



San Joaquin Sierra

Hoof Prints



December 2015—January 2016

Issue 6

San Joaquin Sierra Unit, BCHC
PO Box 25693
Fresno, CA 93729-5693

Email— membership@bchcalifornia.org (membership email only).
On the WEB: <http://www.bchcsjsu.org> (SJS unit) or <http://www.bchcalifornia.org> (State)



Concerned Men and Women Dedicated to Gentle Use of California Trails and Backcountry

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fall is in the air, the fireplace is once again in use and it is time to start planning for the summer rides. If you have a favorite place to ride and would like to share it with friends, we would be more than happy to help you with the logistics. Just let a board member know and they will be glad to help out.

If you have ever wondered about the effects of our work parties, just take a look at the article on the Rough Fire. This shows the importance of our work in the forest for more than simply keeping trails open. Thanks so much to all who had a part in the accomplishments over the years. We have a great history in the Sierra and Sequoia forests.

A big thanks goes out to the **Riddles** for once again hosting the **Election Ride** and **Trail Trials**. What a beautiful venue for both events. We appreciate all the hard work put into making both of these events a success. We look forward to many more wonderful times with them on their little piece of heaven. I would also like to thank **Duane and Pat Peverill** for taking care of some safety issues with the cook trailer.

This is our club and I want to say a **BIG THANKS** to the many who have helped out this past year. Besides our many accomplishments, we had a great time with friends in our beautiful mountains. This is the time of year to give thanks for all that we are blessed with in this country, especially our four legged friends that take us on so many adventures.

December will once again bring our annual **Christmas party** with great food and socializing. What a great time to catch up. Please take the time to sign up and let us know you will be there. If you are interested in helping out, just let a board member know.

As always we hope there is something for everyone. If there is an event you would like to host just let a board member know. Also if you are interested in working on the Christmas party, again just let a board member know.

MY wish is for you all to have a great Thanksgiving and a very special Christmas as we go into a new year.

As always stay in the saddle, the ground is hard.
Joe Kaminski, President



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2016 Calendar

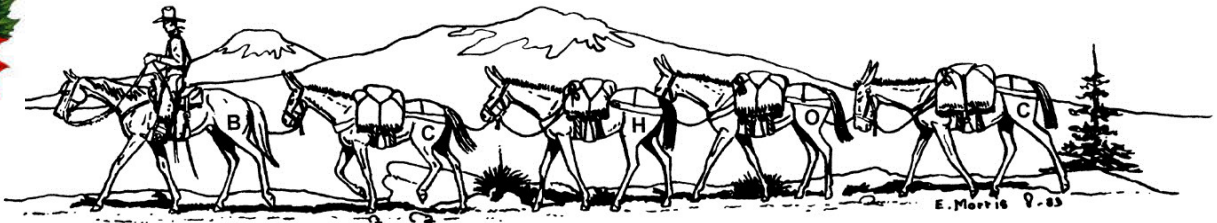
Board Meetings are on the **1st Wednesday** of the month. All members are welcome to attend. Board meetings start at 6:30 pm at the Clovis Elks Lodge, 535 Woodworth Ave. (Bullard & Woodworth).

Calendar & Ride schedule is on-going, and new events and rides will be published when confirmed. *Note: Dates and events are subject to change or cancellation; calling the contact person is recommended or checking www.bchcsjsu.org*

December 12, 2015	Christmas Party	Contact Jim and Debbie Dixon 559-779-3507 jddixon@netptc.net, see flyer on page 4
January 20	General Meeting 6:30	Clovis Veteran's Memorial Building 453 Hughes, Clovis
February TBA	Shoot Your Heart Out	John and Jan Mikkelson 559-289-4911
March TBA	Hensley Lake Poker Ride	Duane Peverill 559-908-3138 wpeverill@sebastiancorp.net
March 16	General Meeting 6:30	Clovis Veteran's Memorial Building 453 Hughes, Clovis
March 18-20	BCHC Rendezvous Calaveras County Fairgrounds	
April TBA	Desensitizing Clinic and Parade Practice	John and Jan Mikkelson 559-289-4911
April 23	Clovis Parade and Rodeo	
May 18	General Meeting 6:30	Clovis Veteran's Memorial Building 453 Hughes, Clovis
May 24-29	Bishop Mule Days	Bishop, California
June TBA	Chamberlaine Work Party	Joe Kaminski 559-733-9170
June TBA	Edison Work Party	Joe Kaminski 559-733-9170
July TBA	Spanish/Geraldine Lake Work Party	Joe Kaminski 559-733-9170
Aug TBA	General Meeting	
October TBA	General Meeting Riddle Ranch Ride and Election	Cathy Walker 559-283-1164
December 10	Christmas Party	Any Board Member

Please contact any Board Member or Ted Fischer (559-855-8599), if you would like to host a ride or activity and/or need help.

The *purpose of this publication* is to keep its members informed on important issues that affect all horsemen and to inform the membership on up-coming events within the unit. The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the editor & authors and not necessarily shared by BCHC.



*San Joaquin-Sierra Backcountry Horsemen
Annual Christmas Party, December 12th*

Come One Come all, you don't need to be a member to attend!



Cost: \$25.00 per person (pay at the door or prepay-see below!!)
Time: 5 P.M. Social Hour
Dinner: 7:00 P.M.
Location: Clovis Elks Lodge
 535 Woodworth Avenue
 Clovis



Once again! DJ and Dancing!!!

YeeHAW!

No Host Bar

Silent Auction

And....As Always

Yummy Food

Tri Tip or Chicken

R.S.V.P By: December 7, 2013

Jim or Debbie Dixon

559-779-3507 jddixon@netptc.net



****Auction Donations? Bring any new item to the party and we'll put 'em on the table!****

PREPAY AND GET IT OUT OF THE WAY!

Tear off and mail BELOW!

Backcountry Horseman Christmas Party R.S.V.P.
December 12, 2015

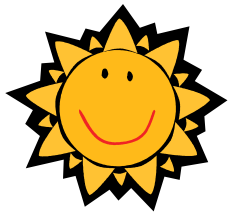
Name: _____ Numbers of Attendees: _____

Chicken Dinners # _____ Tri Tip Dinners # _____

Mail to: Jim & Debbie Dixon
P.O. Box 319
Shaver Lake, CA 93664

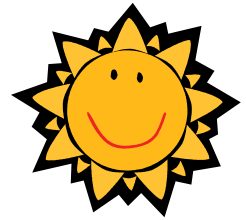
Paid amount: _____
Check #: _____





Sunshine Corral

By
Patricia Peverill



Welcome and Happy Trails to our new members!!!

None this month...so lets get out and recruit.

Our Sympathy goes out to Fredi Chrisman on the loss of her brother-in-law

Speedy recovery to Ted Fischer.

Until Next Time. Hoping all is well and Happy Trails.



BACKCOUNTRY COOKS

Contributor, Carolyn Witt



Mexican Wedding Cakes or Snowballs

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 cube butter room temperature | 2 Tablespoon sugar |
| 1 Tsp. Vanilla | 1 cup sifted flour |
| 1 cup finely chopped walnuts | 1 cup powdered sugar (set aside) |

Heat oven at 350 degree.

With electric mixer cream butter, sugar and vanilla till light and fluffy. Add flour, blend on low then add nuts. Roll into balls, smaller than a walnut, and place 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake 350 degree until golden brown, 25-30 minutes depending on your oven.

Take off cookie sheet and roll in powdered sugar while still warm. Then eat! I can eat the whole batch in one sitting so you might want to double recipe!

=



2015 OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

President

Joe Kaminski, 559-733-9170 kamin-skiclan@gmail.com

Vice President

Randy Witt, 559-325-7876
rcca33085@hotmail.com

Secretary

Pat Peverill,

Treasurer

Pete Parkin 559-871-4500
ktzpaw@yahoo.com

DIRECTORS

Term Expires at end of year:

Carol Kaminski, 559-733-9170 kamin-skiclan@gmail.com 2016

Debbie McFarran, 559-638-1297
Alphabe1@comcast.net 2016

Jan Mikkelsen, 559-289-4911
jessecowboy@comcast.net 2016

Jim Knabke, 559-299-3254
jjknabke@comcast.net 2015

Duane Peverill, 559-908-3138
wpeverill@sebastiancorp.net 2015

Fredi Chrisman, 559-876-2416 2015

Carolyn Witt, 559-325-7876
cawittbchc@hotmail.com 2015

Pat Peverill, 559-824-1119 2016
ppeverill@sebastiancorp.net

COORDINATORS

Education Coordinator

Ted Fischer, 559-855-8599
tjfischer3@gmail.com

Facebook Coordinator

Linda Knabke, 559-299-3254
lknabke2@yahoo.com

Membership/Mailing Coordinator

Jan Mikkelsen, 559-289-4911
jessecowboy@comcast.net

Public Lands Liaison

Joe Kaminski, 559-733-9170
kaminskiclan@gmail.com

Email Blasts/Newsletter

Carolyn Witt, 559-325-7876
cawittbchc@hotmail.com

Web Wrangler

Duane Peverill, 559-908-3138
wpeverill@sebastiancorp.net

Shaver Lake Camp Host

Wanda Caradonna, 559-392-3534, wandacaradonna@sbcglobal.net

Sunshine Chair

Pat Peverill, 559-824-1119
ppeverill@sebastiancorp.net

Advisors

Cathie Walker, 559-283-1164
walker1486@comcast.net

Past President

Greg Caradonna, 559-351-5190
gocaradonna@sbcglobal.net

Advertising Rates

Classified Ads

\$.10/word with a 20 word minimum (\$2.00), \$.50 a line after that.

Display Ad Rate per issue

Business Card Size, \$8.00,

1/4 page, \$20.00,

1/2 page, \$35.00,

Full Page, \$50.00

Prices are subject to change without notice. **All prices are for one month, due the 10th of the month.** Editor reserves the right to refuse inappropriate ads.

All paid Ads include an E-mail Blast to all members with current emails

Calling ALL Members!

Remember to please send an email to
Chip Herzig:
chipherzig@gmail.com

Let him know how you want your State
Newsletter:



By E-mail

US Postal



NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Carolyn Witt
559-325-7876
cawittbchc@hotmail.com

Hoof Print 2016 Deadlines

Advertising, announcements, pictures and other copy must be received by editor by the deadline listed below.

Deadline Publication

<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Publication</u>	<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Publication</u>
January 20	February/March	March 20	April/May
May 20	June/July	July 20	August/September
September 20	October/November	November 20	December/January

SJS Unit Fund Raisers For Sale

"There's a Mule Under My Saddle Cookbook" by Jean Brown of Idaho \$10.00

Hats \$15.00

Khaki with a maroon or forest green bill are embroidered with one horse, two mules and says
Backcountry Horsemen of California.

Scarf \$13.00

Scarves are a dark blue and are embroidered with one horse, two mules and says Backcountry Horsemen of California

Maroon Shirts \$37.00 (Extra Tall \$40.00). The shirts must be prepaid before the order. The logo on the left is BCHC with San Joaquin Sierra Unit under the BCHC. Names added for \$5.00 in a group.

Horse First Aid.....great, informative quick reference \$25.00

Contact: Pete Parkin 559-871-4500 ktzpaw@yahoo.com &/or look for items at our rides and meetings.

Spanish Trail Clearing by BCHC-SJSU Helps with Rough Fire Control Efforts

By Debbie McDougald

From July 28 to July 31, 2015 eight members of the **San Joaquin-Sierra Backcountry Horsemen** set out on a work party to clear the two mile long trail that runs between the **Rancheria Trail** and **Spanish Lake** in the **John Muir Wilderness of the Sierra National Forest**. This trail had not been cleared in a number of years and there were so many trees across it that in some areas it was difficult to even find the original trail.

The Forest Service manager for this part of the wilderness is **Micki Didier**. She and her crew, of one paid employee and two student interns, joined us on the project. When it was all done we had cut **64 trees** and **lopped over 1000 feet of trail** to make it once again passable for pack stock and hikers. Little did we know at that time that our efforts would contribute to helping to control the **Rough Fire** and keep it from spreading into the wilderness.

The **Rough Fire** started on July 31 with a lightning strike in a very rugged and remote part of the Kings River drainage. Several “**Hot Shot**” crews were approached about being deployed to control the fire in its early stages but all declined for very valid safety reasons. The fire quickly spread in all directions including north towards **Spanish Mountain and the John Muir Wilderness**.

In wilderness areas firefighters often use tactics called **MIST** (Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics) which enable wilderness values to remain intact when fighting fires. Some of these techniques include using pack stock instead of mechanized transport for supplies for crews inserted into the wilderness. Forest Service packers **Debbie McDougald** and **John Sprik** were called upon to supply up to 4 wildland modules that were camping in the wilderness. and preparing to set backfires which would move toward the head of the fire, burning out fuels to prevent the main body of the fire from getting into the drought stricken timbered areas.

Another **MIST** tactic is to use natural features or existing barriers to slow or control the advancing fire. Because of the efforts by **BCHC-SJSU** to re-establish a viable trail corridor to **Spanish Lake** it was decided to use this trail as part of a fire line for the back burn. Back burns are intentionally set to burn fuels between an established fire line and the head of a wildland fire. This technique worked well on this part of the **Rough Fire** as our trail clearing efforts not only gave the fire fighters a cleared area to set the back burn off of, but, it also made it possible for pack stock to get through to supply fuel , backpack pumps and water to various locations along the line.

Once the back burn started moving away from the trail towards the main fire the packers assisted in daily patrols to make sure no burning material came down across the trail which could have started a fire on the other side of the line. Overall this fire line was a major factor in preventing the **Rough Fire** from getting away and burning into the **John Muir Wilderness**.





Riddle Ranch and Election Ride

By Skyla Yates

The Election ride was interesting and a bit stressful. We arrived there around 10am then parked the rigs and unloaded the horses. With both of our family groups we brought a total of five horses, the **Van Sickles/Yates** brought three and the **Kaminskis/Traegers** brought two horses. We helped set up the site, talked for a while, and then headed out on the trail. The trail was very narrow, but quite enjoyable. There were multiple rocky spots in the beginning which lead us to dismounting our horses and making sure everything was clear, but once we got to a turn we saw a beautiful view of mountains, pastures, and grapevines. Shortly after the view we turned another corner and got very lost on the cow paths, We ended up being on the upper half of the mountain where there were many rocks and hills. We eventually made it back to the site, but it did take some time. When we got back we ate some very delicious lunch and dessert. The meeting started after lunch. In the meeting we talked about safety classes, chainsaw information, the FFA trail packing day, and much much more. As Soon as the elections were over our families went on a short road ride around the property, This ride was much more relaxed. By the time we got back we unsaddled and went home.



Election Results

2016 OFFICERS/DIRECTORS



President

Joe Kaminski, 559-733-9170 kaminskiclan@gmail.com

Vice President

Duane Peverill, 559-908-3138 wpeverill@sebastiancorp.net

Secretary

Fredi Chrisman, 559-876-2416

Treasurer

Pete Parkin 559-871-4500 ktzpaw@yahoo.com

Directors

Term Expires at end of year:



Carol Kaminski, 559-733-9170	kaminskiclan@gmail.com	2016
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Jan Mikkelson, 559-289-4911	jessecowboy@comcast.net	2016
Pat Peverill, 559-824-1119	ppeverill@sebastiancorp.net	2016
Ted Fischer, 559-855-8599	tjfischer3@gmail.com	2017
Cathy Walker, 559-283-1164	walker1486@comcast.net	2017
Carolyn Witt, 559-325-7876	cawittbchc@hotmail.com	2017
Randy Witt, 559-325-7876	rcca33085@hotmail.com	2017

SJSU HISTORIAN WANTED

We are looking for someone interested in taking a position of **HISTORIAN**. We have a lot of awards and pictures that we would like to share with our members. We need someone to gather these and place them in some kind of order for us. Please contact **Joe Kaminski, President, at 559-733-9170** if you can help us out.



Riddle Ranch Trail Trials

by Randy Witt



This year's trail trials at the **Riddle Ranch** was a great success. It was held on November 14th. The day offered stupendous weather, stunningly green hills, natural obstacles, and enthusiastic participants. Participants and helpers were rolling in before 8 AM and riders were in the saddle and on their way beginning at about 10 AM. As usual, good food was in abundance, including breakfast snacks and coffee, and a delicious full meal prepared by the **Kaminski crowd**.

Participant categories were "**green**", either horse or rider; "**amateur**", and "**open**", for more experienced riders. Participants included folks from as far away as San Diego County. The organizing committee included **Shelly Berry, Peggy Riddle, Cindy Mueller, and Kathy Walker**. No successful event ever occurs without plenty of behind the scenes help. Some of those helpers this event included **Jessica Pratt, Tiago Fischer, Bryant Barry, Gary VanSickle, Joe and Carol Kaminski, Freddy Chrisman, and Mike Fausone**. Other people from our unit as well as local professional trainers, retired judges active in AQHA competitions were kind enough to help out at each obstacle. All of the obstacles or tasks would be found in a natural setting on the trail or in work circumstances.



The Reservoir—Backup



Dismount & get some water



Wagon Wheel around Camp



Log or Brush Drag



Water Box



Sidepass



Walk Through the Rocks



Jog Through the Trees



Trailer Loading and Unloading



Crossing the Dead Bone Wash



Highline Tie—Hoof Check



Prize Pull

The winners of the different divisions were:

Green: 1st Katy Hammond, Tivy Valley 2nd Mark Lorenzen, Valley Center 3rd Debra Lorenzen, Valley Center

Amateur: 1st Jan Mikkelson, Fresno 2nd Sandy LaSpada, Coarsegold 3rd Skyler Vairn, Reedley

Open: 1st Dorraine Smith, Orosi 2nd Tracy Knepper, Fresno 3rd Dorraine Smith, Orosi

BCHC 2016 CALENDARS ARE ON SALE NOW

Now is a great time to get yourself a BCHC 2016, very lucky CALENDAR! If you would like to obtain or help sell these calendars, contact any Board Member or Officer listed in this newsletter. Great Christmas gift plus helping your unit!! Call Freddi Chrisman 559-876-2416

Attention

Your SJS Unit Board of Directors would like to invite any of our members to attend the monthly Board meetings or General meetings. It is important all directors have the same opportunity to hear the information, concerns or suggestions you wish to share. We are volunteers doing our best to keep our Unit informed and working smoothly. Refer to the newsletter for the information regarding times and location of upcoming meetings.

Respectfully,

John Mikkelson and Greg Caradonna

Past Presidents



www.bchcsjsu.org

Make sure you check out our website for updates on the Home page, Calendar page, and Newsletters. We also have a Photos page of our latest activities.

If you have any photos send them to Duane at wpeverill@sebastioncorp.net.

www.bchcsjsu.org



Advertising Rates

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All paid Ads include an E-mail Blast to all members with current emails



180 W. Bullard Ave.
Clovis, CA 93612

Your Full Service Realtor
Jessica Gabrielson
Realtor, GRI, SRES, SFR, ASP

559.905.7724
Office 559.321.6040
Fax 559.321.6044
jgabrielson@guarantee.com
DRE#01338726



"I don't horse around when it comes to selling your property"

"Travel Advantage"

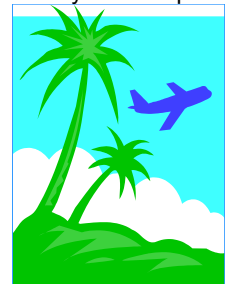
Dear BCHC Members

Check out the latest edition of "Travel Advantage", @ www.ytbtravel.com/bchc a travel newsletter full of terrific deals from YTB, our BCHC travel partner. The newsletter is chock full of great ideas for anyone's next getaway! You can download an icon to your computer desktop for instant connection to the BCHC Getaway website.

Please forward "Travel Advantage" newsletter to your friends and family and other BCHC supporters. The more we get the word out, the more people will use the BCHC Getaway travel site to take advantage of great rates on hotels, flights, rental cars and other travel-related items, the more BCHC will earn for our Treasury!!

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the travel site, how it works or what BCHC earns by participating in this great opportunity. Thank you for supporting and promoting BCHC Getaway!!

C.J. Hargreaves
BCHC Editor/Travel Site
Coordinator
cjohargreaves@verizon.net



BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA



SAN JOAQUIN SIERRA UNIT

Board Meeting Wednesday September 16 2015

Location: Elks Lodge, Clovis, California

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM

Roll taken: President: Joe Kaminski Vice President: Randy Witt Secretary: Patricia Peverill Treasurer: Peter Parkin

Director: Duane Peverill, Carol Kaminski, Debra McFarren,, Fredi Chrisman, Jim Knabke,

Education: Ted Fischer Shaver Lake: Absent Newsletter: Carolyn Witt

Adviser: Absent Guest: Gary VanSickle, Belinda Dominquez

Additions to Agenda: Trailer

Minutes Review and Approve. The September 2, 2015 minutes were reviewed and approved . Motion by Jim K Second by Pete P

Correspondence: None

Treasurer Report & Budget: YTD Income: \$4840.69 YTD Expense: \$5280.00 YTD Profit(loss): \$699.14

General Checking: 14408.42 **CD's & Savings:** 11,317.09 **Working on Audit**

Committee Reports:

Education: What did we learn from Poker Ride. Explain The masters Class and LNT. Wilderness Riders Class. BCHC is certified instructors for 5 years. Ted ask for our unit to fund part of his training. This was for just this time. Not a set item. Randy Motion to pay Half and Debra M. Second. Motioned passed.

Membership:

Newsletter. Articles Due September 20, 2015.

Public Land. Fire still burning. Still working on containment. Biggest fire in Calif.

Sunshine Corner: Gary and Elsa Williams. Belinda Dominquez.

Shaver Lake. Closing at end of October. Any member or Associate member can use camp. Going to get a copy of written agreement. What does insurance cover ? Need information on insurance. Insurance for Trail trial done.

Old Business

Calendars: Fredi Sold some at the Poker Ride. Ted wanted to know what can we do to sell more Calendars. Calendars will be at Election Meeting. Get members to buy. Have a BBQ. Expo in Chowchilla. Check at State Board Meeting about return of Calendars.

2. Elections: All Officers positions open. 4 director positions. Candidates so far.

President: Joe Kaminski VP- Duane Peverill Treasure: Pete Parkin

Directors: Jim Knabke, Carolyn W, Cathy W, Randy W, Ted Fischer, Belinda Dominquez

Carol ask that Fredi to be nominated for Secretary. Randy will run meeting.

What will be status of Cook Trailer. Who will get Elections is Potluck. Brings salads and deserts.

3. Poker Ride Feed Back.

All positive comments. Smoke hurt us. Everyone enjoyed. Always need to have a committee and have meetings. Better placement of flyers. Go through Rich on Poker Ride. All need insurance. Get paper work from Debbie. Poker Ride was success.

4. Trail Trial. Nov 14 Budget \$1035.00 Judges in Line. Hotel setup for overnight stays. Central Valley Saddle Club possible stable for horses and camping . Possible Buckle. Short Judges. How will they let board know what is happening. Do need a lot of help. Peggy is spearheading.

5. Christmas Party. December 12, 2015 Joe and Carol in charge. JC doing candies. Cathy W doing center pieces. Budget same as last year. Food same as last year. MC confirmed. \$100.00

6. Tool Shed ready fo inventory. Peverill's, Parkin, Fischer. Sept 23 0900.

New Business:

1. RAC Need someone to get on committee. Makes decision on how to spend the grant money.

2. Trailer. Put new regulator on trailer and new hose. We need First Aid Kit and Fire Extinguisher. Also need to get a Spare tire. Floor is in need of repair. Will work on it after trail trials.

Audit. Two Volunteers to do audit at election meeting. Ted and Carolyn

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM . Motioned Duane P Second Randy W

BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA



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Education: Ted Fischer

Shaver Lake: Absent

Newsletter: Carolyn Witt

Adviser: Absent Guest: Gary VanSickle, Belinda Dominguez

Additions to Agenda: Trailer

Opening Comments: None

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Correspondence: None

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San Joaquin Sierra Unit

P.O. Box 25693

Fresno, CA 93729-5693



Objectives & Purpose of the Backcountry Horseman of California

From the BCHC Bylaws

- To improve and promote the use, care and development of California backcountry trails, campsites, streams and meadows; to advocate good trail manners.
- To promote the conservation and utilization of our backcountry resources in concert with livestock transportation.
- To keep the backcountry trails and forage areas open to horseman on all public lands.
- To keep current information before the Corporation membership and its local Units regarding new legislation or management plans related to government regulations of the backcountry.
- To support or oppose new proposals, plans and restrictions as related to the interest of horsemen and those persons interested in recreational stock use and enjoying the backcountry.
- To promote the interest of people who, due to health or physical factors, need transportation other than by foot on backcountry trails.
- To promote public awareness and interest in the historical aspect of horsemen and stock in the backcountry and to help educate backcountry users on the ways to use the trail and foraged in a manner that conserves the backcountry resources.
- To assist in keeping the public informed of the vital need for a clean backcountry.
- To promote a working relationship with and keep the work and interests of the Corporation before our local, state and federal officials.
- To assist in the formation and continuation of local Units to carry out these purposes.