

Back Country Horsemen of Washington Tailgate Safety Briefing General Requirements

1. Need:

- a. In order for Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) to be in compliance with the United States Forest Service (USFS) Health and Safety Code Handbook (FSH 6709.11) section 16.3 a Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) must be undertaken to identify aspects of a specific trail project that are potentially hazardous.
- b. In accordance with USFS policy within the Volunteers in the National Forests Act of 1972, individual volunteers will be considered federal employees for the purpose of worker's compensation and tort. BCHW does not provide worker's compensation and tort coverage.

2. Purpose:

- a. If the land manager does not review a JHA or conduct a safety meeting, BCHW must conduct a Tailgate Safety Briefing before the BCHW work party.
- b. BCHW work party volunteers in service on behalf of other land management agencies that do not have tailgate safety meeting requirements should also adhere to USFS Health and Safety Code Handbook provisions.

3. Implementation:

- a. The Crew Leader(s) will acquaint themselves with the JHA that applies to the tasks of the work party project.
- b. This work can be hard. Pace yourselves accordingly. It is OK to take breaks or to leave the work party early if needed.
- c. The Crew Leader(s) must record any work party member's health/injury incidence that occurred during the work party and subsequently required professional medical assistance. The crew work leader shall report in writing the incident to the BCHW President, Safety Officer and saw program administrator if appropriate, using the applicable forms.
- d. These forms may be substituted as per each chapter needs. Some chapters do not work on Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grants.
- e. When filling in these forms, use the codes for work description, agency codes and chapter designations that follow. The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) signature sheet could also be used as the BCHW signature sheet if that sheet is used.