



EAST SLOPE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

30 YEARS TRAIL TAILS JULY 2011

OFFICERS

President:

Bob Hermance

Vice President:

Steve Hutton

Secretary:

LeAnn Hermance

Treasurer:

Fred Fitzpatrick

State Directors:

Ron Ries (11-13)

Connie Manning (10-12)

Alt. State Director:

Kurt Dyer

Chapter Directors:

Dick Kinyon

Merlyn Huso

Lisa Schmidt

Dale Sand

Debbie Ries

Gary Manning

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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 to All,

Summer is finally here at last even though we have only had a few days in the 80's. The alfalfa and grass haying season will be a little later this year, as my alfalfa hasn't started blooming. As of the first of July we are usually at a 50% bloom or close to it. But, I did find a pasture close to town for my little filly and her mom. She likes the tall grass but not the mosquitoes. My little filly is two and half months old and is a lot of fun to handle.

Our first project at Swift Dam has been completed; the high line and signs are up. We also replaced the sign at the entrance of the campground as it had rotted off. Fred redesigned the sign and it looks great. I hope you saw it in the newsletter or checked out the website for pictures. Thanks Fred.

Our packing clinic for the 4H ranch horse kids is on for July 9th & 10th. We will camp at the Straight Creek camp grounds Friday night and pack into the Green fork administrative site Saturday morning, about a 10 mile ride. We will camp there, pull some weeds, have some fun and come out Sunday afternoon. This is an ESBCH work project so I hope you can join us, as we only had a few 4H participants join the club and signup for the project. It will be an excellent ride and please let Lisa Schmidt or I know if you're planning on coming along.

Our big event is only a month away on August 6th & 7th, the Swift Dam Poker ride and work project. We have been putting up posters and starting to collect prizes from local businesses for the fund raiser. This weekend would be an excellent time for all to come and see the improvements to the horse facilities.

BOB



HAPPY BIRTHDAYS JULY 2011

Bob Hermance, Mike Galloway,
Ray Redding & Ron Ries

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL

EAST SLOPE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

General Meeting
June 15, 2011, 7 PM
Conrad Public Library, Conrad, MT

Call to order – Bob Hermance called the meeting to order at 7:11 pm. Members present are Bob and LeAnn Hermance, Fred Fitzpatrick, Gary and Connie Manning, Debbie Ries, Steve Hutton and Joe Suta.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: Fred F. moved to accept the minutes with correction. Steve H 2nd, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Nothing has changed since directors meeting. Bills presented, Connie Manning for newsletter, posters for poker ride and food, \$65.68, Debbie Ries groceries for work projects, \$322.82. There will be more bills for the sign but have not been made up. Steve Hutton motion to accept bills, Connie Manning 2nd motion carried.

Committee Report: Fred asked for help with information on donations for the projects. Those who donated need to give Fred the value of the

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

July 6: Directors Meeting in Conrad, 7:00 PM
Ron & Debbie Ries's House

July 8-10: 4-H Youth Pack Trip & Weed Pulling
Work Project —Green Fork

July 20: Regular Meeting at the Conrad Library in
Conrad at 7:00 PM

July 23-24: Blacktail Bridge Work Project (Hannan
Gulch)

Aug. 3: Directors Meeting in Conrad, 7:00 PM

Aug. 6: Grizzly Days & Parade in Dupuyer, Mt

Aug. 6-7: Poker Ride and Work Project (Trail
Work around Swift Dam Reservoir)

items. Ron Ries donated poles, Steve Hutton concrete, Kurt Dyer fence posts and Bob Hermance pex pipe. Web site has been updated with the Swift Dam high line and sign project. Be sure to visit the web site and see the finished project, looks great.

Unfinished Business: Connie received information from the White River National Forrest on the travel plan.

The July Green Fork Admin site work project with the 4H ranch horse kids is progressing. We have had one person express interest. They have till June 24th to sign up. Members will work with kids to teach packing and do the weed pulling work project. We need at least one member per 4H kid and ESBCB members need to sign up with Bob Hermance, 289-0120 or Lisa Schmidt, 450-0357 by July 1st. We will go out of Straight Creek campground at Benchmark. Camp Friday night, the 8th at the trailhead and go in Saturday to Green Fork and come out Sunday by 4 pm. Connie will call Ian to check on administrative site and help set up food.

Presentation: Thales Mullenax stopped by to give a presentation on equipment care and over packing your saddles. Too much weight is being put on our horses when riders put saddle, saddle bags, ropes, guns, fencing supplies and shoeing supplies on one horse. Oil to use could be harness oil, olive oil or Neatsfoot oil or Skidmores with beeswax. Clean

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up equipment with warm soap and water and just before it is dry oil it. If you need something custom made, Thales can usually make it. Some of the items demonstrated were:

Sling pack for hauling extra large items. (Panniards without ends)

Pack Saddle with aluminum posts which are easy for individual packers.

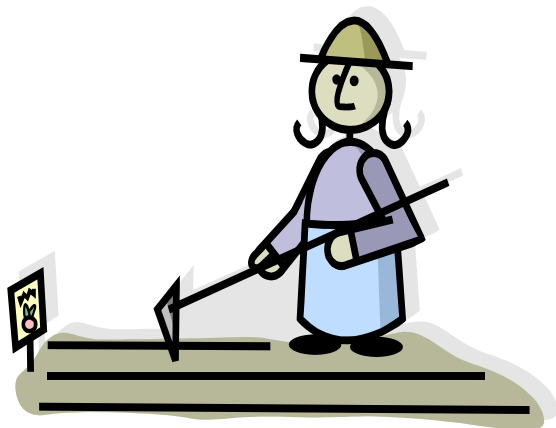
Gun scabbard with military snaps.

New Business: Connie Manning brought the posters for the poker ride August 7th at Swift Dam. These need to be put up and door prizes gathered. Blacktail Bridge Project is planned for July 23rd and 24th. Need to sign up by contacting Steve Hutton or Bob Hermance. This is a trail head project and a three mile ride to the bridge.

Other: Next directors meeting will be July 6th at the Ries', and general meeting July 20th, Conrad Public Library at 7:00 pm. The general meetings will be on the third Wednesdays of each month at the Library. Please mark your calendars. Connie to bring treats – rhubarb possibly.

Adjournment: No further business Fred motioned to adjourned, Steve 2nd, motion carried.

Bdgh40spm – organic herbicide - for further information on this contact Steve Hutton.



**June 11&12, 2011 Work Project
Submitted by Fred Fitzpatrick**

The project for this weekend was suppose to be the marking of trail 153 from the North Fork of Dupuyer Creek over to the Middle Fork of Dupuyer Creek that would tie in with the markers that we placed from the South Fork of Dupuyer Creek to the Middle Fork. Unfortunately due to immense amounts of rain and snow pack melt it would be impossible to make the creek crossing at Johnson's crossing for accessing the project. After discussing the access issue at the June 1st Directors meeting it was decided to finish the project at Swift Dam. This project included a new entrance sign to the campground and trailhead and finishing the permanent high-line.

The sign was started with great apprehension due the very fresh thoughts of digging the holes for the power poles on the high line. So in anticipation of this Ron borrowed a four inch auger from Steve Hutton, but as we started auguring the holes they drilled very easily and we could have used Ron's bigger auger, thus we had to dig out the holes quite a bit to accommodate the 6x6 poles that would be used for the new sign. So we proceeded with setting the poles and mixing and pouring concrete in the holes. We then positioned the sign on the poles to help hold everything in place while the concrete set up. After doing that Debbie had lunch ready for us, so we took a break and gave the concrete some time to set. We then split into 2 groups and one group went and finished the high-line while the other group proceeded to build the roof that would go over the new entrance sign.

We put the drops on the cable which were made of a 3 foot piece of chain and a swivel on the end. We then added some Pex pipe (red in color) to the cable between each of the drops adding more visibility to the cable on the high-line. We also capped the power poles with some tar to keep moisture from entering the poles and deteriorating them.

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The roof over the entrance sign was constructed by screwing six 2 foot 2x6's to the three 6x6 poles. We then cut four rafters to create a pitch roof which were then screwed to the shorter pieces. This formed the framework for the roof, we then added some sheet metal over the rafters making a metal roof that will help protect the sign from some of the harsh elements and protecting the top of the sign board from retaining moisture from rain and snow.

The new sign really looks nice as does the new high-line; we also tested it as you will see in the pictures on the website at <http://bchmt.org/gallery/index.php/esbch>. As always we were well entertained by our youngest member Abby and her stick mule BELL. The East Slope chapter has some very fine Dutch oven cooks, but I can tell you we have a new and upcoming one in Kelsey, So look out Connie, Bob and Dr. Dick. We had a great weekend and only got rained on briefly. Thanks to all who helped make this project a huge success!

Bob Facklam's Absence

6/14/11

Greetings!

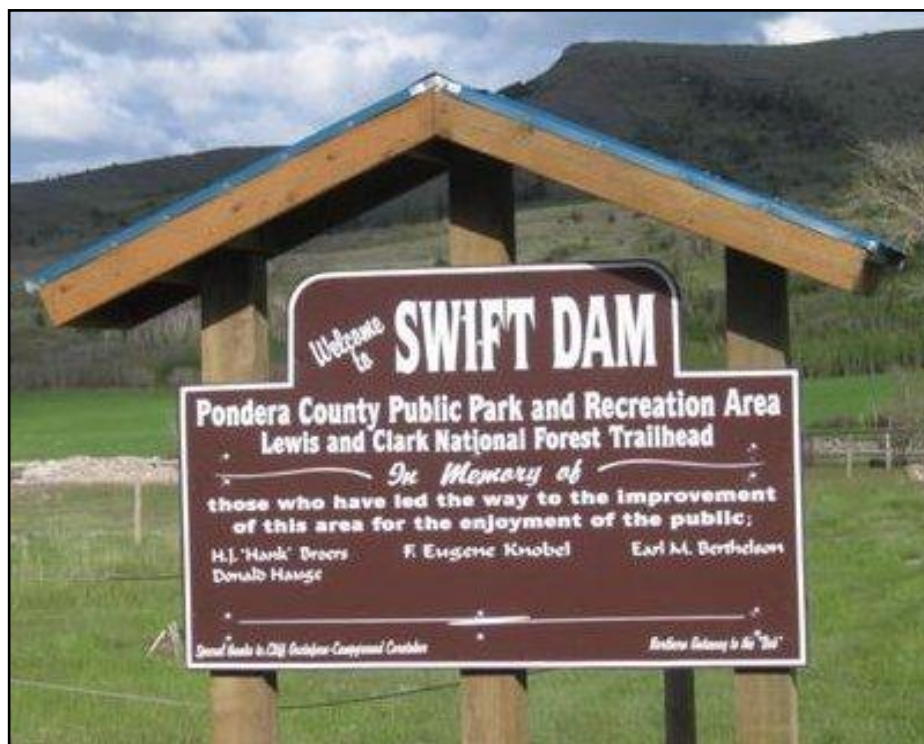
As with so many of the other meetings and the work projects, work will preempt Bob's attending the meeting yet again. Bob and I leave for Missoula Thursday because Dr. Schutte will be replacing Bob's left knee on Friday. Between trying to get as much work done as possible BKR (before knee replacement) and the hired men's both quitting in the middle a pile of work about six weeks ago, time has been extremely short. In fact, it's now after 11 p.m. and Bob is still working on a job that must be done BKR...

We did, however, look at the Swift Dam Project pics and both the sign and the highline look awesome. At least the weather was nicer for the second part of the project!

Meanwhile, we haven't forgotten about ESBCH! Bob, especially, has put lots of years and much effort into the club and various projects although many of the newer membership wouldn't be aware of that... Life and its obligations, however, have occupied time and energy in other directions. I know he's hoping that his recovery from the surgery will be as quick as possible and that he'll again be able to ride, hunt and enjoy the backcountry. For most of the past two years, little to none of that was physically possible for him.

Have a good meeting and great fellowship!

Sue Facklam



EAST SLOPE



Back Country Horsemen



**INVITES YOU TO COME
JOIN THE FUN AT
OUR *ANNUAL POKER*
RIDE AT SWIFT DAM
WEST OF DUPUYER
AUGUST 7, 2011**



**ALL ARE
WELCOME
RIDERS AND
NON-RIDERS**

**REGISTRATION STARTS
AT 9:30 AM**

*Cash Paid
for the first
three best
Hands.*

**RIDE BEGINS AT
11:00 AM**

**PLEASE
NO DOGS
NO FIREARMS
NO STALLIONS**

**ADULTS \$ 10.00
UNDER 18
\$ 5.00**

**JACKPOT PRIZES
DOOR PRIZES**

Concessions Available
**1/4 # Hamburgers &
1/4 # Hot Dogs**
Served with baked beans and potato salad.
Will Be Available For \$5.00 / Plate
(Bring your own refreshments)

*Come up to Dupuyer on Saturday
and attend all the fun and activities
of Grizzly Day.*

*Then come up to Swift Dam Park
and Trailhead and camp the eve-
ning before the Poker Ride.*

The New Sign



The Finished High-Line

