Greetings, fellow Back Country Horsemen of Montana. I am honored to serve as your chairman this coming year. I’ve been a member of the Beartooth Chapter since it was formed in March of 1998. At that time I had no idea that 12 years later I would be elected Chairman of this great organization.

With the new year and spring just around the corner (we just received about 10” of snow) I’m looking forward, as I’m sure all of you are, to getting back in the saddle to ride, pack, and clean up our trails. I’m sure with all the wind we’ve been having along with the beetle killed, and burnt trees, our crosscut and chainsaws will get a workout this summer. Hopefully by now were up to date on defensive horsemanship, crosscut, chainsaw and 1st aid, as we need these classes to volunteer our services to the USFS, and other government agency’s.

As most of you know by now, there’s been a couple of horses in the Gallatin Valley who have tested positive for Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA). This is a pretty rare disease with no vaccine or treatment. We as Back Country Horsemen need to be aware of these different diseases, most of which there ARE vaccine or treatments available, then EDUCATE and ENCOURAGE those many equine owners to keep up on vaccinating, worming etc. which will reduce outbreaks of many equine sick-

Chairman, continued on Page 2
ness and disease.

USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack recently directed the Forest Service to develop a new planning rule to supersede the current 1982 rule and have it completed by November 2011. The Northern Region had a roundtable on April 13th in Coeur d’Alene, Missoula and Billings. It was well represented by Back Country Horsemen as well as ATV, bicycle, and many other organizations. We need to keep in contact with the Forest Service to ensure that right decisions are made.

In closing, I’d like to quote from the Mountain Manners Handbook; “The horse has earned a place in our western heritage. Its usefulness and devotion have been second to none. It is the charge of the BCH to assure that horse use is preserved in its rightful place for future generations. This can best be accomplished by our individual efforts to promote wise horse use that results in minimum impact to the back country resources.”

John Chepulis
Chairman BCHM

A note from John Favro;

I was looking forward to attending the whole convention, however, Saturday morning I experienced great abdominal pain and decided to go to the emergency room in Bozeman. As it turns out, I had appendicitis and had to be operated on that evening.

I wish to thank all of the BCH members who prayed for me and contacted me to express their concern. It shows the greatness of our organization when members are so caring and helpful.

You can also read your newsletter on-line at www.bchmt.org.
How not to get stuck in quicksand; with Fred (The Horses _) and Fred (The Horse)

Marias River Wildlife Management Area, Fun Ride and Work Summation, as one that has very seldom rode along the Marias River and having the opportunity to go on this ride was very exciting even though they were predicting rain, it turned out not to be too bad of a day. After we assembled at Troy Wanken's place and saddling up we headed for Charlie Lincoln's ranch. Arriving around lunch time we decided to go ahead and roast some hot dogs. We found a barbecue along with propane no doubt left by some Fish Wildlife and Parks employees. So we made good use of the equipment by cooking our hot dogs. After lunch we decided to head up river and do some more scouting around. Some members decided to try and go find the northwest corner of the property were FWP had put an outhouse and new road. The rest of us decided to head back towards Wanken's place. After we reached the Lincoln ranch, I thought it would be a good idea to see if the horses would like a drink of water. So heading down to the river, I heard Charolette Marshall say something about a gravel bar. Not paying much attention I headed to the nearest water and as I approached the river bank it looked like it was dry so I tried to coax Fred to step down the bank. He looked at the area and instantly knew that he wanted nothing to do with this spot that I had picked out. Of course I did not understand what was wrong with it and did not know of the peril that I had just put myself and horse into. As Fred spun around on the bank his back legs went under, luckily he had his front feet on solid ground as he attempted to lunge up and out of where we should not have been. It was a little exciting trying to stay on as he fought his way out of the quagmire and in doing so he had somehow got his front foot in the rein (no doubt) the dumb riders fault, but needless to say it broke the bridale. Fred, being the level headed horse that he is, could only think of one thing at a time like this, getting up the bank and start eating some of that nice green grass that was just too good to pass up. So while Fred was eating Fred went through his saddlebags and found some leather string and proceeded to fix the broken bridale. While this was going on I was further enlightened by Charolette about quicksand. She recited a story that her father, who had ranched along the Marias and Dry Forks, had told her and her brothers as children to never cross where there were no cow tracks. He told them that the cows would tell you where you could cross. She also told us a story of how her father had found himself and his horse in a similar situation along the Dry Fork once. Her father was able to get off his horse and get out and then the horse was able to work himself out. Charolette then commented with a quirk remark of how good I looked staying on my horse as he was getting out, but I was just glad that we got out OK. Anyway it was a learning experience and if your horse says NO, HE KNOWS! Below is a definition of quicksand along with some hopefully helpful tips so that you don't find yourself in a similar situation. It might be noted as Back Country Horsemen most of you may never find yourselves in a similar situation but I felt it was worth sharing. These quicksand areas are usually found in areas where the soil is fine and/or sandy as it is along the Marias River so use caution. Pay particular attention to the last statement.

Quicksand is a colloid hydrogel consisting of fine granular matter (such as sand or silt), clay and water. The origin of the name refers to "quick" in the older meaning of "alive" rather than "fast" and is thus similar to the origin of the term quicksilver for mercury.

Quicksand is a non-Newtonian fluid: when undisturbed it often appears to be solid ("gel" form), but a minor (less than 1%) change in the stress on the quicksand will cause a sudden decrease in its viscosity ("sol" form). After the initial perturbation—such as a person attempting to walk on it—the water and sand in the quicksand separate and dense regions of sand sediment form; it is because of the formation of these high volume fraction regions that the viscosity of the quicksand seems to suddenly increase. In order to move within the quicksand, a person or object must apply sufficient pressure on the compacted sand to re-introduce enough water to liquefy it. The forces required to do this are quite large: to remove a foot from quicksand at a speed of one centimeter per second would require the same amount of force as "that needed to lift a medium-sized car".

See Quicksand on page 8
Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and Beartooth Back Country Horsemen Partner on Four-year Project

By: Marilyn and John Simmons
Project Chairman

In the Spring of 2006 Jim Olsen, fisheries biologist with Montana Fish, Wildlife & and Parks, (FWP) asked our Beartooth Back Country Horsemen (BBCH) if we would be interested in helping with the Boulder River drainage, Yellowstone cutthroat trout restoration project. It was to start in Silver Lake and Four Mile creek, located in the Gallatin Forest, Absaroka Beartooth Wilderness. This was to be one part of a major project to reintroduce the pure strain of Montana’s historic Cutthroat trout back into its original lakes and streams. Our BBCH group agreed to help with the packing of nets, fish shockers, and other equipment, including an inflatable boat. This was right up our alley, a chance to use our horses and visit a new pristine lake in the wilderness country plus help-

Just getting a pack string to Silver Lake was quite an adventure in itself, we drove 110 miles from Absarokee, MT with the last 20 miles at 5 mph, up the narrow gravel “road” beside the Boulder River. Pulling a four horse trailer, the total drive takes 3 ½ hours. It’s best then to stay over night at the Four Mile Creek trailhead, the begin-

itting of the pathway to Silver Lake; then the next morning tackle the remaining nine miles to the lake with a pack string.

While the Fish Wildlife & Parks crews were able to backpack up to the lake area with little trouble, our horses needed a cleaner trail. The project was to start before the Forest Service sent in their trail cleaning crew. So BBCH members Paul Roccoforte, Wes Dingman, and John Chepulis spent two days clearing the trail a week in advance of our first
pack string. They crosscut out 35 trees in the nine miles up to the lake. No chainsaws or mechanical means are allowed in the wilderness, although the FWP had a special agreement to take a fish shocker and a paddle type boat in for this project.

John and Bonnie Chepulis made the first pack trip in with nets, and the battery powered shocker on July 1, 2006. The FWP crew set several nets in the lake to start catching the large crossbreed fish. They later shocked the inlet and outlet creeks to remove more of the nonnative fish in the many miles of the whole drainage.

John and Marilyn Simmons made the second pack trip with more nets and a two-man pontoon boat. The longest piece of the boat was 54 inches so it did fit a horse pack. At the lake each of the several pieces pined together to make the frame and this frame ended up with a pair of 12 foot inflatable rubber float tubes as the bottom. That trip started August 1, 2006, with two pack horses and two riding horses. Good trail, John only had to cut out three trees that day. Great weather, what more could anyone ask for? Not an easy chair it turns out that the FWP boys wouldn’t be able to row the boat with-

out at least one factory made seat. The net tender could set on a log. Our only packing problem that day was the top pack with the boat seat The Damn chair! It was high and round and you know what happens with a round top pack, there was no dozing on this trip.

The last ½ mile of the trail up through a steep boulder field was never intended to be a thorough fare for horses, even though the old gold miners called it “the trail” to Silver Lake. John Simmons, with FWP crew Jim Olsen and Shawn Clancy walked and led the pack horses this last bit of the way. There the boat was unloaded and assembled for the net tending chores. Down below Marilyn set up camp and started dinner. Many of the nets were to stay several weeks, but it was agreed that the boat would stay in the Wilderness for only one week. Jim Ol-
sen asked for someone to stay in for a few days to help with the project and pack the boat back out. John and Marilyn volunteered for this chore and they experienced the following.

We were never far from a jacket or rain coat as each evening we were greeted with rain showers and a skiff of snow even though this August was so dry in the low lands that there was an open-fire ban in the whole Gallatin National Forest. Silver Lake is near 10,000 feet elevation and our camp was just a bit lower down the mountain. The small meadows were green and covered with wild flowers. We had some horse feed but we still spent a couple of hours each day grazing the horses. Most grass plots are just a few feet square between trees. Still there is nothing more beautiful than the high country in August.

Tuesday we climbed up the trail to Silver Lake to check on Jim Olson and his FWP crew. They talked about how “sweet” it was to work the nets with the boat, compared to hand pulling the nets into shore to clean them. Also the dead fish had to be returned to the center of the lake and cut open so they would sink and return the nutrients to the lake’s bottom. Nothing to attract bears could be left on the shore line or at our camp area.

In our back country there are many requirements for a good camp site, one of the most important is to find a large and heavy limbed tree nearby to hang ones personal food and horse feed, at least ten feet in the air. We do this before we set up a sleeping tent. A clean camp helps keep the local bears from making uninvited visits.

On Wednesday we rode the HI HO Silver Trail up to Silver Pass, about 4 miles south of Silver Lake. The trail was quite steep but worth the ride. What a beautiful view! We could see many miles east to the Lake Plateau above the Stillwater River and west down Miller Creek toward Paradise Valley on the other side. We knew we were in “Gods country”. As we stopped to take in the grandeur of the high alpine meadows we were also treated to the flitting images of nine Rocky Mountain Goats darting among the bushes and boulders nearby just above the tree line.

On the way back to camp, we ran into 8 young backpackers who had hiked up Meat Rack trail heading for Silver Lake. They were surprised to find out that Silver Lake was not at Silver Pass. After John helped them read the map, they all asked to pet our horses and then hurried off down HI HO Silver trail to the lake. Jim Olsen told us they made it to the lake by early evening and the FWP crew gave them plenty of fresh fish for their dinner.

Thursday John S. had to do his part to help with the enhancement project and by the time Bonnie and John Chepulis arrived at camp, he had caught a mess of fish for supper. The crossbreeds taste just as good as the pure strain, especially when cooked over a small illegal wood fire just after one of the snow squalls.

Friday the FWP crew pulled nets from the middle of the lake to dry them. John C. and Bonnie had come in with their saddle horses and a pack horse. We led all the pack horses up and moved the nets, floats, and boat down to our camp, then we finished packing on Saturday for the trip home. The “Damn Chair” was on the side in a pack box on the extra equine this trip.

In July 2007 our BBCH continued the Silver Lake project. But this year was a little more difficult as during the winter there was a major wind storm and the access trail had 103 trees down. One of our BBCH trail crews, consisting of several horses and Keith Britten, John Chepulis, Wes Dingman, Lorie Lay, Ron Nusbaum, and Paul Roccoforte spent three days with axes, crosscut saws and draft horse power to clear the 9 miles of trail. John and Bonnie Chepulis next packed in 2 new smaller boats, nets and gear. The maiden voyage of the first small boat was not as comfortable as the 12 foot a year before. The Young FWP paddler got a bit ag-
Fish continued from page 6gressive with his paddling and rolled himself and the boat over in the deep icy water, a fast dog paddle to shore and a quick camp fire and all turned out well. Due to the major fires this year, the horse crew did not go in for the August pack out. The FWP was able to store their gear for the winter near by at a private abandoned gold mine site.

Each year as FWP cleaned out the larger rainbow trout and hybrids, they would plant fingerling cutthroat trout with a helicopter in the lake. The fingerlings were large enough predators to eat the rainbow and hybrid fry from each new hatching, further cleaning the lake.

Still late in August 2007 our affiliation with the FWP continued even though the BBCH crews could not go to the Boulder area. That late summer John and Bonnie Chepulis and John and Marilyn Simmons with 6 horses and 2 mules went up to the Cookie City area to the headwaters of the Stillwater River. Jim Olsen was also working there, some 50 air miles away from Silver Lake on an extended part of the Yellowstone cutthroat project. He needed gear packed out of this southern part of the district. There was also fire danger in this Custer National Forest area but we were able to receive a special FS permit to enter. Once again a 106 mile road trip turned into a bit of an endurance. Again 3 ½ hours we drove, this time up and over the Beartooth plateau to Daisy Pass, a 7000 foot climb with trucks and trailers, the last six miles at five MPH. We then left the horse trailers at Daisy and trailed the horses four miles to Lake Abundance and camped over.

We spent the next day hustling and hand sawing four more miles down the steep Stillwater River trail and packing up the gear on our faithful pack ponies. A hurry up was in order to make the round trip before the usual afternoon rain and wind storms. This barren, eerie area still has many standing snags from the fires of 1988 which swept through Yellowstone National Park and this region. Each wind event brings a few more of these rugged, watchful, old sentinels down across the trails.

Jeremiah Wood, FWP biologist took over the Boulder fish restoration project in 2008. In addition to the helicopter fingerling drop, the main event that year happened when John Chepulis, Mark Chase and their pack string hauled in the fish shocker and gear. Jeremiah and his three man crew wanted to check the population of Meat Rack creek, a major tributary to the Four Mile drainage.

Late August 2009 BBCH made its only trip to Silver Lake for the FWP. The restoration project was finished and deemed a success, and the FWP needed to pack out three horse loads of gear and nets one final time. Ray Lien, John Simmons, and Larry Whitney were glad to use this trip to add a little more condition to their riding horses and pack stock. Once again after the first 3 ½ hours on the road, we made it to the Four Mile Creek trailhead. The plan was to stay over that night and get an early start the next morning. Not long after unloading and starting our packing project, the neighbor camper came over to me and asked where we planned on sleeping that night. His concern was that they had an unwelcome visitor the evening before. Near supper time a dark harry beast was seen running through the camp. A streaker I asked. No a large hungry black bear had been checking the local camp sites. Not long later we see a dark brown form watching us from the bushes near the camp area. That night over a bit of dry straw we all threw down a sleeping bag and slept in our western aroma filled horse trailers. Some time later we heard the horses, nicker a couple of times from their high lines. But we had no problems. Horses seem to be very attentive toward bears but not too afraid, if they keep a couple of dozen feet distance. A moose would have been a different story; many a horse wreck has been caused by the intimidating stare of a moose.

The next day was an uneventful ride in; we even rode up “the trail” the last half mile in the boulder field. Most times it is easier on ones feet to ride than to hand lead a horse in bad ground. A couple of beautiful nights under the stars and no horse wrecks: it’s hard to call this work. With this trip coming later in the summer the Forest Service had cleaned the trail and there were only a few recent fallen trees to cut out.

This has been a great project for the Beartooth Back Country Horsemen to partner up with Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks and the Billings Chapter of Magic City Fly Fishermen, who helped with grants and funding for this Boulder River, Silver Lake area Yellowstone cutthroat trout restoration project. Many of us who worked on the project now look forward to going back and fishing the pristine lakes and streams in the near future and maybe take our grandkids.
"The good news is that quicksand is not the monstrous force portrayed in movies or TV. Sinking out of sight into a bottomless pit may be our nightmare, but that’s not the way quicksand works. So forget about the image of the cowboy’s head disappearing as his flailing hands reach for the rope that his faithful horse, standing on the bank, has tossed to him. Quicksand is just sand that has been over-saturated with water, creating a mixture that no longer supports weight. Quicksand won't suck you down, and it is rarely more than a few feet deep. However, you can trap yourself, if you don’t know how to respond. Thrashing vertical movements will force you deeper. Slow, steady movements are best. “That’s fine for me,” you might be thinking. “But what about my horse? Try telling HIM to stay calm!” Well, that is exactly what you need to do. Our horses look to us for leadership. If we remain calm, it increases the likelihood that they will remain calm.

Quicksand will make many riverbed or flood plain trails treacherous, until the groundwater table lowers substantially (which may not occur until late summer in our area). So in certain years with spring snows and rains, riverbeds or flood plains are under water long enough to become over-saturated. So many areas are likely to become liquefied enough for quicksand formation. As surface water sinks, areas will be exposed that may look like regular sand, but they may not be safe. Even experienced riders who know the area can be caught by surprise. This is not the time for newbies to explore the lower trails. You don't want to make the five o'clock news.

Trails Turn Unfamiliar During Storms... and Afterward
Liquefaction can occur anywhere conditions allow. When these waters go down, pockets of quicksand will have formed along otherwise familiar trails.

Tips for Navigating Wet Trails, stay on high ground:
- Use trails that are well-traveled and show hoof-prints. If others have passed safely (and you can see from their tracks how deep they sank) then you probably can, too.
- Avoid places which appear smooth & trackless. Liquefied sand doesn’t hold hoof-prints.
- When crossing water, look at BOTH banks – are other hoof-prints going into the water and out the other side? How deep are they? …Any gouge-marks indicating that the riders before you ran into difficulty?
- If your horse does sink into liquefied sand or bog, DON’T STOP - Keep moving. Standing still allows your horse’s legs to sink deeper into resistant suction. If there is solid ground a few feet in front of you, it may be best to keep moving forward. If not, turn towards the nearest solid ground and KEEP YOUR HORSE MOVING. As calmly as possible, dismount if necessary (to reduce weight) but try to keep your horse moving towards higher ground.

Pay attention to your horse's body language. They have strong instincts to avoid quicksand and bogs.

Submitted by; R. Fred Fitzpatrick
The Bitter Root BCH club tackles a National Trails Day project every year and 2009 was no exception, although that one turned out to be one of the most challenging projects of the summer!

Braving blustery, wet weather, volunteers from the Bitter Root BCH, Montana Wilderness Association and Selway-Bitterroot Foundation joined trail crewmembers from the Bitterroot National Forest on Saturday, June 6, for a one-day project. Earl Philips and Bill and Barbara Black set up the BCH tent Friday night so there would be shelter for the crew as rain was predicted (and it definitely came!). The tent was a real blessing and made it possible for the cooks to provide breakfast both Saturday and Sunday mornings, as well as dinner Saturday night.

This work project was organized to rebuild turnpikes along a section of Rock Creek Trail (#580) bordering the south side of Lake Como. Turnpikes are sections of the trail that are lined with treated timbers to retain dirt and tread, and the timbers on these old turnpikes were rotting away.

The Little Rock Creek water crossings were way too high for stock to cross, so volunteers used footbridges to cross off the turnpikes, breaking up the old timbers and replacing them with new treated wood posts. This involved cutting back trees and brush that were in the way, pulling the old timbers, cutting in trenches for securing the posts with screwed through one second post, and secured ends of the rods had not lengths, they couldn't be used a file from a the rods could be used. the day!” and work pro-

The crew proclaimed that “Ray saved the day!” and work pro-

Once the new posts were filling in the space between them with they dug from the surrounding area. culverts on both sides of the turnpikes properly. In addition to this, volunteers near the bridge spanning the waterfall area trail leading to the turnpike area.

By the end of the day, the crew had cleaned water bars on most of the trail, rebuilt 90 linear feet of turnpike (18 sections!), widened 180 feet of side ditches and culverts, cut back brush on about 200 feet of the trail, and reconstructed two rock water bars near the south side of the bridge (about 3 miles up).

The tired and soaked but happy crew hiked back to camp where hot coffee was waiting and cooks Kristina Tracer and Nancy Pollman were busy preparing a hamburger feed with all the trimmings and potluck side dishes and desserts. It was cool and wet enough that folks didn’t stay for the nighttime entertainment that was to be provided by Dale Tracer, but we hope to catch him on a nicer evening in 2010.

Many thanks to the following 23 folks who gave of their time and energy for this project, and it was a job well done:

**BBCH members:**
Bill and Barbara Black, Mike Costanzo, Larry Gill, Steve Greer, Mike McChesney and Brenda Reik, project leader Chuck Miller, Ray Petersen, Earl and Karen Philips, Brad and Nancy Pollman, Kristina and Dale (Music Man) Tracer, and Fred Weisbecker.

**Selway-Bitterroot Foundation:**
Beth Bonham and Bob and Barb Schumaker

See National on page 14
Skijoring
Submitted by: Deborah & Greg Schatz
BCH of the Flathead

Some Back Country Horsemen members just can’t seem to stay off a horse.
They’ve discovered the extreme winter-time sport of skijoring.

Skijoring began several hundred years ago in Scandinavian countries as a way to travel during the long winters. Laplanders skied on Nordic skis holding reins attached to reindeer. In the mid 1950's, the sport of skijoring found its way to North America, where ranchers attached a long rope to the saddle horn of a horse that was ridden at high speeds down a long straight-away.

Currently, the sport of equestrian skijoring has become a highly specialized competitive sport, where skiers must navigate a course of jumps and gates as a horse and rider pulls them around an oval track.

Skijoring competitions are taking place in more than five states in the USA, including Montana, and in several countries worldwide. The sport of skijoring is growing rapidly, and is just as much fun for spectators as it is for competitors.

Several members of the Back Country Horsemen of the Flathead spent the weekend of January 30-31st at a skijoring competition in Whitefish. Some members helped as parking attendants, gate judges, or all-around cowboys. Some came as spectators to cheer for their fellow members and friends.

Others came for the excitement of competition, to see if their trail horse could run. BCH members who took home prizes included Ole Netteberg, Janet Holter and Greg Schatz. Back Country Horsemen received a lot of publicity through this event.
Date: July 10, 2010
Registration: 8:00 am to 10:00 am
Place: Gold Creek, MT
(Exit 166 of I-90, follow the signs, 5 ½ miles)

Ride & BBQ .......... $20.00/rider
BBQ only ............ $10.00/person
Children under 12....... $7.00

Poker Hands (18 yrs & over).............. $5.00 each
50/50 Tickets................................. $1.00 each or 6 for $5.00

Approximately 4 hour Ride. You can ride through a Historic Ghost Town and past a Gold Dredge

BBQ starts at 3:00 pm and Drawings for Door Prizes to follow.

Everyone Bring Your Horse or Mule and Have Fun!
Camping Available
Enjoy evening campfires
Absolutely NO Dogs on Ride!
Dogs in Camp must be on leash!

For More Information Please Contact:

Dayna & Charlie Gilman – 846-2464
Pat & Wendy George- 846-3499
Ron & Karen Haubbert – 498-8310 or 498-2733
Three Rivers Back Country Horsemen
Story by: Dan Pence Photos by: Larry Jordan

What do you do when nearly a hundred children and their parents show up at a planned horse event? That situation confronted members of the Three Rivers Back Country Horsemen and the University of Montana Western’s Equestrian Club at a co-sponsored “Kid’s Day” at the Beaverhead County Fair Grounds on May 23, 2009.

“We wanted to give the community’s children the opportunity to enjoy a horseback ride, but were concerned about liability,” reports Mike Probst, BCH president.

“That’s where the Equestrian Club could help,” adds Dr. John Xanthopoulos, BCH member and University of Montana Western Equestrian Club Director. “We had necessary insurance coverage, and our club members wanted to see the young people learn more about horses as well.”

So the two groups joined forces to give the area’s young people a chance to enjoy an outing involving horses, hot dogs and cold drinks. Three Rivers Back Country Horsemen donated the wiener’s, chips and condiments and Harrison Pepsi furnished the soft drinks.

Dave Mathson and Mike Cox served as trail bosses for the event. They rounded up some very patient and tame horses and the help necessary to make sure the eager young participants had the opportunity for a safe ride on horses that were led around the fairgrounds.

“The event lasted from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the 94 children and sponsors had a great time,” Mathson reports. “Most wanted more then one ride and some cried and performed other theatrics when their parents had to pry them off of the horses.”

“And then we stuffed them full of hot dogs and soft drinks and sent them home with their parents who had to deal with the adrenalin rush from riding the horses and the sugar-caffeine high from the soda pop.” adds Cox..

A great time was reported by all participants. We are looking forward to a repeat performance in 2010.
BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF MISSOULA
36TH ANNUAL FATHER’S DAY
STEAK RIDE
JUNE 20, 2010
BLACKFOOT CLEARWATER GAME RANGE
$25.00 for Ride and BBQ
Ride leaves the Boyd Ranch at 11:00 am

We will have
Wagon Rides for Non Riders!

Meet at the Boyd Ranch entrance
off Highway 200, 6 miles east of the Cow at Clearwater Junction.

Non Riders Welcome!
Over night camping available.
Certified weed seed free feed mandatory.
No alcohol, studs, or dogs on ride please.
Dogs in camp must be on leash.

MISSOULA For more information: 251-2163
Montana Wilderness Association:  
Kirk Thompson

Bitterroot National Forest:  
Steve Bull, crew leader, Rachel Kaufman and Erica Strayer

The 2010 National Trail’s Day project takes place on Saturday, June 5, at Larry Creek, a very popular, low-elevation riding area located in the Bitterroot National Forest up Bass Creek Road, between Stevensville and Florence. Members of the Montana Wilderness Association and a local Boy Scout troop will be working alongside the Bitter Root BCH crew.

Erica Strayer cleans a rock water bar

Mike Costanza & Kirk Thompson rebuild rock

Earl Philips cleans out a wood water

Brenda Reik cuts back brush

A tired but happy crew
About Your Newsletter

*Back Country Horsemen of Montana News* is published three times a year by BCH of MT, PO Box 4864, Butte, MT 59701.

Publication dates are June 1, October 1, February 1. Deadline for submission of advertising and articles is the 10th of the preceding month (May 10, September 10, January 10).

The newsletter has three main emphasis areas: (1) issues (2) chapter activities/volunteer projects (3) light material (i.e. Humor, history, etc.). Please submit a copy that is typewritten, legible handwritten copy or you can submit copy via e-mail. Photos should be prints (no negatives or proofs) or digital photos attached to e-mails. Black & white or color is acceptable.

Submit articles, photos, and advertising to Linda Brewer, 2167 N 4th Rd., Huntley, MT 59037. Phone: (406) 698-5880 e-mail: lbrewer@tctwest.net

BCH Chapters are once again responsible for submitting articles for publication in this newsletter. Chapter divisions and deadline date for articles is as follows:

| May 10/10 | Beartooth, Bitterroot, Cabinet |
| September 10/10 | CMR, East Slope, Kootenai |
| January 10/11 | Flathead, Gallatin, Hi-Line |
| May 10/11 | Judith Basin, Last Chance, Mile High |
| September 10/11 | Mission Valley, Missoula, Selway/Pintler |
| January 10/10 | Three Rivers, Upper Clark Fork, Wild Horse Plans |

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### MONTANA BACK COUNTRY HORSEMAN STATE CHAPTERS

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If you would like to join, please contact a chapter in your area.