

Beartooth Back Country Horsemen Trail Tales

President's Pen

We've finished all the trail clearings we had planned. I will have to admit that the trail clearing up Jim's Gulch was a bit tough. No shade: it was hot; and there was a lot of deadfall. We might have been more efficient if we had just walked up the trail with a chainsaw. Thanks to all who helped this year on the trail clearings.



We are riding up the Ernie Strum trail on Saturday July 10. It may be listed as a trail clearing. But it is in good shape, or so a trail runner recently told me. This will be more of a fun ride. And the fishing is pretty good so bring a rod and reel if you want.

Over the next 6 weeks we have a pack project every week. The rides are long enough it might be best to stay overnight. That will probably need to be done on the pack out – riding in a day early, but not necessarily the pack in. This way the trail crew can get to hiking early, and we get an early enough start headed out they do not have to wait on us at the trailhead for 2 or 3 hours. We would love to have riders that are not packers ride with us. So, if you have not been out much this year or want to see some different country, contact someone when the email goes out for the pack projects. We will also be planning another fun ride in late July probably, so look for an email on that.

Equine activities can involve a lot of outdoor activity in weather extremes. And it has been hot! Really hot! That is what made the Jim's Gulch clearing tough for me. Remember the signs of heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Heat exhaustion symptoms include hot skin, extreme fatigue, dizziness, cramps. When things start getting worse someone may get heat exhaustion and that is a *medical*

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emergency. The symptoms progress to nausea and vomiting, rapid heart rate, seizures. Sweating may stop or get much worse. There can be shallow breathing or loss of consciousness in severe cases. Obviously, prevention is key. Stay well hydrated. If you get thirsty, you are already way behind on fluids. In the case of heat stroke rapid cooling is needed. I suspect any river or lake in the mountains would do. And remember any one with a preexisting condition – heart lung or kidney - may be at increased risk. So, know your trail partners well.

Stay Frosty My Friends

John Jenkins

**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.

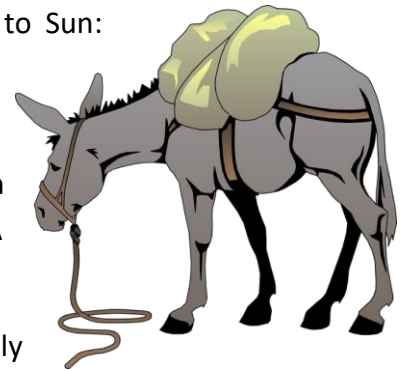
SCHEDULE

July 10th, Saturday Fun Ride, Ernie Strum Trail, swing a leg at 9:30!

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 is available on the following page.***

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.

DEER CREEK TRAIL CLEARING – 6/13/2021

Submitted by: David Edwards

Saturday June 13 was a great day to venture out and do what we do in the BBCH club! Deer Creek via Jim's Gulch was not going to be long for distance, but the deadfall was abundant! It had not been cleared in a few years. What a great team of horsemen and women joined the journey! Tom Williams and John Jenkins did most of the cutting; the rest of us did the dragging and dropping! Great job! The rest of us included me, Kevin Owens, and John and Bonnie Chepulis. John Simmons joined us a little late and I think it should be required he attends all the trail clearings. Just kidding John. But it was the highlight of my trip to get to sit one on one and hear some of his amazing stories. I was a sponge listening to his experience in the back country. So, if you get a chance come join us! If John is there, I am sure he would re-tale his stories if you got a minute to kill. On a log in the middle of nowhere!







Save the Date

August 19-22, 2021

Please join us for the BCHMT Monture Gathering

With the past two conventions cancelled due to Covid, we have missed you. The BCHMT officers and state directors invite you to join us at the Monture trailhead. Everyone is welcome and can join us for any part of the weekend that they are able.

Thursday: arrive after noon and ride

Friday: ride, socialize around the campfire

Saturday: ride, dinner and campfire

The Monture Guard Station is about 8 miles north of Highway 200 near Ovando, MT. It is a trailhead for the south end of the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex. We have permission to use the guard station and there is a very nice public trailhead. The public trailhead has several corrals as well as feed bunks and hitchrails. There are several trails in the area for all riding abilities.

We are still in the planning process. Wade Murphy will teach a half-day horse training clinic. He can have up to 10 riders so if you would like to ride in his clinic please let him know, 406.431.1717, wadeandlonnie@hotmail.com. Everyone is welcome to watch if they are interested. We will also have a packing demonstration. If you have a talent that you would like to demonstrate please let Greg Schatz know, 406.261.5450, gregschatzbuilder@gmail.com, and we'll see if we can get you in the schedule.

Dinner Saturday evening will be \$10. All other meals are on your own. Please fill out the registration form found on the BCHMT website and send your registration and \$10 to us before August 5, 2021.

**Watch bchmt.org
for more details.**



2021 YOUTH SUMMER PACKING CAMP

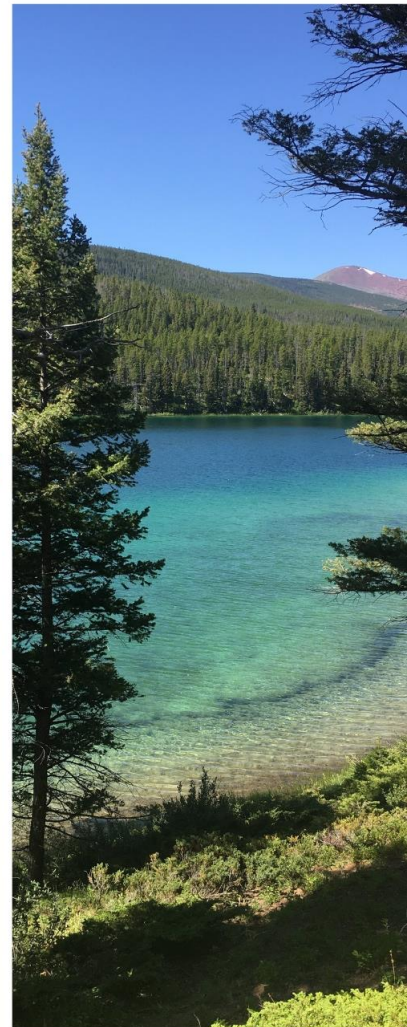
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FOR FULL DETAILS AND TO APPLY, VISIT WWW.BCHMT.ORG



If you are interested in assisting with the Youth Packing Camp, contact Greg Schatz. gregschatzbuilder@gmail.com.

BBCH PO Box 614, Absarokee, MT 59001

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

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 26, 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.

As of Midnight June 24, Fire Restrictions will go into place. This includes no campfires on all Forest Service lands, including all campgrounds, dispersed camping, recreational sites and cabins, and backcountry/wilderness. Gas stoves are still ok.

As of 8AM June 26, Forest Service is opening all trails, campgrounds, dispersed camping, etc. on West side of Hwy 212. This includes Lake Fork, Glacier Lake trails, Parkside, Greenough, Limberpine etc. campgrounds. All Trails and campgrounds on east side of Hwy 212 remain closed due to active fire activity. Currently, Robertson Draw fire is sitting at 53% containment.

Lake Fork/West Fork Trails:

- West Fork: Trail Clear of Snow Meadow is dry. Snow on switchbacks up Sundance.
- Timberline Lake: Snow around Timberline, Creek crossing at Gertrude is challenging.
- Basin Lakes: Trail clear of downfall; Upper Basin only has a bit of ice.
- Lake Fork: Open as of 6/26
- Beartrack: open as of 6/26
- Glacier Lake: open as of 6/26
- Hellroaring Plateau: open as of 6/26. High clearance vehicle required.
- Line Creek Plateau: Closed
- Maurice Creek/ Corral Creek: Closed
- East Rosebud / Cooke City (we refuse to use "Beaten Path" as the trail name, as it is just a bad nickname...) East Rosebud trail fairly clear to Impasse Falls. Some random snowbanks and ice. Forest Service Trail Crew has cleared to Elk Lake. Chief Joseph side is very muddy and snowy to Ouzel, then still snow cover over the top, to Impasse Falls. Very, very buggy.
- West Rosebud: Mystic Lake trailhead is open, bridgework is finished. Trail clear to Mystic and Island Lake. Snow starts about 1/2 way up switchbacks to Froze to Death Plateau. Utility Road work on dirt road to trailhead, so expect 30 min waits.
- Main Fork / Glacier Lake Road: Open as of 6/26. Some snow at Glacier Lake still
- Silver Run: Trails are walkable, bikeable. Trail cleared of downfall up Ingalls Creek. Watch for Mtn Bikes.
- Palisades /Willow/ Nichols creek. Forest Service Trail crew has cleared these trails. Snow on higher elevations still, Grizzly activity is high on these trails right now.
- Beartooth Basin Ski Area - Closed
- 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! Proper food storage is required ***

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 29th, 2021 – Red Lodge Plateau from the Red Lodge Creek TH out of Luther

On June 29th, Tara Smith and I rode to Crow Lake for a day of fishing. It is a long, strenuous climb, and just under 20 miles roundtrip. That said, the views are well worth the effort. We cleared a few downed trees; spent 8 hours in the saddle; and two hours fishing. We both went home with dinner.

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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