



## Trails & Tales Newsletter

654 C Thain Road, Lewiston, ID 83501

[www.twinriversbch.com](http://www.twinriversbch.com)

Aug. 11, 6:30 pm

Meeting at NezPerce County Fairgrounds  
Outdoor Arena  
1229 Burrell Ave.  
Lewiston ID

### Comin' round the Mountain

#### Notice!!

Meetings during the Covid-19 Era have been a challenge. For the Month of August we will be holding our Meeting at the NezPerce County Fairgrounds Outdoor Arena August 11 at 6:30 PM.

Bring your lawn chair or you can sit in the bleachers and we can do our social distancing.

#### **BCHI Raffle Calendars**

Our chapter has committed to 350 again this year. Pamela Winalski will be in charge of the calendars and collection of the money. She will have some at the August meeting or you can call her at (509-330-0227) and make arrangements to pick some up.

#### **Back Country Horsemen of Idaho Website**

Have you checked out the BCHI Website lately? It has a brand new look thanks to Jill Nebeker, BCHI Website Coordinator.

#### **BCHI State Directors Meeting September 26**

With the Covid – 19, at this time we do not know if we will have this meeting as scheduled in Caldwell, ID or plan on holding a video conference meeting. Squaw Butte Chapter is hosting the meeting. The agenda for the meeting will be available at next month's chapter meeting to review if there are any issues that we need to give guidance to our chapter's directors. Bob Hough & Pat Bogar are your state directors.

#### **Chapter Campout Aug.7-9**

Members are invited to a campout and day rides at Kelly Camp in the Umatilla National Forest. There will be a potluck dinner Saturday night. Directions: From Asotin, turn right before the bridge entering Asotin, keep left and follow Cloverland Rd, this turns to gravel, continue on to the "T" intersection, turn right, go past Wenatchee Guard Station, continue on until the road to Mount Misery, turn left here and stay to the right until you come to the camp area. There is stock water, but no stock feed, so bring your certified feed. Bob Hough (509-256-3338) is trail boss with all the details. Bob & Pat plan on being there by Aug. 6<sup>th</sup> and will have signs to mark the way from Mount Misery on.

#### **Elmer Creek Packing Support**

**Aug 18-19, anytime on the 18<sup>th</sup>.** This project will be packing in the trail crew on the 19<sup>th</sup> to finish the Elmer Creek Trail. We will camp at Smith Ridge Trailhead the night of Aug. 18 and packing crew in on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Certified Weed Seed Free Feed is required. **Info:** Located in the southern portion of the Mallard Larkin Roadless Area, this alpine trailhead offers dispersed camping and a rustic hiking/stock trail (Trail 240) which connects to many other trails in the area, making it a great place for day hikers as well as for those seeking a longer, more strenuous backpacking/stock packing trip. Please call Rod Parks (208-791-3246) if you are interested in attending or need more information. **Directions:** From Lewiston, take Hwy 12 East, turn left on Hwy 11 at Greer ID. Continue through Weippe & Pierce to Headquarters. Turn left on Rd # 247 at Headquarters. Follow paved road to Bridge across the North Fork Clearwater River. Turn left after crossing the bridge and follow gravel road. Approx. 3 miles turn left at first road to Smith Ridge Trailhead then Approx. 10 miles to trailhead. Allow three hours travel time.

## WDFW Press Release

**July 1, 2020**

### **WDFW restricts campfires, other activities at wildlife areas and water access areas in Eastern Washington**

Overall, the emergency order that imposes restrictions east of the Cascades prohibits:

- **Fires or campfires**, including those in fire rings. Personal camp stoves and lanterns fueled by propane, liquid petroleum, or liquid petroleum gas are allowed.
- **Smoking**, except in an enclosed vehicle.
- **The discharge of firearms** for target-shooting or other purposes by anyone not engaged in lawful hunting.
- **Welding and operating chainsaws**, including the use of an acetylene torch or other open flame.
- **Operating a motor vehicle away from developed roads.** Parking is permitted within designated parking areas, including developed campgrounds and trailheads; and in areas without vegetation that are within 10 feet of roadways.

## Over the Hill

### **Seven Devils Work Project**

**July 22-28**

Six members met at Windy Saddle Trailhead, 20 miles from Riggins ID, loaded up gear and stock and headed down the trail in the Seven Devils Wilderness to set up camp for a week clearing the Dry Diggins Ridge Trail # 140. As is usually the case, the Windy Saddle Trail had not been cleared yet, so there were challenges going around and over trees as we did not want to leave the string of eleven standing in the trail any more than necessary. We did cut what was needed to proceed. The meadow at camp was more of a swamp than a meadow with all the snow this past winter. The estimate was 200- 300 trees down on the 3.6 mile long trail, a real under estimate! Comments went from eager to get it cleared to what in the world had we got our self into, on to we will never get it done as fatigue set in at the end of the first day. We had two crews working with crosscut saws and used hand saws on the smaller trees. We were lucky that we could drag many of the trees off the tread after only having to make one cut. Motivation for day two was generated from the ice cold beer that we had packed in for happy Hour. We had some fantastic meals every evening and hot breakfast every morning. Well, there was one meal that Rod will never live down. He put way to much water in the pancake mix. They were so runny that you could have drank them. Adding powdered coffee sweetener did not help at all. Billie did a great job of cooking them and Rod is not allowed to make pancake mix anymore. Our days started at 6:00 am, on the trail by 8:00 am and back to camp to relax by 5:30 pm. Another motivator was that we had to ride a little farther every day to the work area and back, so less time hanging on to the saw handles. We were so lucky to be over six thousand feet in elevation as it was over 100 degrees in Riggins almost every day we worked. After three hard days cutting and dragging trees out of the way, we could see that we were going to get the entire section

cleared. Day four we all celebrated with the last of the cold beer after getting back to camp at 6:30 pm. The work crews were fantastic, as everyone worked well together, all had their jobs and just kept their heads down until we finished. It was difficult at times to keep Billie on the original trail tread, as she was always finding a different route to keep from cutting so many trees. The next day we took a relaxing loop ride to Dry Diggins Lookout, then Bernard Lakes and back to camp. What a blessing to only have to saw out six trees to make the loop. This was quite a change from the 120+ trees daily that we had to handle the previous days. On the pack out to the trailhead members cut some more tree as well as other stock users had cut some of the ones that we crossed going in. We noticed some gear over the edge of the trail about 150 feet down. Ardel went down and found a destroyed pack bag and two 50# bags of horse feed. There was no sign of fresh blood so we feel the horse or mule survived the fall. We met a string of 13 head and assume they were the group that had the mishap. Ardel packed one bag of feed and a canteen back to the trail. Not much of a reward for the pack up the rocky steep hill.

**Certified Weed Seed Free Forage is required in all national forests and state lands.**

**Washington State Suppliers**

[http://www.nwcb.wa.gov/nwcb\\_hav.htm](http://www.nwcb.wa.gov/nwcb_hav.htm)

**Idaho State Suppliers**

<http://www.idahoweedawareness.net/netcenter/library/weedfreeforage.html>

**Oregon State Suppliers**

<http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/PLANT/WEEDS/weedfreeforageprogram.shtml>

**TRBCH Newsletter Editor/Website - Please submit Articles to:  
Rod Parks, email; rod.d.parks@gmail.com**

### **Calendar of Events 2020**

<b>TRBCH Chapter Meeting</b>	<b>Aug. 11 6:30 pm</b>	<b>NezPerce County Fairgrounds Outdoor Arena</b>
<b>Elmer CR Packing Support</b>	<b>Aug. 18-19</b>	<b>Clearwater – NezPerce NF, Smith Ridge Trailhead</b>
<b>TRBCH Chapter Meeting</b>	<b>Sept. 8 6:30 pm</b>	<b>To be determined</b>
<b>BCHI State Directors Meeting</b>	<b>Sept. 26, 2020</b>	<b>Hosted by Squaw Butte BCH Caldwell, ID or Video Conference?</b>
<b>TRBCH Chapter Meeting</b>	<b>Oct. 13 6:30 pm</b>	<b>To be determined</b>