00 P.M.**
November No Meetings Hunting Season **Good Luck**
December 4: Christmas Party, Gift Exchange & Meeting in Choteau Mt. at 6:30 PM (Choteau Baptist Church)
January 8, 2011 Annual Dinner and Election of Officers and Directors (Place Pending)

OFFICERS

President : Bob Hermance
Vice President: Ronald Ries
Sec-Treasurer: R. Fred Fitzpatrick
State Directors: Connie Manning-Fred Fitzpatrick
Alt. State Director: Bob Facklam
Editor: Gary Manning
Webmaster: Fred Fitzpatrick
Junior Chapter Board Director: Kelsey Fitzpatrick

Chapter Directors:
Lisa Schmidt
Debbie Ries
Steve Hutton
Dale Sands
Dick Kinyon
Bob Facklam

Call the event chairperson or Bob Hermance (278-5378) with any questions.
Fun Rides will be posted in the news letter.

The winning photo for work projects at the 2010 BCHM State Convention in Bozeman



Photo was taken by Steve Hutton and submitted by Fred Fitzpatrick