



Get to Know Mitzi Schindele (BCHW Legislative Chair)

I was born and raised, and reside again in Grays Harbor County, WA. My family has always been a part of the timber community and I have been working in the timber industry for the last 15 years.

Growing up my exposure to horses was mainly through friends and relatives, although for a short time I did own a palomino named SMOKEY in my teens. Later, I again became a horse owner in my 30's. I have ridden the JOHN WAYNE TRAIL from Hyak to Smyrna (and on my way to the Idaho border) where I fell and broke my arm. I returned the following year to ride a shorter section near Cle Elum to Hyak.

I have two daughters that are horse owners. One manages the maternity ward at a dairy in Prosser and the other is a farrier in Grays Harbor County. My son does not ride horses but his wife does. I have my eye on a mule and plan to get to know Dolly this Winter.

I have been an active advocate for recreational public access since 2017 in a local nonprofit. The BCHW has supported our group's efforts. Working with BCHW has expanded my knowledge of the mission and work they do. The transition to representing BCHW as Legislative advocate was an easy choice. Learning my role and how best to serve the organization is a challenge I embrace. The great volunteers and folks that make this organization's wheels turn are amazing!

I invite anyone interested in preserving trails and trail access on public or private land to join the Back Country Horsemen. There are volunteer opportunities for all skill and ability levels. Come join us and see what we are all about – you do not even need a horse.

Feel free to contact me by emailing legislative@bchw.org