

Beartooth Back Country Horsemen Trail Tales

President's Pen

June 2021

Only a few months ago we were wondering what life after the pandemic would look like. Or even if there would be such a thing as "life after the pandemic". I barely know anyone anymore who has not been personally affected by the events of this last year in some way or other. And just as things were beginning to return more to normal, the club lost a member to this pandemic. Our condolences go out to the family of Dale Olson.



We have had some good educational programs and cleared some trails already. Spring is moving on quickly and we have been clearing trails regularly for the last month and a half. Thanks to the members that cleared the Stillwater, Island Lake and West Fork of the Stillwater Trails. That last one still needs some work however if we can find time for it.

It really feels good to be back in the saddle and out on the trails regularly again. And especially with friends. While I still did a lot of riding last year, I did not do as much with larger groups of friends and club members. There is nothing like the comradery out in the mountains. I think I understand the old Gene Autrey song a little better now after this last year and the pandemic; "back in the saddle again, out where a friend is a friend".

There is still some work to be done, however. And we have fun rides and pack projects and another trail clearing or so. This weekend we will be headed to Deer Creek. Hope to see more of you there this weekend.

John Jenkins

President

BBCH DIRECTORS

...

President- John Jenkins
855-0238

Vice President- Randy
Thomsen
328-7355

Treasurer- Melissa Codner
308-390-0465

Secretary- Nancy Thomsen
328-7355

Director- John Chepulis
322-4823

Director- Charles Spencer
860-1483

Director – Ray Longstreth
406 224 5185

STATE DIRECTORS

...

Senior Director- John
Simmons
328-4163

Louise Jenkins (Alternate)
855-0237

NATIONAL DIRECTOR

...

John Chepulis
322-4823

Potluck

Everyone Brings Something to the Table.

June 21st – 6:30 P.M. Potluck – Meeting @ 7:00

Fishtail Community Center

Program: Chainsaw Safety and Certification Information

MEETINGS WILL BE SUSPENDED FOR THE MONTHS OF JULY & AUGUST TO ALLOW MEMBERS TO SPEND TIME ON WORK PROJECTS.

See you in September...or on the trail!

BBCH – 2021 DUES

Yearly dues for 2021 are:

- Business Membership \$40
- Family Membership \$35
- Individual Membership \$25

You are welcome to pay at the June meeting, on one of our trail projects or by mailing your check to **BBCH, PO Box 614, Absarokee MT 59001**. Please send updated email, address if your contact information has changed. This information is only used for the BBCH and BCHMT Newsletters and is not shared.

SCHEDULE

June 13, Sat: Deer Creek trail clearing, via Jim's Gulch (West Bridger Creek)

June 21st, Monday: **GENERAL MEETING**, Fishtail; Potluck @ 6:30, meeting at 7. Invite a friend, bring a friend. Program: Chainsaw Safety and Certification Information. We will not meet in July and our August meeting will be held during the Rendezvous and Campout at Myers Creek.

June 26, Sat: Fishtail Family Fun Day. We would like a headcount for riding in the parade. If anyone is interested, we will discuss it at the June meeting.

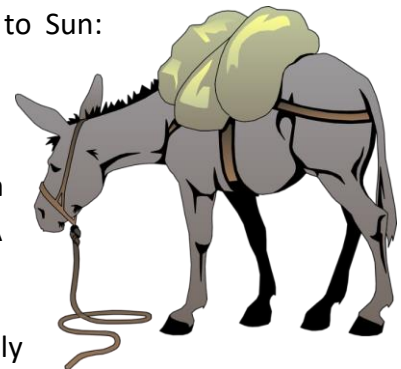
June 26, A memorial service for Dale Olsen will be held at Bennett Cr Church in Clark Wyoming at 2:00

July 10th, Saturday Fun Ride, Ernie Strum Trail.

August 19-21, Thurs to Sunday. BCHMT AUGUST CAMPOUT and gathering. Everyone is invited. Monture Guard Station near Ovando, MT. You can arrive on Thursday and ride or arrive on Friday and head for home on Sunday. We have permission to use the FS Cabin and grounds. Dinner and campfire Saturday evening with Foster's cooking the main dish and beans and dessert. \$10 ahead of time and RSVP needed a couple of weeks prior. More information will be available in the state's newsletter, The Decker Dispatch.

Aug 27-29, BBCH SUMMER RENDEZVOUS and PACK CLINIC. Friday to Sun: Meyer's Creek Cabin is rented. Pack Clinic/Campout/Fun ride. Come for a day or the whole weekend.

Pack Projects with the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness Foundation (these dates are definite). EVERYONE IS INVITED TO RIDE ALONG AS A FUN RIDE OR HELP EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT A PACKER



July 8-14. Main Stillwater Trail to Big Park. 12-mile pack in on Thursday July 8 and pack out July 14 for an 8-member trail crew and gear. We need volunteers and we will probably need to make this a 2 day trip each way.

July 22 -July 28: Lake Abundance Creek Trail. Approximately 8 miles. Thursday 7/22 pack in and Wednesday 7/28 pack out. Gear for a trail crew of about 7-8 persons. You will be responsible for your own health certificate/coggins test if you feel it is necessary. Will stage at Daisy Pass.

Aug 5-Aug 11: Lake Abundance Creek Trail. Same as above. Pack in on Thursday 8/5 and out on Wednesday 8/11.

Sept 16–Sept 20: Approximately 5 mi. Anderson Ridge (up Paradise Valley). Thursday 9/16 pack in and Monday 9/22 pack out. Good opportunity to camp the weekend and ride in this area.

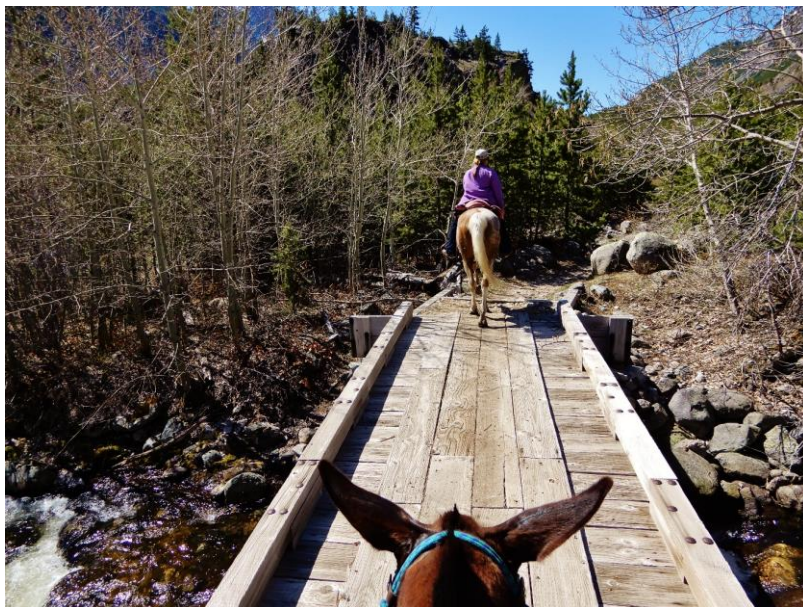
MAIN STILLWATER TRAIL CLEARING – 5/16/2021

Submitted by Robin Morris

On May 16th, the Beartooth Back Horsemen headed back to the Stillwater Trail for the 2nd day of clearing. While we were expecting a crew of seven, three showed up. Me, Tara Smith, and Bob Knudsen. That did not faze our enthusiasm or “let’s get it done” attitude. The 1st crew cleared to Flood Creek (5.5 miles). Our goal? Flood Creek to Big Park, 12 miles up the trail. The work started off easy. Small pines bent over the trail from the snow, a few smaller trees across the trail, some minor



brush – the normal. Tara, riding up front, took on most of the duties, and I would occasionally hop off to remove the lopped pines from the trail and lop the smaller pines with my pruning shears. Perhaps feeling left out, Bob said, “the next tree is mine”. It was about that time we rounded a corner – and there it was. A nice-sized tree hanging over the trail held up by a larger than human-sized boulder! I leaped upon the rock making the first cut while Tara and Bob cut the tree into “tossable” sizes to clear from the trail. The work went fast. We continued to clear in anticipation of the tree I noted during recon a week ago. After the Meadows just before the Outfitter’s Camp, a good-sized tree was blocking the trail. It was a true equine-blocking log. Time to pull my larger saw out of the scabbard. Tara and I started the cut. Bob watched and smiled as he asked, “can I have a



try”? It is that stinking fun! We took turns and quickly cleared the tree from the trail. By now it was 1:00, so we stopped by the river for a quick lunch. I pointed out to Tara where you cross the river to the outfitter’s camp on the other side. Predictably, she then wanted to ride across the river. All three of us did. Something about riding a horse or a mule brings out in the child in most adults. We all checked in and decided to continue and try to make the day’s goal. After all, we were already 10 miles in. We



continued to clear small pines, and then...there it was. The nemesis of trail clearing! Across the trail was a huge, dead tree blocking the way. I must admit, it crossed my mind to call it a day. But this crew started plotting our plan of attack. With part of the tree sitting on the ground – and not an ax insight – and a larger portion right over the trail - we knew we would probably not be able to remove all of it. But with a little finesse, we figured we could make the portion on the ground passable as it contained a lot of rot. We chose to focus on what we

could do, rather than on what we could not do. We limbed, cleaned up the carnage from the big "crash", cleared a wide berth around it, and started cutting on the top section. With the three of us pulling and tugging on one of the remaining limbs we were able to break off the top section. While there is still some of the tree on the trail, you can easily ride over it. At 2:30 I reminded Bob that his wife and her hiking friend were expecting him back at the trailhead around 4:30. He really wanted to make it to the Wounded Man

junction (he has never ridden that far on this trail), so we pushed on. We said our goodbyes at the junction and Tara, and I continued to clear as we edged closer to Big Park. We made it there by 3:00. Took a 5-minute break and reversed course. We had a 12-mile ride back to the trailhead and one healthy log we rode over on the way in that we wanted to tackle. Although the tree was only 16" around – it was a healthy (at



least until recently) "pitchy" tree and heavy as all get out. Thank goodness I brought WD-40, a wedge, and fencing pliers with a good mallet end. We needed all of it. The cutting was slow and arduous, but we plugged on. After we finally made our two cuts, it was time to heave-ho this baby



out of the trail. With a couple of good "1-2-3's" we were able to manage just that. While our bodies were tiring – we were again pleased with what we could accomplish when we worked as a team. Riding the rest of the way out was fantastic. The waning sun provided gorgeous highlights on an already beautiful landscape. After 9 hours and 40 minutes in the saddle, we made it back to the trailhead. I cannot think of a

better place to burn some serious calories. It was a fantastic day.







BBCH PO Box 614, Absarokee, MT 59001





ISLAND LAKE FUN RIDE/TRAIL CLEARING – 5/29/2021

Submitted by: John Jenkins

John Chepulis, Sean and Detra Chepulis, and John and Louise Jenkins rode the Island Lake loop on Saturday, May 29th. The weather was beautiful - it was a great day for a ride. Our "fun ride" turned into a trail clearing as 16-20 trees had to be cleared to complete the loop. The lake was high, clear, and looked to me like it might be good fishing right now. The upper loop will have to be cleared after the water subsides a bit – the creek crossing was roaring!



BBCH BOARD MEETING – 4/06/2021

Meeting called to order at 6:40 at Ray Longstreth home.

In attendance: John Jenkins, Randy Thomsen, Nancy Thomsen, Melissa Codner, Ray Longstreth, John Chepulis, Charles Spencer, John Simmons

Minutes: John Chepulis moved to approve March Board meeting minutes with corrections. Second Randy Thomsen. Motion passed.

Presidents Report: Review of the status of covid. Recommend staying vigilant, social distancing, but numbers are on the decline. Club received a Thank You from the Billings Food Bank for donations. Review of State convention Zoom meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Report in Minutes. Audit was completed. No errors to report. 990N was filed, and license plate information refiled with Montana state. Melissa Codner stated that 75% of monies from the license plate annually, must be spent in the state of Montana. John Chepulis moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Randy Thomsen second. Motion passed.

Nancy Thomsen moved to offer Robin Morris a courtesy membership this year for all her work on the newsletter. Ray Longstreth second. Motion passed. John Jenkins will call her.

Education: Stillwater County Deputy and Search and Rescue Liaison Ty Williams will be guest speaker at club meeting. He is looking to recruit volunteers with equines. Let membership know by Newsletter and Facebook. Schedule will be Potluck, guest speaker then membership meeting.

Communications: Melissa Codner still needs to be added to Facebook page. She suggested creating events on Facebook. Nancy Thomsen asked if it would be acceptable to post on Facebook that fun rides would be open to everyone who would like to ride in an effort to encourage membership. Liability waivers will need to be signed before non-members are allowed to ride with club and Facebook post must include that riders ride at their own risk.

Website: John Jenkins contacted Jesse Erickson. She has started an Instagram account for the club.

Activities: John Chepulis has not been in contact with Allie Wood, yet. A tentative schedule has been proposed by Randy Thomsen.

Changes to Schedule:

The April 24 Island Lake Trail clearing will also include chainsaw recertification for those members already holding certification.

May 1 Fun Ride to Island Lake will be changed to a Clinic at Dan Aadlands place for members only.

May 29 Meeteesee Cabin ride will be canceled for Memorial Day

June 5 Fun Ride to Ernie Strum will be changed to Clearing the West Fork Trail

June 12 Deer Creek clearing from Jim's Gulch

July 10 Ernie Strum Trail Clearing

There has been no commitment of pack stock for ABW packs, except John Jenkins and Melissa Codner?

Members taking stock on the ABW packs to Abundance lake, trip #1 or trip #2, are responsible for their own paperwork, (Coggins, Health certificate, Brand inspection) to cross state line into Wyoming.

Dave Heinle will be contacted to see if he is interested in packing ABW to Anderson Ridge or Beartooth Lake.

John Chepulis and John Simmons reiterated the importance of a list people and their signatures before on each work project for records and liability. The signatures are needed for liability purposes. Injuries on a work project are reported to the Dept of Labor.

Issues: Discussion on a variety of bills being presented in the Montana legislature. John Simmons reported that some BBCH members have concerns about the proposed fish kill in the Buffalo Fork drainage. Other members of the public have expressed concerns to BBCH members too. John Simmons recommended that the BBCH should decide if it will support this fish kill project. And consider whether we should continue to pack for the Montana FWP if asked to do so for this project. John Simmons stated that the club was founded on open trails that were closed. Members were encouraged to submit comments to the FWP by April 21 when the public comment period ends.

Forest Service want Firearm paperwork filed out and resubmitted. John Chepulis has papers. This must be filled out to carry on work projects.

Randy Thomsen stated that Utah bags have been out of stock on all the websites he has visited. He will email the companies for a response.

In Reach will be activated for the months April through September.

Congratulations to John Chepulis elected Montana National Director to BCHA

Discussion on in person club meeting. Covid precautions, hand sanitizer, a new plate should be used every time someone returns to potluck.

Melissa Codner suggested club buying t-shirts or hoodies with BBCH logo for membership. Work Crews could wear during work projects or just to encourage membership. Nancy Thomsen suggested sweatshirts that Dale Olson of the Shoshone BCH Wyoming had shown the Board.

Meeting Adjourned 9pm Randy Thomsen/Ray Longstreth

Next board meeting May 6, at 7pm, Charles Spencer home, 65 Woman Chief Circle, Absarokee

BBCH GENERAL MEETING – 4/26/2021

Meeting called to order at 7:20pm at the Fishtail Community Center

Pledge of Allegiance

20 Members in attendance

Guest Speaker is Stillwater Deputy Sheriff Ty Williams. He is representing the Search and Rescue in Stillwater County. The County is looking for volunteers for an equine branch of Search and Rescue. Volunteers would need to fill out an application or contact Ty Williams. County is willing to pay for training. There is a probation period, and once a month meetings. Volunteers can live in other counties besides Stillwater.

Introductions around the room.

John Jenkins presented a gift to outgoing president John Simmons, of a Swedish made hatchet.

General meeting Minutes were already approved being Board minutes also.

Reminder to keep social distance and masks, and hand sanitizer are available.

Treasurer's report by John Jenkins. Audit has been completed. Montana license plate renewal complete, and deposits are now electronic. Reminder that 75% of that money needs to be spent in the state of Montana. Federal taxes have been filed.

Jesse Erickson has updated the website. She has archived most all the newsletters and pictures from Facebook. If you have any photos that can be scanned for the archive with trail names and dates please email them to her or she can scan them. Website also has current activities and events. BBCH has an Instagram page. Discussion on relevance of Facebook page. Facebook link to website needs to be corrected on Facebook page, email also needs to be added to Facebook page.

A schedule of work projects was handed out. The Forest Service work agreement has been signed. Signatures of membership were collected for work projects, paperwork must be signed to be on work projects. Pack trips this year will be overnight. Stillwater overnight will be on the trail, and Lake Abundance will be at the lake. Fun rides will be scheduled between work projects. The In Reach has been activated and should accompany crews. The activation costs \$35 a month and includes 40 texts. BBCH has purchased Utah bags, for packing tools for the ABW.

A Horsemanship Clinic is scheduled for May 1, at Dan Aadland's. Beginning at 8:30am. Please no dogs or studs. There is a stud and a jack on the property, please stay away from them. Tie your horses to your trailers. The clinic will be a general horsemanship review. We will be answering questions on spooking, saddling, bits, and Dr Routen will be there to talk about vaccinations. Jennifer Franko will demonstrate neck reining and side pass. The club will provide a lunch, then we will tack up and ride. There will be an obstacle course, a trail ride on the ranch and if you want to cross the East Rosebud river. Members only event.

John Simmons on Issues voiced concern over prescriptive easement bill. A bill that would allow the state to investigate/audit organizations. And the proposed fish kill in the Buffalo Fork Drainage.

John Chepulis was elected National Director. BCHMT convention was held on Zoom in March, but will be in person next year in Dillion, Mt. The BCHA convention is being held now on Zoom, but you can watch it on Facebook Live.

Dale Olson would like to start a book on horse trails in the area from Dubois, Wy to Livingston, Mt. If you have trail information you would like to share please email or contact him.

Meyers cabin has been rented for the club on August 27-29, for a late summer Rendezvous. Pack Clinic/Campout/Fun ride.

Randy Thomsen moved to adjourn the meeting at 9pm. Dan Aadland second. Motion passed.

Next board meeting May 6, at 7pm at Charles Spencer home

Next general meeting May 17, at 6:30 at Fishtail

BBCH GENERAL MEETING – 5/17/2021

DRAFT

Meeting called to order at 7:10pm at the Fishtail Community Center

Pledge of Allegiance

11 members in attendance

Guest Speaker is Dr Doug Warner from Saint Vincent's in Laurel. His recommendations for Back Country First aid are foremost knowing CPR and other basic life saving knowledge. Know pertinent medical issues of the people you are riding with and their wishes for life saving efforts. Have the ability to contact emergency services to be evacuated. Know how to use any equipment that is with you on the trail. Prepare for emergency situations. If emergency situation happens keep a log of treatment, include details of accident, treatment, time, symptoms, and vitals if possible. Some supplies Dr Warner recommends for a first aid kit. Keep kit up to date and organized. Trauma kit, mole skin, triple antibiotic, non adhesive band aids, tweezers, electric or duct tape, aspirin, Tylenol, ibuprophen, benedryl, amodiem, anti nausea, scissors, blades, gloves, head lamp, Ziploc bag, Israeli band aid, etc.

Robin Morris moved to approve the April general meeting minutes. Randy Thomsen second. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report: Bank Balance is about \$30,000. Melissa Codner was not in attendance.

John Chepulis will be guest speaker at June club meeting. He will be talking about the importance of being chain saw or crosscut certified. Melissa Codner will chair June meeting.

Discussion on suspending July and August club meeting. Board will discuss at June Board meeting.

Communications: Please send pictures and articles to Robin Morris for the newsletter.

Activities:

Fun ride up Main Stillwater on May 22, weather pending

June 5 clearing of the West Fork of the Stillwater

June 13 clearing of Deer Creek

June 26 Fishtail days parade, depending on club interest

Robin Morris reports Island Lake trail would be good for chain saw recertification. Island lake needs to be rescheduled.

Review of the Main Stillwater trail: The first clearing was to the bridge or approximately 5.5 miles. The trail was good. The second clearing was 5.5 miles to 11 miles or Big Park. There is a loose board on wounded man bridge and one log was left, a bigger saw was needed. 9 hours and 40 minutes were spent in the saddle for the crew on the second clearing.

Board is asking for suggestions for activities for the Meyers creek rendezvous on August 27-29. Send suggestions to any board member.

BCHMT meeting was May 15. They now have \$56,000. The state is recommending for those that want to carry firearms on Forest Service work projects, to get paper work in by the end of May. There has been some delay in paperwork approval. State and National are trying to get their newsletters sent out via email to everyone that is a member. State and National are voicing concerns over ebikes. Wyoming and Colorado BCH have begun to work with bicycle clubs against ebikes in the Wilderness. BCHMT is working to have an annual "state-wide" volunteer agreement instead of region by region agreements. The 2022 convention will be held on March 11-13 in Dillion, Mt. Check BCHMT for more information and activities statewide.

A hard hat that has been auctioned off at BCHA for many years, is now in the hands of National director John Chepulis. This hat has been auctioned off many times, it has been to California, South Dakota, Washington DC, and Missouri. The proceeds of the auction go for grants and education. It will be headed back up for auction again next year.

Meeting adjourned Randy Thomsen/Dave Edwards

ABWF ~ Trail Work

2021 Trail Projects

Location	Miles Approach (One-Way)	Miles of Work	Project Description	Volunteers	Trip Length	Trip Start Date	Trip End Date
Lake Abundance Creek/Rock Creek – Trail 389/109	6	0.5	Trail re-route, puncheon removal	0/7	7	Thurs. 7/8/21	Wed. 7/14/21
Lake Abundance Creek/Rock Creek – Trail 389/109	6	0.5	Trail re-route, puncheon removal	0/7	7	Thur. 7/22/21	Wed. 7/28/21
Wounded Man – Trail 90 Main Stillwater – Trail 24	12	4+	Brushing	0/6	7	Thur. 8/5/21	Wed. 8/11/21
North Fork Bear Creek – Trail 364/60 Pine Creek – Trail 627	0	3	Brushing, treadwork, erosion control	0/6	3	Fri. 6/18/21	Sun. 6/20/21
Kersey Lake – Trail 3	0	4	Drainage, turnpike/puncheon construction	0/7	5	Thur. 8/19/21	Mon. 8/23/21
Crow Mountain – Trail 55	0	3	Brushing	0/6	3	Thur. 7/1/21	Sat. 7/3/21
Anderson Ridge – Trail 54	6	3	Brushing	0/6	5	Thur. 9/16/21	Mon. 9/20/21
Suce Creek – Trail 44	0	TBD	Brushing	TBD	3	TBD	TBD
Bassett Creek – Trail 134	0	TBD	Weed control	TBD	1	TBD	TBD
East Rosebud – Trail 3	0	TBD	Weed control	TBD	1	TBD	TBD
West Boulder Meadows – Trail 41	0	TBD	Weed control	TBD	1	TBD	TBD
Lake Plateau	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

These projects are currently open for sign-up:

ABWF ~ Volunteers Opportunities

The Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness Foundation (ABWF) thrives on the good work of volunteers. We believe that getting volunteers like you actively involved in your wild lands connects you in a deeper, more lasting way. And makes all of us better stewards of precious places like the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness! We work hard to accommodate anyone who wishes to volunteer with a variety of difficulty levels and trip lengths. Groups are welcome as well as families. Whether you are an avid outdoorsperson or a casual hiker, there are many ways to get outside and give back. Supervised children (12+) are welcome on one-day trips. You will be required to sign a volunteer agreement to ensure you are acting on behalf of the Forest Service. If you have any questions, [contact us!](#)

Five reasons you should join us on one of our trips:

1. **Tangible results.** You will know that you accomplished something at the end of the day!
2. **Safety and Fun in numbers.** Many people who love the outdoors might still be intimidated to spend more than a day out for fear of foul weather, getting lost, or maybe grizzly bears. Participate in our group trips and set those fears aside, learn new skills, and get to know new people.
3. **FREE!** Adventures like this for FREE? That is right! We provide the food on all multi-day trips. All you do is meet us, provide your own camping gear, and we handle the rest. We will even coordinate car-pooling when possible.
4. **Experiences for all abilities.** Our trips vary in difficulty. We offer easier day-projects and citizen science projects, as well as multi-day trips which can be physically quite strenuous! BUT fear not... Every project has tasks that engage all abilities. With everyone's help we get a lot done!
5. **We make it easy!** We have horses pack in all our tools, food—even sleeping bags and tents! You hike in with a much lighter pack. Even if you are not a backpacker or capable of carrying a lot, these trips can still be great ways to see the backcountry and build your wilderness skills.

Weblinks to Public Lands

Have you been wanting to explore and ride new trails...but are unsure where to look? On the following links you can enter horse riding or horse camping in each site's search engine.

Public Lands are your lands – get to enjoying them!

National Parks: www.nps.gov National Forest: www.fs.usda.gov National Wilderness: www.fs.usda.gov

National Refuge: www.fws.gov National Conservation Areas: www.blm.gov



BBCH PO Box 614, Absarokee, MT 59001

LAUGHINGSTOCK

By: John Jenkins

THINGS YOU DON'T HEAR PACKERS SAY

Which rope color goes best with my pack saddle?

Did you make it over to Three Finger Jake's Tupperware party last night?

You know who I saw at brunch at the Hoity Toity yesterday?

You don't mind tonight at the campfire not smoking so close to us, do you? We have a designated smoking section now.

Let's stop a spell, let the horses blow, and fix a mimosa and have a baguette for brunch.

Take your arugula, pinch of rosemary, your essential oils, mix it in a blender and rub it on the rim of your beer.

I do these loads this way. Even though it takes a little longer, I really don't mind it cutting into my beer drinking time.

If that were me, I'd loosen that rope a little. It'll tighten up as you go down the trail.

THINGS YOU WON'T HEAR ON A BBCH TRAIL CREW

I know I left my horse tied up around here somewhere!

Tell me you only brought one mule to camp! There's only one tied to the highline, and half of another lead rope hanging there.

Just add it to the pot.

I'm not going out in that weather today.

You look mighty dapper in that same camo you've had on the last 4 days.

SYLVAN PEAK MOUNTAIN SHOP – TRAIL REPORT

Conditions are updated frequently and change nearly daily...
These are just some generals we know for sure.

Updated June 7, 2021 BEARS ARE OUT - TAKE YOUR BEAR SPRAY. MOOSE are having young ones and are very grumpy. Check for ticks on people and dogs after hiking.

- Lake Fork/West Fork Trails:
 - West Fork: Road to trailhead is open all the way. Trail mostly clear to Quinnebaugh with a few large snowdrifts.
 - Lake Fork: Road is open to trailhead; trail is mostly snow free to Lost Lake, and clear to September Morn.
 - Beartrack: Beartrack trail melts out first in the spring - Some snow at plateau line.
- East Rosebud / Cooke City (we refuse to use "Beaten Path" as the trail name, as it is just a bad nickname...) East Rosebud trail is mostly clear to Rimrock with some random snowbanks and ice. Forest Service Trail Crew has cleared to Elk Lake.
 - West Rosebud: Mystic Lake trailhead is open, bridgework is finished. Trail mostly clear to Mystic.
- Main Fork/Glacier Lake Road: Road is open to Glacier Lake trailhead. Snow still on trail.
- Silver Run: Trails are walkable, bikeable... Muddy! Some snow/ice at plateau line on Ingalls Creek
- Palisades /Willow/ Nichols creek. Forest Service Trail crew has cleared these trails. Snow on higher elevations still.
- Beartooth Basin Ski Area - Daily skiing - passes can be purchased online.
- Granite Peak: Have not heard a report of any climbers up any routes yet... still deep in snow and ice.

***Remember: The bears are active! Carry bear spray! ***

Give us a call at (406) 446-1770 if you are looking for a more current or specific trail report!

Sylvan Peak Mountain Shop Updates the Trail Report almost daily. Following is the link to their trail report: [Summer Trail Conditions - SYLVAN PEAK MOUNTAIN SHOP](#)



June 2nd, 2021 – September Morn Lake – Lake Fork TH out of Red Lodge

On June 2nd, Tara Smith and I rode to September Morn after hearing from the Forest Service that it was clear to the lake. Tara cleared two trees on the ascent, and when we got to the lake – there was way too much snow to cross the creek. We opted to stay on the trailside of the lake and enjoy a nice lunch and dangle some worms for the fish. After all, they had to be hungry after a long winter, right? While I was able to hook one, I was not as successful at landing it. No worries – still a very enjoyable day.

Please send any submissions for the Newsletter to Robin Morris, junkerette@msn.com,
by the 5th of each month. Thanks!

Thank you to these local businesses for their continued support!



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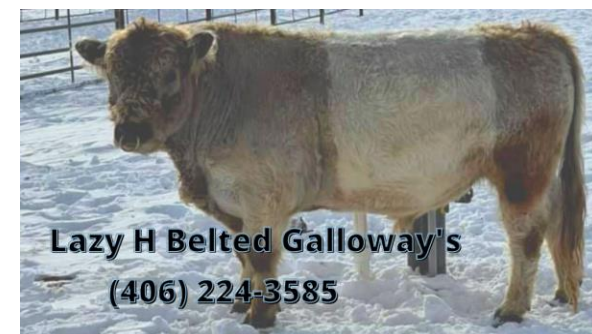
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