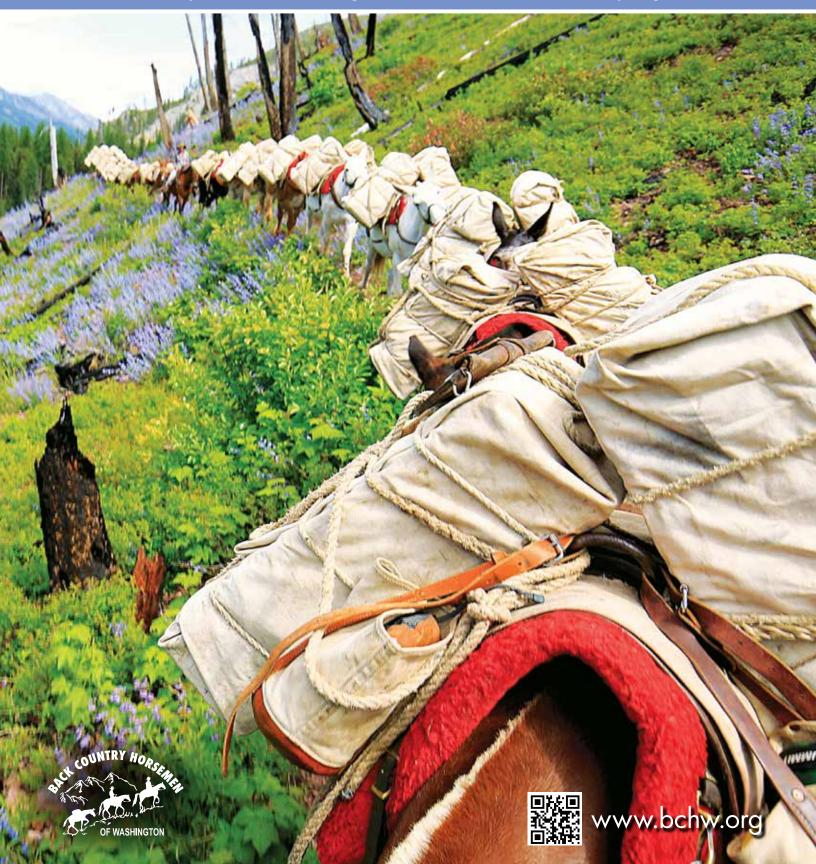
# Trailhead Vol. 44 Issue 4 Trailhead Vol. 44 Issue 4 Back Country Horsemen of Washington July/August 2019



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Cover Photo: Spotted Bear Ranger District Packstring in Northwest Montana. Photo by Michael Reavis.

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Heather Moorman	PSR
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Teunis & Pat Wyers	MTA
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Dave & Gail Sunde	FER
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Rick ZeleznikTAH

Dave & Gail Sunde ......FER

Sherry Dahlquist......TDA

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Donate in memory of a friend, family, or loved one. To make a donation in their name to BCHW, please contact Teri Starke, BCHW Treasurer, at: 253.709.5052 or tstrk21@msn.com.

#### Tax Deduction

informed membership dues, paid at the state as well as the chapter level, are tax deductible for the calendar year and subsequent years. Deduct your dues as a charitable contribution under authority of IRC Section 170 (assuming the person paying the membership dues itemizes their deductions when computing their federal net taxable income) or as a business deduction under authority of IRC Section 162 (assuming the person paying the membership dues has a "trade or business" and the payment of the membership dues is directly related to this "trade or business"). When making a donation, ask for a receipt.

Your volunteer mileage is also deductible. Make copies of your volunteer hours logs with

mileage for your taxes.

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## It's Time to Begin Thinking About Our BCHW Officer Nominations for 2020

By Kathy Young, BCHW President

t's a terrific spot to be in, President. I have relished the role. I have enjoyed the time of my presidency immensely and will continue to do so through the end of this year, but I'm ready to hand the reins over to a new President for 2020. So, it's time to begin thinking about our BCHW officer nominations for 2020.

All members in good standing are eligible to serve as President, and as Vice President. The BCHW Bylaws provide detail of the officer election process. In addition to those 2 positions, we will need to elect a new BCHA Director in position #1, the position that is currently held by Darrell Wallace. BCHA Directors also serve a two-year term. Jason Ridlon will remain in place as BCHA Director #2 position for another year. Bill McKenna is currently serving as our BCHA Alternate Director and would be eligible to be elected to BCHA Director Position #1, should he accept the nomination.

Changes to the Safety Committee: Many thanks are owed to Doc Wesselius, as he steps away from the position of Safety Committee Chairman. Doc has been the brains and the brawn behind the Safety Committee, making certain that we are doing our best work in the best manner. Doc will be replaced by Chuck Regimbal, from the Olympic Chapter. Chuck will be working closely with Doc to transition into his role, and to keep BCHW in the best position that we can be as it relates to safety policies and procedures.

I have the opportunity to head to Washington D.C. on June 4. I was invited to join Andrea Imler, Legislative Advocate at the Washington Trails Association, and Yvonne Krauss, Evergreen Mountain Bike Association Executive Director, to spend a couple of days in D.C. to meet with our Washington senators

and representatives or with their staff. We will also have an appointment with the USFS Recreation staff. We plan to discuss our organizations' concerns regarding trail issues and agency funding. We hope that together we will show that, despite differing ways of accessing our public lands, we can work together to advocate for appropriate funding to support and maintain our recreation resources, our trails. D.C. is a new destination for me, so I am really looking forward to it.

Thanks to all of the Chapters and members who participated in National Trails Day on June 1. I saw some pictures of some pretty incredible projects. BCHW members are amazing, talented and hardworking. Keep up the great work!

PHOTO BY LINDA MCASKILL



Kathy Young at Tahoma Chapter's National Trails Day work party weekend doing maintenance on the Pratt Lake Connector Trail.

#### **BCHW Mission Statement**

BCHW is affiliated with Back Country Horsemen of America (hereinafter "BCHA") and therefore adopts the BCHA mission statement as follows: The mission of this organization shall be:

- To perpetuate the common-sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness.
- To work to insure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use.
- To assist the various governmental and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.
- To educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage.
- To foster and encourage the formation of new chapters in the state organization.



## BCHA National Board Meeting – April 8,9,10 – Asheville North Carolina



Our camp in North Carolina

By Kathy Young, BCHW President

n April I traveled with BCHA Vice Chairman Darrell Wallace, BCHA Director Jason Ridlon, and BCHA Alternate Director Bill McKenna to the National Board Meeting in Asheville, NC. Our Washington representation was filled out with the arrival of Mike McGlenn, past BCHA Chairman and current BCHA Executive Committee member. It was really fun to arrive in NC and meet our hosts for the week, Deirdre Perot and David Michael, who many of you will remember from our "work party exchange program" at the Black Pine SWWP last summer. Deirdre, David and the entire BCH-NC organization were fabulous hosts for this event.

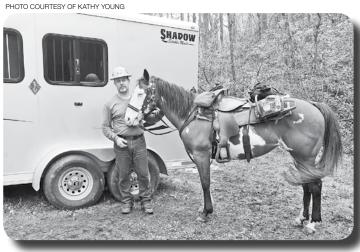
The BCHA meetings were attended by state directors representing 24 of the 31 BCHA states, and the agenda for the three-day conference included business and committee meetings, a Public Lands Day, officer elections, and ended with a banquet and auction.

#### Highlights of the meeting were as follows.

- Darrell Wallace was elected to be the BCHA Chairman. Another bright spot, several members that do not have gray hair have been elected to the board or have stepped up to lead committees.
- The joint BCHW/ BCHO "Resolution Concerning the Use of MRA in the Wilderness" was adopted by BCHA. This resolution will be taken directly to FS Chief Vicki Christiansen. With the adoption of this resolution, BCHA asks

- the FS to implement their own policy and procedure to use all tools at their disposal to reduce the trails maintenance backlog.
- The Legacy Fund was unveiled, with its initial founding memberships. The fund has been established to build an investment to secure BCHA's ability "to keep trails open for future generations." This investment will eventually become an endowment. BCHW was able to boost the fund

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Jason Ridlon

#### **BCHA** National Board Meeting

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up and over the initial \$50,000 mark with a contribution on behalf of past BCHA Chairman Jim Murphy. Jim will receive a Legacy Founders lapel pin from BCHA, thanks to the goodwill and generosity of the members of Back Country Horsemen of Washington and Jim's own Olympic Chapter.

- After the NB meeting, we were treated to a guided tour of the "Cradle of Forestry in America" by BCH-NC member Tom Thomas. The "Cradle of Forestry in America" is a national forest park and interpretive center located in the Pisgah National Forest in western NC. There we learned some of the history of the first forestry school that was established in the United States, the brainchild of George W. Vanderbilt. Prior to the establishment of this school, America's professional foresters were all educated in Europe. The need for this school was in response to depleting timber supplies and erosion caused by massive timber harvesting in America. With the support of Teddy Roosevelt, Gifford Pinochet, and others, George Vanderbilt looked to Europe and hired Carl Schenck to establish and operate the school that changed forever the way timber was harvested and forests managed in America.
- The BCHW Hard Hat was once again returned to the auction block and raised \$1500 for the Education Committee.
   The hat travels to South Dakota this year, and South Dakota will continue the interstate work exchange by traveling to Montana to do a joint work party with BCHM.
- Public Lands Day featured a number of important topics. After opening remarks from Chairman Freddy Dunn, we listened to several speakers on topics ranging from the "Implementation of the 2016 Trails Stewardship Act" to "Forest Planning; Why Public Participation is Critical." Christine Hoyer, Volunteer Coordinator at Great Smokey Mountains National Park, spoke about the partnership with volunteers and the 1-month window that the park has implemented annually to get in and clear virtually all of the trails in the park using volunteers and mechanized tools.
- AND, maybe the best part, Darrell, Jason, Bill, and I ended our trip with a work party on trails in the Pisgah National Forest. We worked with a wonderful group of BHC-NC members and saw some really beautiful country thanks to our NC hosts. We owe many thanks to North Carolina BCH for their partnership and generosity.

#### Forgotten Horse Ranch on San Juan Island

One of a kind horse ranch on an island with private gate to 24 miles of trails. 41.5 serene acres zoned for ag and 4 separate parcels, log cabin style home with garage and workshop, currently 10 horses boarded, outdoor paddocks, tack room, pond, and arena.





Please call with any questions: Gina Borges, Broker Windemere SJI 360-622-5693 sanjuanislandproperties.com Trail Work

July/August 2019

## Mount St. Helens Chapter Regional Work Party at Kalama Horse Camp

By Jim Anderson, BCHW Mount St. Helens, Chapter Director

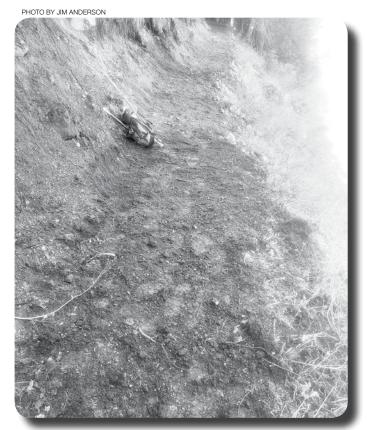
rom May 22nd to May 25th, the Mount St. Helens Chapter held its first of a kind, four-day regional work party at Kalama Horse Camp. We felt the need to do this to try and bring the Fossil Trail back from being unsafe and to bring it up to speed to match the bridge on it that was built last fall.

The idea was conceived by Barbara Thomas, Nancy Rust, Terri Anderson, Clair Fisher, and myself after the bridge was built and we wanted the trail to be as good as the bridge. It seemed simple enough. Follow the idea of the State-Wide Work Party and everything would work out. (see Barb's article about organizing one of these elsewhere.) I was skeptical, to say the least, but things started to happen by inviting Washington Trails Association to participate. They whole-heartedly agreed to help out. Then I sent out an invite to all of BCHW. I was amazed at the immediate response we received from all over the state. Of course, we had to have the blessing of the

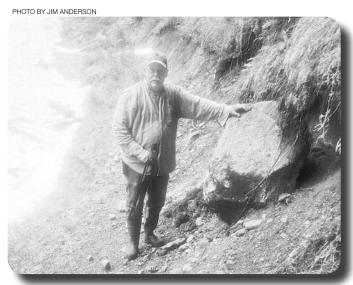
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Mark Reis widening the Fossil Trail



Finished section of the Fossil Trail.



Glenn Hallberg inspecting the Fossil Trail

July/August 2019 Trail Work

#### Mount St. Helens Chapter Regional Work Party at Kalama Horse Camp

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Forest Service, which we got without a problem. They even came to our first camp clean up and fell many hazard trees.

We promised dinner for everyone, so cooks were lined up and menus made. Washington Trail Riders Association donated \$300, a donation was garnered by Clair Fisher for \$250, and Mount St. Helens brought the total up to \$1,000 for the food and supplies. The cooks did an amazing job and all bellies were happy every night.

Between BCHW, WTA, and WTRA we had 30 to 35 volunteers on the trail each day. The Fossil Trail is 7.5 miles long and was worked on from end to end. The work consisted of brushing and logging out, widening the tread and cleaning out old water bars, and building new water drainage features. All that is left is the last approach for the bridge, which will happen this summer.

This may become an annual event for us in order to keep the trails in the Kalama H.C. in top shape to go with the beautiful scenery that the area is noted for.

PHOTO BY JIM ANDERSON



Mark Reis and Peter Mahrt removing a large root.

### Nine BCHW Members Awarded LNT Certificates

By Jane Byram, Leave No Trace Education

ine BCHW members traveled to Indian Camp in the Teanaway to attend our 3-day Train the Trainer Class on May 2-5. This class is designed to help Leave No Trace advocates learn more about Leave No Trace Ethics and how to present the 7 Principles to other outdoor users. Those attending were: Cathy Dye, Pierce Co. Chapter; Faye Bradford, Yakima, and Wenas Chapters; Hope Rausch, Traildusters Chapter; Joe Barcomb, Nisqually Chapter; Laura Lluellyn McDaniel, Wenas Chapter; Marty Bjornstad, Tahoma chapter; Jeff and Penny Doane, Olympus Chapter; Scott Lee from Traildusters Chapter. We thank the BCHW Chapters that financed these members to attend the education weekend.

Louise Caywood, Jerry Parsons, and Cheryl Clark performed cooking and other instructional duties over the three days. Members were due into camp Thursday to set up their camps and help set up the classroom tent, the cook tent, tables, and chairs. Cathy Dye (Pierce Co Chapter) rewrote and published a Leave No Trace binder full of information to help each Train the Trainer. If you see any of these new Trainers ask to see the LNT Book they received. It is truly remarkable and a treasure to keep forever.

In addition to a lot of discussion on a variety of subjects, each class member gave a presentation to the rest of the class on a subject that was assigned to them. The purpose of this was simply to give them exposure to standing up in front of people and talking about LNT. All did a great job at their presentations.

Each Trainer's name has been submitted to LNT.org and will receive their official certification via email in the near future. Louise, Jerry, Cheryl, and I look forward to working with these new Trainers as the BCHW's LNT Program moves forward.

## National Trails Day Work Party: May 31, 2019 and June 1st, 2019

By Linda McAskill, Tahoma Chapter BCHW

ahoma chapter members received RTP Grant money and purchased gravel and supplies to improve and add gravel under high lines poles, which were donated by Tahoma chapter. Volunteer Don Boltz brought his tractor and graded, spread gravel.

Greg Dielman and 14 Tahoma chapter volunteers packed gravel, cleared connector trail, repaired tread, and rebuilt staircase tread for stock. Fabulous potluck Friday night.

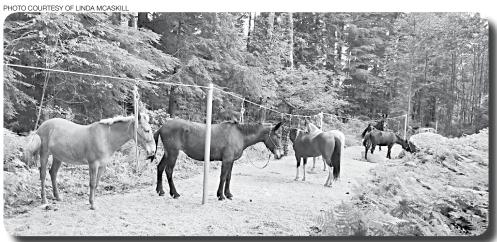


stock carrying rock up staircase.



Packing in side rails





New gravel high line.

July/August 2019 Trail Work

## Burnt Trails and Two Horse Camps – Notes from the Methow, Spring 2019



East of Scaffold Creek looking West.

By Jan Ford, BCHW Methow Valley Chapter

pring in the Methow is a season of wildflowers and green landscapes, a time for trail users to enjoy the scenery and comfortable temperatures. In 2019, this is still the case in many places – but not everywhere. The huge wildfires of 2018 have taken their toll.

The Crescent Mountain fire started in late July and devastated the forest in the Twisp River watershed, damaging all but one of the trails. On the other side of the Methow Valley, the McLeod fire damaged trails to the north. Suppression damage was extensive in both areas and much work has been done to alleviate this.

MVBCH is co-operating with the Forest Service, Methow Trails Collaborative, BCHW and Washington Trails Association (WTA) to restore trails. There is funding for trail recovery and help from agencies such as Americorp and NW Youth Corp in 2019, which may not be available next year.

MVBCH started trail work on May 3 as the snow receded. The initial aim is to clear trails outside the wilderness and give incoming trail crews, working with hand saws, access to the wilderness areas where chainsaw use is not permitted. Crews can also concentrate on essential tread improvement. This preliminary work is urgent because visiting crews are already arriving. On May 31, a trail crew of eight from Ameri-

corp replaced a culvert and worked on tread on 2 miles of the severely burned east end of Twisp River Trail. WTA comes to Twisp River, as usual, for the first week of June and will give priority to the three trails nearest to the Twisp River Horse Camp (TRHC); MVBCH members have cut these out to the wilderness in anticipation of WTA's arrival.

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East of Scaffold Creek looking East. Bill Ford pictured.

Trail Work

July/August 2019

#### Burnt Trails and Two Horse Camps – Notes from the Methow, Spring 2019

continued from page 9

Where trails are severely burned, clearing is slow and very dirty. It has taken 12 to 26 volunteer hours to clear a mile of trail for access. In May alone, MVBCH has invested 235 hours in four trails in Twisp River. Damaged tread is a major problem, burned bridges need repair or replacement, and hazard trees still remain, although many have been cut down. Fortunately, there are portions of trail with less damage.

The 30-year old Twisp River Horse Camp suffered some damage from the Crescent Mountain fire, but all but one of the campsites are intact with highline, wooden feeders, picnic tables, and fire rings. Most hazard trees have been cut down and need to be bucked. We will have a work party in early June at the Horse Camp to give it a grand cleanup and hope to have it in use this summer.

The North Summit Horse Camp, (NSHC) in contrast, was completely unaffected by last year's fires and is in the last stages of Phase 1 construction. These have to be completed and approved by the Forest Service before the campground can be opened for use.

Most of the work to be done can be completed relatively quickly, but the concrete fire ring bases needed to make them American Disability Act (ADA) compliant will need at least two weeks to cure before they can be removed from the forms and placed in position. The site of the Forest Service campground sign outside the gates needs to be determined by the Forest Service before we can construct the base for the sign. In addition, the necessity to concentrate on trails in early June means that it may be early summer, rather than late spring, before NSHC is approved for opening. That will be a great day.

We thank all the individuals (mainly, but not all, MVBCH members), the BCHW chapters, and the McLaughlin Foundation who contributed funding to help make NSHC happen. The most recent donation has been the proceeds of the Joe Watt Canyon Ride held on May 18th. These amount to about \$5,000. A very big THANK YOU to Jason Ridlon and his committee, officers of BCHW, and the numerous helpers who made the Joe Watt Ride a success and gave such a boost to funding for the NSHC. Also, thanks to Jason Ridlon, the Methow Valley Ranger District was recently added to the list of approved sites for RTP grant 16-2675 and we will be able to give incentives to our trail work volunteers, like mileage reimbursement and food.



Bill Ford cutting charred logs across Twisp River Trail just west of Eagle Creek.

#### Winery Ride Anyone?

Back Country Horsemen of Washington invites you to attend the 18th Annual Winery and Halloween Costume Prize Ride in Zillah, WA on Saturday, October 26, 2019

> For more information visit www.bchw.org/2019WineryRide

Email us at bchwwineryride@gmail.com

Registration Forms now available on our website!

Proceeds go to protect and maintain back country and front country riding trails

Camping available for \$15 per night, Fri & Sat Catered dinner available Sat

We hope to see you there!

#### Rich Ruhl: Trail Warrior of 2018 From **Skagit Chapter**



Rich Ruhl at tailgate meeting

By Marilyn Pineda, Skagit Chapter

▶ kagit Chapter has a seasoned and winning Trail Warrior in the midst of its membership! Rich Ruhl was recognized by the Back Country Horsemen of Washington for his many valiant volunteer deeds and honored with a Trail Warrior Award for 2018 at the BCHW Rendezvous this last March.

Rich is the man in Skagit Chapter who collects input on trail conditions as they are found by the Chapter trail bosses; regularly hikes out to certain areas of those trails to check on logistics of potential projects; meets with the local DNR official on a frequent basis to organize our collaborated work parties; helps in recruiting volunteers from other community organizations to help with trail work; rigorously applies his own elbow grease to the projects he has orchestrated; ensures that safety protocols are followed by all volunteers; manages grant applications and related paperwork to bring in money for more tools to do more trail work; and entrain and cross train with Rich to help take on some of the load he has been carrying for the past many years, and it is obvious it is going to take some doing to catch up to him! We're learning that it will likely require at least a couple people to carry the banner for everything that he does. Skagit genuinely appreciates this great Trail Warrior and the bold knightly footprints he gives us to follow as we wander into the woods to do all of our good trail work deeds!

Several members of Skagit Chapter are making an effort to

courages and inspires everyone around him, young and old!

The lessons and tales of Rich Ruhl the Trail Warrior of 2018 from Skagit Chapter are sure to be told to our young ones! By his lead, our young people will come to know that they, too, can grow to become Trail Warriors on behalf of our beloved recreational lands!



Rich Ruhl sawing a log on the trail.



2018 Rich Ruhl with crew from Naval Air Station Whidbey Island.

#### When the Phone Says "No Service"

By Robert Eversole, The Trailmeister

hen you're out in the wild and need to call for help, don't be surprised if your cellphone reads "No Service."

Losing your cell signal while outdoors can be annoying — but, if you're out riding or camping, your cellphone signal can mean the difference between life and death. Injuries, being lost, and any other number of hazards can mean we need to call for help — but if there's no signal to carry your message, then what do you do?

Unlike the phone you use every day, GPS communicators don't need a cell signal to work. Instead, they use the network of satellites constantly orbiting overhead. Not only can they be used to track your position, but they can also be used to send and receive packages of data. We're talking around 140 characters, like in the early days of text messaging. That may not sound like much, but it's enough to tell your loved ones where you are (or that you're delayed), receive medical advice, and even download an up-to-date weather report. They can also contact search and rescue virtually anywhere in the world if the sh@t really hits the fan.

I tested the three most promising satellite messengers from SatPaq, SPOT, and Garmin. I won't sugarcoat it: none of these tools are perfect. That being said, all of them could save your life when the trail gets rocky.

Each of these devices has a number of basic functions in common. When activated, all of them let you do the following in areas without cellphone reception:

- In case of a non-life-threatening emergency, alert your personal contacts that you need help
- In case of a life-threatening emergency, activate an SOS button that directly notifies emergency responders of your distress signal, as well as your GPS coordinates
- Send text-based messages to your personal contacts
- Create shareable online maps of your adventure so others can follow along in (near) real-time
- Track your journey

#### SatPaq

A clip-on antenna that turns your smartphone into a satellite communicator.

- PRO: Inexpensive to purchase and to use. Takes advantage to the phone that's already in your pocket.
- CON: Needs your cell phone
- PRICE: \$250
- COST OF OWNERSHIP: .29 to .40 per message

NIFTY FACT: The SatPaq communicates through Geostationary (GEO) satellites when there is no cell or WiFi coverage. GEO satellites don't move relative to your position on earth so they're always in view and your communications can happen right away.



Horse and mule riders like to get off the beaten path – We long for the backwoods and backcountry refuges of isolation where (hopefully) you won't see people for days. The problem is when you're this far in the backcountry, you're also well out of cell coverage, which can make a bad situation much worse if there's ever a serious injury or illness. You won't have to worry about that potential worst-case scenario if you're carrying a SatPaq.

The SatPaq from Higher Ground is a lightweight device that easily clips to your smartphone and connects wirelessly using Bluetooth to communicate through satellites when there is no cell coverage. SatPaq's SpaceLinq free app allows you to send and receive messages, get instant weather forecasts, share your location, and get help in emergencies – all without having to pay monthly service fees.

SatPaq also features an Artificial Intelligence medical service to answer first aid questions and an SOS service for emergencies. It's iPhone and Android compatible and can hold a charge for 4-5 months in storage. SatPaq is also only 4 ounces — that's less than my iPhone!

SatPaq eliminates the monthly fees associated with other satellite messengers through the purchase of message credits called MessagePaqs that allow you to use the service whenever you need. These message credits holdover until you use them.

If you spend time exploring away from cell phone coverage, the SatPaq is a very attractive piece of gear!

#### SPOT X

A rugged communications device that will send texts independently, without a linked smartphone.

- PRO: QWERTY keyboard and a built-in digital compass
- CON: Keyboard has tiny hard to use buttons. Cannot pair with a phone. Does not support maps
- PRICE: \$250
- COST OF OWNERSHIP: \$164 \$380 per year

#### When the Phone Says "No Service"

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NIFTY FACT: The SPOT X is the company's first device with two-way satellite messaging.



The SPOT X is a stand-alone, two-way satellite messaging device. The other devices we tested allow for two-way, customized messaging, but they require a smartphone for easy typing. The SPOT's built-in QWERTY keyboard makes it stand out. You compromise nothing by using the X on its own. In fact, you couldn't link it with your smartphone even if you wanted to.

The Spot X can send and receive text messages and short emails. This makes it fundamentally different than SPOTS' other devices such as the Gen3, which can only send messages. Messages can be predefined, custom, or even posted to social media to keep all of your peeps in the know. Each Spot X unit is assigned a personal U.S. mobile number, which makes sending messages to the device easy. The process of sending messages to the other devices we tested is less straightforward.

The Battery life of the SPOT X far surpasses that of the Garmin InReach; going twice as long (10 days) before a recharge is required.

Along with sending and receiving messages, the SPOT X can also track your location at regular intervals; send SOS messages directly to the GEOS International Emergency Response Coordination Center; and function as a rudimentary navigation device with a built-in compass and the ability to set waypoints.

The SPOT X is a solid backcountry communications option, so long as you can accept the keyboard and lack of mapping capabilities.

#### Garmin inReach

SMS devices allow users to communicate via text message to friends, family, and rescue operators at a fraction of the price of regular satellite phones. These tools also allow for continuous tracking so that contacts back home can follow along with your journey.

- PRO: Reliable, Rugged, Accurate, Preloaded topographic
- CON: Unit is bulky, heavy, expensive
- PRICE:\$300 \$450
- COST OF OWNERSHIP:\$180 to \$1,200 per year



continued on page 14



Be sure to shop at **Amazon Smile with Back Country Horsemen** of Washington as your charity of choice!

#### When the Phone Says "No Service"

continued from page 13

NIFTY FACT: There are two flavors of Garmin in-Reach: the Explorer+ and the SE+. The Explorer adds topo maps, a built-in digital compass, barometric altimeter, and accelerometer.

The Garmin inReach Explorer+ is a significant investment: it's \$450 for the device; service plans and insurance coverage add more to the cost. But what's the price of safety and peace of mind? If I got into trouble, the inReach can help me get out. And for friends and loves ones, the ability to communicate with me while I'm in the backcountry is invaluable.

Rugged and ready, InReach devices use the Iridium satellite network of 66 low orbit satellites offering 100% coverage worldwide to help ensure your messages are received.

Both versions of the inReach excel at messaging, as long as you set your expectations appropriately. Satellite communications, no matter the network or the technology employed, have



inherent limitations. Sometimes you'll have to wait a few minutes for satellites to pass overhead and send and receive the messages.

The simplest way to send messages with the inReach is through the Garmin EarthMate smartphone app. On the app, it's easy to add your contacts and then send and receive a big batch of messages. Preprogrammed messages make it much easier to send quick updates, so you don't have to type the same message multiple times. Without the phone app composing messages is a painfully slow process of ticking off characters on the inReach keypad.

#### The Bottom Line: Which Satellite Messenger Should I Pick?

Your answer will depend on your unique needs. Here are the main questions that I consider before choosing a device.

- What are your biggest priorities? Easy, quick messaging? Battery life? Cost savings? Compact size and weight? Navigational tools?
- Do you plan to also carry a smartphone and use it in conjunction with your satellite messenger, or do you want a standalone device?

Beyond the classic 10 essentials, modern SOS devices provide a greater increase in your overall outdoor safety than most other gear available. They offer peace of mind to your loved ones and two-way communication with search and rescue teams and medical professionals. Simply put, you should buy one, learn to use it and show your riding partners how to use as well, and bring it with you on every wilderness adventure.

Try each of the devices during TrailMeister trail riding and horse camping clinics. Clinic attendees have the opportunity to use and test live satellite messenger devices during my clinics. Check the schedule here - https://www.trailmeister.com/speaking/.

#### Content Deadline for the September/ October 2019 Newsletter is August 1st

Cover Photos can be sent anytime, 8x10 Vertical orientation is best (300 dpi).

You can send articles, photos and calendar of events early!



Please email your articles (700 word maximum) and 3 or 4 photos with caption and photo byline to thn@bchw.org as soon as possible.

July/August 2019 RTP Grants



#### RTP Grants at Work for BCHW

By Nicole Sedgwick, BCHW Executive Director

am excited to announce that all four of the RTP grants that BCHW applied for will be awarded on June 28th, 2019, when the RCO board approves the recommendations of their staff. RCO is a Washington State Agency that oversees grants offered from the Federal government. With this grant, we will be able to accomplish so much work!

Jason Ridlon works on "Special Projects" every year. The "Special Projects" include the State Wide Work Parties and the "Hot Shot Crew" work parties. With both of these projects, Jason takes BCHW members to places that have not seen maintenance in years, mainly because we do not have a chapter nearby to maintain it or a fire has ripped through and we need a large group to come in and help. The grant that BCHW will be awarded will help support these special projects.

Another grant will support Grays Harbor Chapter sprucing up a couple of trailheads and repairing and maintaining 46 miles of trail in the area of West Forks Humptulips. This grant will also support Mt. Olympus Chapter to finish the reroute of the Bogachiel Trail and maintain the Mt. Mueller and Bogachiel trails.

Peninsula Chapter will also be able to maintain 340 miles of trail across the North Olympic Land Trust, DNR, WSP, USFS, and Olympic National Park lands and the Olympic Discovery Trail.

All the other chapters that applied for a RTP grant will be on another grant. This will include Buckhorn Chapter redecking the Pine City trestle bridge on the Palouse to Cascades Trail, Lewis County Chapter maintaining 104 miles of the Cowlitz Ranger District trails, Northeast Chapter maintaining 40 miles of the Newport Ranger District and all of the horse trails and campground in the Pend Oreille County Park.

BCHW also applied for an education RTP grant for the BCHW Leave No Trace program. This minimal impact education grant will allow us to update some of our materials and supplies to keep the program going. This grant has been awarded from June 1, 2019, to September 30, 2019. If your chapter does any LNT education during this time, please be sure to send your volunteer sheets to me so that I can use them for match on this grant.

I am so proud of our chapters and all the hard work everyone does. We are going to get so much work done with the great support these grants offer!

#### NEW\_RATES!

#### Donate Money to BCHW by Buying an Ad in The Trailhead News

#### BCHW The Trailhead News Ad Insertion Rates (Design Extra Cost) Email Ads to: bchw@wamedia.com

Ad Deadline Dates and Payment Due	Publish Date of Newsletter	Ad Size	Ad Dimensions	Ad Cost 1x Insertion
(or first business day after this date)		Back Cover 3/4 page	8" H x 8" W	\$331.00
December 1	Jan/Feb	Inside Front Cover	10" H x 7 1/2" W	\$496.00
January 18	•	Inside Back Cover	10" H x 7 1/2" W	\$496.00
April 1	May/June	Full Page	10" H x 7 1/2" W	\$496.00
June 1	, ,	3/4 Page	6 1/4" H x 7 1/2" W	\$331.00
August 1	•	Half Page (Horizontal)	4 3/4" H x 7 1/2" W	\$248.00
October 1	Nov/Dec	Half Page (Vertical)	10" H x 3 5/8" W	\$248.00
must make professional aublishing	standards. Ada must be bish	Third Page	3 1/2" H x 7 1/2" W	\$166.00
must meet professional publishing Dution (300 dpi) PDFs or JPGs, Modi			4 3/4" H x 3 5/8" W	\$124.00

Ads must meet professional publishing standards. Ads must be high resolution (300 dpi) PDFs or JPGs. Modifications are billable for design at \$80.00 per hour, \$40.00 minimum charge, billed to the advertiser. All ads subject to approval by BCHW.

\$225.00 per issue & per spot color ad \$600.00 per issue for full color ads

Make payment payable to:

Back Country Horsemen of Washington

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Send check along with ad to:

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please contact:
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bchw@wamedia.com • visit: www.bchw.org

Any advertising questions

**Conditions**: Washington Media Services, Inc. and the Back Country Horsemen of Washington The Trailhead News magazine assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors or omissions. The advertiser assumes liability for the content of the advertisement and any claims that may arise there from against the publisher.

2" H x 3 5/8" W

\$62.00

#### **Sharing Our Mission Statement**

By Nicole Sedgwick, BCHW Executive Director

s I was visiting the chapters over the last couple of years, there is one thing that has stood out to me as having a big impact on the chapter. They begin their meeting by reading the chapter mission statement. By doing so, they keep the meeting focused on the mission statement. So as something comes up that is being debated, if you stop and think about how or if it is a part of the mission statement, many times



it either puts that debate to the side as irrelevant, or it brings it into focus as to why we need to have a discussion about the issue. Another reason to read the mission statement, is because BCHW is beginning to grow, again. As we bring people into BCHW, we need to be sure to educate our new members about what the focus of our chapter (and BCHW) is and why we place our focus during the meetings on the work that we do.



#### FREE Listing on BCHW Chapter Events Calendar

Be sure to: • Contact the ride host to check for updates on the event.

• Check to see if dogs are welcome.

Note: The BCHW Trailhead News represents as many events as possible; however, it makes no guarantees an event will be published. The calendar of events is subject to change. Please check with ride contact for most updated information. Please send calendar corrections to: bchw@wamedia.com.

#### Pierce County Annual Prize Ride

Friday-Sunday, July 19-21, 2019
Elbe State Forest/Sahara Creek CG
First Rider out: 9:00 am Saturday
Last Rider out: 11:00 am
\$25.00 fee includes 3 tickets for
Prizes and Saturday lunch.
Additional prize tickets \$5.00 each
Additional lunches are \$5.00
Discover Pass required
Please, no Stallions. Dogs on leashes
in camp area. No dogs on trails.
shareinvestments.ds@gmail.com

#### **Western Dream Ride**

Friday-Sunday, July 19-21, 2019
Flying Horse Ranch
Cle Elum, WA
Camping is available
Cost: adults \$125, Kids 6-12 \$60,
under 6 free.
Includes 5 meals, raffle and auction
www.olympicbchw.org
Julianne Rice: 360-509-4633,
avasgrammy05@gmail.com

#### Mount Saint Helens Chapter Annual Fun Ride

Saturday, July 20, 2019
First Riders Out 8:00 am
Kalama Horse Camp
Complimentary Breakfast 7:00 am
Lunch Available \$5.00
Prizes at 3:00 pm
Contact Bob Cole
colefleet25@gmail.com
503-539-8618

#### Ferry County Chapter Steak Ride

Friday-Sunday, July 26-28, 2019
First rider out 9 am
w/doris bacon or lesa gregroy
Bring a lunch for the ride
Weed-free feed, yes
Camping yes
Adults \$25.00 • Children \$15.00
Cost to non members \$25.00
Contact lesa gregory
509-690-2773
lesagregory83@yahoo.com
fccbcchw.com

#### Tahoma Chapter Prize Ride

Saturday, September 7, 2019
Riders Out: 8:00 am to Noon
Danville Georgetown King Co.
Parks Trails
25258 Landsburg Rd SE
Ravensdale, WA 98051
\$20 - Hot Lunch & 4 Tickets
Silent Auction
Prize Winner Announcements: 3 pm
Contact Ranae Stevens
ranae52@comcast.net
www.tahomabchw.org

#### 3rd Qtr BCHW Board of Directors' meeting

September, September 14, 2019 Kittitas Valley Event Center 901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA Exec Director Nicole Sedgwick 360-640-1495 • bchwexec@bchw.org

#### Willapa Hills Chapter Fall Fun Ride

September 21, 2019

Riders - First/Last 9:00/11:00
Ticket donations - Adult \$20.00 includes ride, lunch, prize ticket
Under 14 Yrs.\$15.00 - includes ride, lunch, prize ticket
Lunch only ticket \$6.00- not a prize ticket
Location: Close to Mile Post 10 on
State Route 6 between Raymond and
Chehalis - Turn on Oxbow road by the sub station. Look for signs
Big tack sale also
Helmets recommended - shoes or boots for horses - no dogs or stallions please
Contacts: Glenn 360-941-3986 or Kate
360-581-5541

#### Example

Your Chapter Ride or Event Must Be Open To All BCHW Members To Have A FREE Listing

Lines in the listing have a maximum character count of 32, including spaces. Please keep this in mind.

Please submit the following information with your event listing to bchw@wamedia.com.
Chapter Name
Name of Ride
Date
First Rider Out
Location
Register
Lunch
Name of Pass Required (if needed)
Weed-Seed-Free Feed Required
Camping (if available)
Cost to Member
Cost to Non-member
Contact Name
Phone
Email

Website



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#### **BCHW Chapter Events Calendar cont.**

Remember to email an article and photos of your event to the THN at: bchw@wamedia.com

#### Ponderosa Chapter Annual Scavenger Hunt Fundraiser

Saturday, September 28, 2019
First rider out: 9:00 am
Riverside State Park near Spokane
Preregister by 9/20 or at the event
Lunch available for purchase
No Discover Pass needed
Equestrian campground on site
\$20 preregistration,
\$25 late registration
Ken Carmichael
509-466-2225
Kcarmichael2225@gmail.com
www.pbchw.com

#### Traildusters Halloween Prize Ride

Saturday, October 5, 2019
Pilchuck Tree Farm Arlington, WA
Registration at 8:00 am
First rider out: 9:00 am
Register for Costume Contest by 9:30
am, Contest starts at 1:00 PM
Prizes & Raffles start at 2:30 PM
No Smoking, dogs or stallions allowed on site, including parking area
Food & Drinks available for purchase
Call Cindy Kinney 425-344-4647

#### 18th Annual Winery Ride and Halloween Costume / Prize Ride

Saturday, October 26, 2019 – Zillah for more information visit: www.bchw.org/2019WineryRide or email: bchwwineryride@gmail.com

#### 4th QTR BCHW Board of Directors' meeting

Saturday, December 7, 2019 Kittitas Valley Event Center 901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA Exec Director Nicole Sedgwick 360-640-1495 • bchwexec@bchw.org

#### The remaining 2019 State Parks free days are as follows:

- National Park Service Birthday, August 25, 2019
- National Public Lands Day, September 28, 2019
- Veterans Day, November 11, 2019
- Autumn Free Day, November 29, 2019

