

In Partnership With



# Nag News



## Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen

August 2021

Issue #08

### *Inside*

*Note from  
Historian*

*Horse Sense*

*Back Country  
Kitchen*

*Project  
Summaries*

*Members for Sale*

*Ads & Services*

### **BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN MISSION STATEMENT**

1. To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's backcountry and wilderness areas.
2. To work to ensure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use.
3. To assist the various government, state and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.
4. To educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise and sustaining use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage.
5. To foster and encourage the formation of new back country horsemen's organizations.
6. To cooperate with other B.C.H.A. organizations.

### *A Message from our President*

With the wildland fire smoke in the valley and Bitterroot National Forest's Stage 2 Fire Restrictions, we have postponed Coyote Coulee and Two Good Cabin projects until further notice. The Rock Creek Horse Camp project may also be postponed. Please watch for updates in the upcoming newsletters, our Facebook site, and Kathy's e-mail updates. With the extreme fire conditions, please stay alert to changing circumstances while out in the mountains.

This summer, we are providing resupply support to St. Mary's peak fire lookout. On July 29, Ed Duggan and Joe Kirkland packed about 276 pounds of fresh water and 175 pounds of gear. Another crew will do a resupply run on Aug 12. The last scheduled trip will be August 26. You are welcome to come along with or without a pack animal. A nice outing with an outstanding view.

The Ravalli County Fair is September 1 - 4. As most of you know, our chapter has supported the fair for many years by providing ticket sellers and ticket takers at each of the 4 entrances. In return, the fair donates a portion of the sales to our chapter. This is our largest fund-raising activity. Bonnie Duggan is leading the effort to fill the various ticket selling and collection positions. You can see which positions are still open at our website. Follow the link to the interactive spreadsheet and sign-up for one or more shifts. Also, encourage your friends and neighbors to take a shift, on our behalf. It is always fun interacting with the fair goers.

*Gene Merrill, President*

**DEADLINE FOR THE  
Sept 2021  
NAG NEWS is  
5 p.m. Sept 7, 2021**

SUBMIT YOUR  
ARTICLES AND ADS TO:  
[lionel.lavallee47@gmail.com](mailto:lionel.lavallee47@gmail.com)

To improve accuracy please  
confirm all ads by deadline  
date.

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chairs &amp; Members</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Audit	Dan Maiyo	208-940-2887
Budget	Candace Erickson	
Audio-Visual Equipment	Ed Bullock	907-575-7878
Election & Nominations	Sandra O'Brien	907-529-1315
Equipment & Inventory	Chris Grove	381-7600
Fair		
Fundraisers	Ed Bullock	907-575-7878
RTP Grant	Christy Schram-Duggan	360-5947
Historian	Tim Meyer	907-440-0841
Issues	Lionel Lavallee	640-1242
Memberships	Kathy Stoppel-Holl	961-0096
Newsletter	Lionel Lavallee	640-1242
Packing Clinic Scholarship	Chuck Miller	961-5453
Parliamentarian	Rebecca Jones	415-264-5457
Programs	Philip & Pam Torgerson	360-4933/360-3201
Projects	Dan Brandborg/Lionel Lavallee	381-5643/640-1242
Social Marketing	Susan Slemph	821-2017/381-5910
Sunshine	Cindy Beck	360-1165
Trail Rides	Jan Bullock	907-242-9853
Training	Bonnie Morgan	381-9021
Education Committee	Ed Duggan/Christy Schram-Duggan	369-3140/360-5947
Website Design	Nancy Pollman	546-6492

### **Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen 2021 Officers & Board**

#### **Chapter Officers**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Contact</b>
President	Gene Merrill	2021	208-310-6326
Vice President	Dan Brandborg	2021	381-5643
Secretary	Christy Schram-Duggan	2021	360-5947
Treasurer	Barbara Walker	2021	928-606-0855

#### **Board Members**

	<b>Term</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Ed Bullock	2020-21	907-575-7878
Jan Bullock	2021-22	907-242-9853
Ed Duggan	2021-22	369-3140
Joe Kirkland	2021-22	802-2286
Katie Williams	2021-22	531-0688
Lionel Lavallee	2021-22	640-1242
Mike Costanzo	2020-21	375-1340
Julie Schram	2020-21	961-2457
Dan Maiyo	2020-21	208-940-2887

**Past President:** Karen Philips 406-961-0101 **State Chairman:** Sherri Lionberger 208-691-6218

**State Directors:** Lionel Lavallee (2021) 640-1242  
Taylor Orr (2021-22) 930-5838

**Alt State Director:** Chuck Miller (2021) 961-5453

## **August 19<sup>th</sup> BRBCH Monthly meeting: Coyote Coulee**

**Program Speakers: Wyatt Day, John Winters - members of UM's first ever Wilderness Policy and Packing class and they will talk about their experiences in the class and on the pack trip**

### **NOTE FROM OUR HISTORIAN**

Ok Bitterroot Back Country Horsemen,

As chapter historian I have a duty to document and save chapter events – especially work parties.

I have been seeing many posts on Facebook with pictures and descriptions of the work parties we have been able to do this smoky year. BUT no pictures are showing up in our chapter's Google Drive or in my email.

It is fairly simple to put pictures into our Google drive.

1. First copy your pictures to your laptop or computer
2. Open your computer's version of file explorer
3. Go to the Google Drive (BRBCH History Files or <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1yjxboOoAQ6FYJnmXM3xpZpe1vbujXFRR> )
4. Open the "Member Submissions" folder (the contents of the other folders can be viewed and/or downloaded if desired).
5. Split your screen so you can see both applications
6. Select all the files you wish to share with the chapter
7. Drag and drop them to the Google Drive window.
8. Send me an email with short explanation of the files you uploaded including date, location, persons' names, etc.

I would be more than willing to show anyone how to do this in person. Just email or call me.

Tim Meyer

907-440-0841

Timinmt1030@gmail.com

### **BCH Member Benefit – Equisure Insurance**

Equisure Insurance through BCHA provides discounted rates (\$20 Single or \$40 Family), Equine general liability coverage for up to \$1,000,000, and is valid for the calendar year, from January 1 through December 31 each year. The time of year you purchase the insurance does not change the renewal date of January 1.

You must be a member of a BCH chapter to purchase insurance. Download the form and send in your payment. You can enclose a check or provide your credit card information on the form. For questions, open the Equisure FAQ.

Equisure Insurance Form:

<https://files.constantcontact.com/e75b0703801/4aeaadb6-6096-4fd6-9523-9cc169aa18e2.pdf>

Equisure FAQ:

<https://files.constantcontact.com/e75b0703801/ae51afa4-939e-4ca5-b4ca-b9c60bdb2397.pdf>

## Horse Sense Sponsored by



We carry all your equine  
Vaccination and deworming needs.  
Plus a large supply of animal  
Health products.

See us in Corvallis or Deer Lodge  
On Facebook

Or

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

406-961-4917

Monday – Friday 8 – 5:30

Saturday – 9 – 4

406-961-49717



### **Smoke: A Guide to Safely Start Working and Riding Your Horse**

*from Oregon State University Extension Service*

The first blue sky following the gray smoky ash ridden air is not when to ride. We all want to start riding and working our horses. But we need to be smart about reintroducing horses

to work. Horses have been exposed to smoke and ash over the duration of the wildfires. Even in barns, they are breathing the same air quality as outside (unless you have an enclosed barn with a HVAC or closed air circulation).

During this exposure, horses are breathing in ash and particulates that lodge in their upper airway and down into their lungs. Deep breathing during exercise or playing at turnout will draw the foreign particulates deeper into the lung. The more particulate that is drawn deep into the lung, the longer their recovery may take. This is why it has been advised to keep horses as quiet as possible while still

keeping them comfortable in a turnout or pasture.

#### **What counts as clean air?**

The air quality index (AQI) needs to be monitored to determine if the air is becoming cleaner and we can start our countdown to riding once again. The AQI needs to be consistently below 100 throughout a 24-hour period to be counted as a “clean air day”. The number of clean air days are what we will be using to establish the horse’s recovery schedule.

#### **Clean air...**

Once clean air is consistently below 100, horses should be allowed to rest in a turnout or pasture for a minimum of 7 days. No work or running around, just relaxing. The length of this rest-only period will be dependent upon the time spent and the severity of smoke and ash exposure. The other major factor to consider is whether the horse has a preexisting respiratory condition such as heaves or EIPH

(bleeders) as this will likely increase the length of the rest-only phase. Talk with your veterinarian frequently regarding when to safely bring a horse back to work. During this time their body is working to clear the lungs of particulates, especially those that have lodged deep in the lungs.

Once 7 days of clean air has been achieved there are several options for bringing your horse back in to work. The option you choose will depend upon several factors:

- Health of the horse prior to the poor air quality caused by smoke and ash
- Length of time the horse is exposed to the smoke and ash
- Severity of the air quality
- Preexisting respiratory conditions

- Fitness of the horse prior to the poor air quality

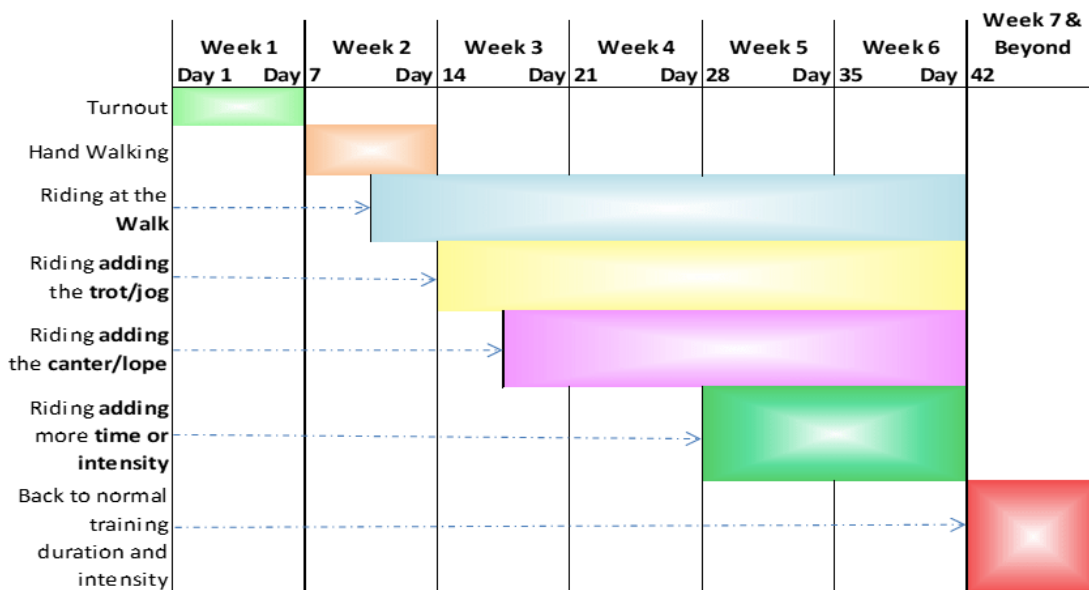
*If at any time your horse develops signs of respiratory distress stop working and contact your veterinarian.*

- Coughing
- Nasal discharge
- Increased respiratory rate not affiliated with the work/gait
- Excessive reluctance to work

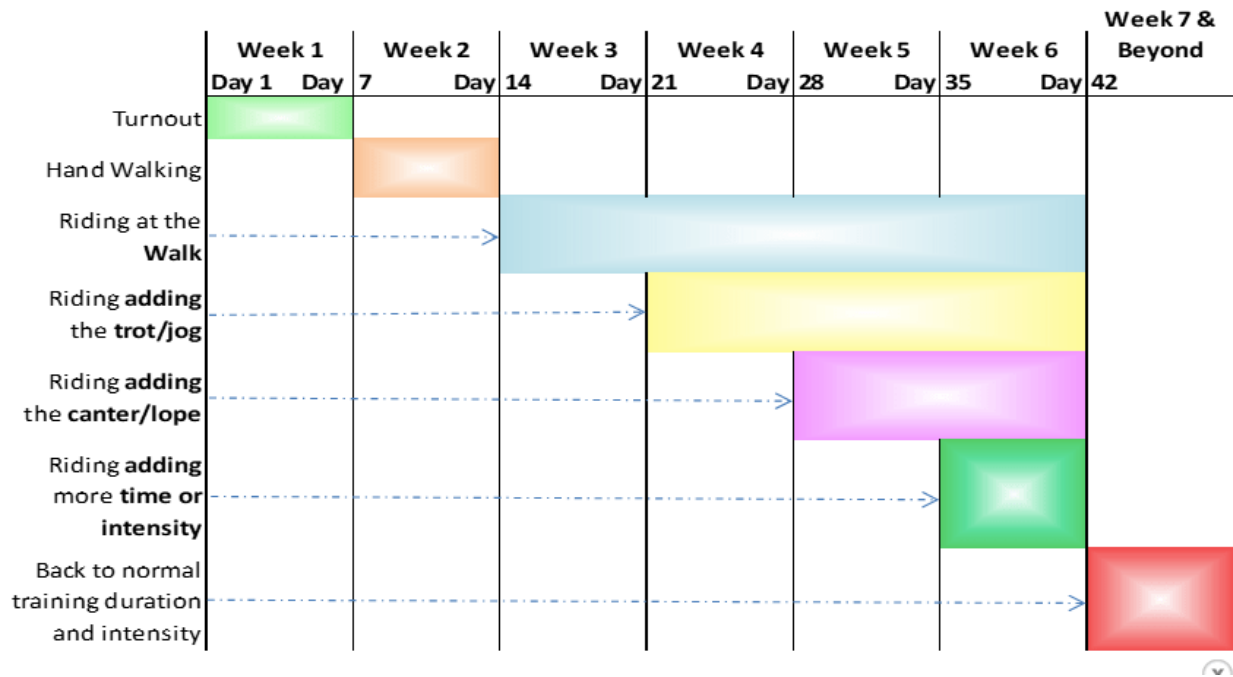
It is advised to thoroughly wash horses prior to riding to avoid skin irritation from the ash residue.

The attached graphs provide three different timing options depending on horse health status. If not sure which option to choose, consult your veterinarian.

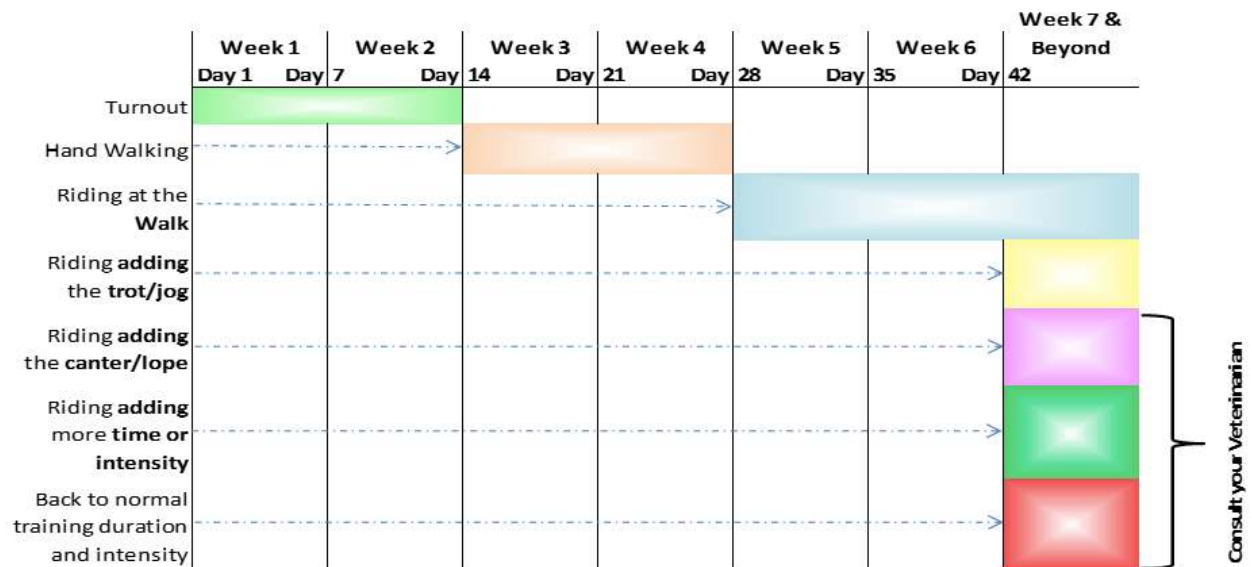
## Healthy and Fit



# Healthy and Unfit



# Pre-existing Respiratory Disorders





## East Fork Project

The East Fork project went well. I have completed the forms and attached them to this email along with a few pictures. We had a crew of 6 riders and 8 stock on Saturday that worked on the main East Fork trail. Due to the heat and approaching thunderstorms we had to turn back about a mile short of star falls. Not quite what we had hoped for, but it was a good weekend nonetheless. Saturday while we were out Travis and Max spent some time and all the nails we brought with us repairing the corral at the cabin. It could still use a bit of work but it is now functional.

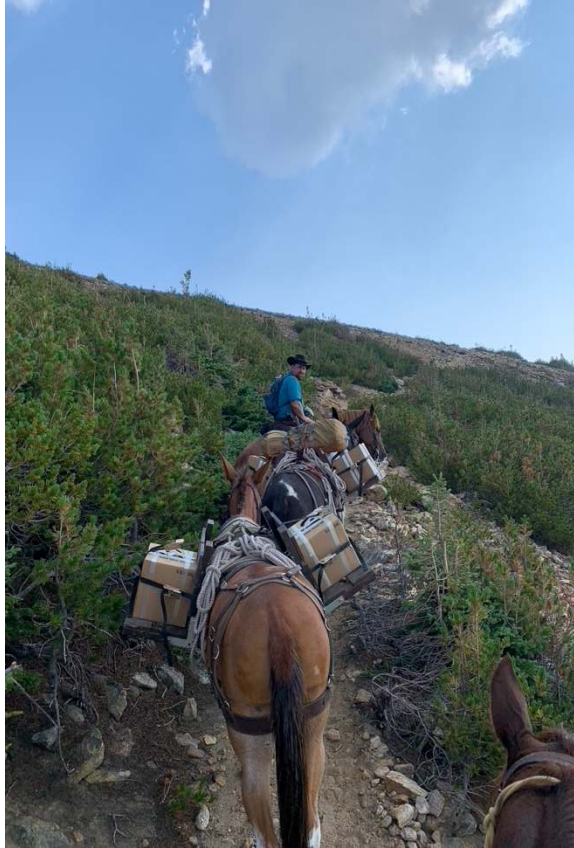
On Sunday Dan and Karen walked the East Fork trail and cleaned out 10 water bars. The trail is in great shape and had minimal work that needed to be done. Sunday, our number of riders dwindled to 3 and we opted to check out Moose Creek and Sign Trails, which offered a bit of shade rather than riding the exposed East Fork trail again. We opted not to take a cross cut and a pack animal with us and do more scouting, therefore we didn't make it very far up Moose. We did go further up Sign and cleared several trees with handsaws. The trail up Sign is really nice and could offer a nice loop. Jake Long stopped and talked with us Sunday afternoon. Moose and Sign can be linked or linked with the Chain of Lakes trail, and chainsaws are acceptable. Something to think about for next year, East Fork one day, Sign and Moose another.

Thanks to Kathy and Max we ate really well! Having them at base camp and taking care of food was great. The Cabin is a fantastic group base



## St. Mary's Lookout Pack Support

Pack trip leader Joe Kirkland's report: the pack trip to St. Mary's Lookout went smoothly. We hauled in approximately 276 pounds of fresh water and approximately 175 pounds of gear. The trail is in great shape. I appreciate Ed Duggan taking the day off from work and lending his expertise.





## Blodgett Canyon Project

Project leader Joe Kirkland's report: The Blodgett trail project went well with us able to get a large group of stock and people in and out without incident. We encountered approximately 6 small trees on our way in that barely impeded our progress. We got to the 7-mile meadow at mid-afternoon, set up camp and hiked the trail west where we cut 8 additional trees and identified several large, downed trees in close proximity to the meadow.

On Saturday we spent the morning on foot clearing the larger trees within a mile of the meadow and Kathy did brushing west of the meadow as well. At lunchtime we returned to camp for the stock and cleared to the 9-mile meadow, encountering some significant sized downfall along the way.

During the course of the three days, we cleared approximately 40 trees. We had hoped to make it to the lake; however, the larger trees we encountered slowed us down and so we cleared only to the 9-mile meadow. We had great weather, ate like kings, caught some fish in the evenings and had the privilege of camping at a beautiful location.

Forest Service Rangers Steve Brown and Caleb met us at the trailhead and rode with us to 7-mile meadow. It was nice they came along, and they were complimentary of the work performed by BRBCH.

On the ride out we cut the tree(s) impeding the water crossing just west of the bridge, which had been an obstacle for the last couple of years and made the water crossing challenging. Thanks to Dan and Carol for wading into the creek to make it happen.

I would like to thank everyone for their hard work and Dan, Ed, and Julie for bringing pack stock. Thank you to Max and Kathy for the food preparation and for Kathy being the cook and preparing great meals.

Thank you to the trailhead committee that met us with watermelon and cold drinks! As my son said: "Best watermelon I have ever eaten." Lastly, Dan Maiyo used an industrial size magnet and assisted by Carol and Karen, picked up approximately 7 pounds of nails from the parking area.







## BACKCOUNTRY KITCHEN



### Mexican Quinoa Wraps

*This quick and easy recipe fits in nicely during the hot summer months of summer (from Pinterest.com)*

#### Ingredients

- 1 cup quinoa, uncooked
- 15 oz canned black beans
- 7 oz frozen corn
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 chili, chopped, seeds removed (optional)
- 1 red pepper, diced
- BBQ sauce
- wraps
- salt, pepper to taste
- guacamole, vegan sour creme (optional)

#### Directions

1. Cook the quinoa according to the manufacturer's instructions.
2. In the meantime, prepare the vegetables. Peel and chop the onion, seed and dice the chili and red pepper.
3. Heat a saucepan and add a little bit of oil. Transfer the onion, chili, and red pepper and sauté for about five minutes until they begin to soften.
4. When the quinoa is ready, take a wrap and fill it with the vegetables mix, corn, and black beans. Add a bit of guacamole and sour creme, plus a dash of BBQ sauce, if you like. Roll and enjoy.



➡ **For Sale by Members** ⬅

Contact Leslie Conner-Maiyo for below listed items:

[dlcasino093@gmail.com](mailto:dlcasino093@gmail.com)

208-940-2887

Charcoal offset Smoker BBQ. Brenkman Pitmaster deluxe. \$125



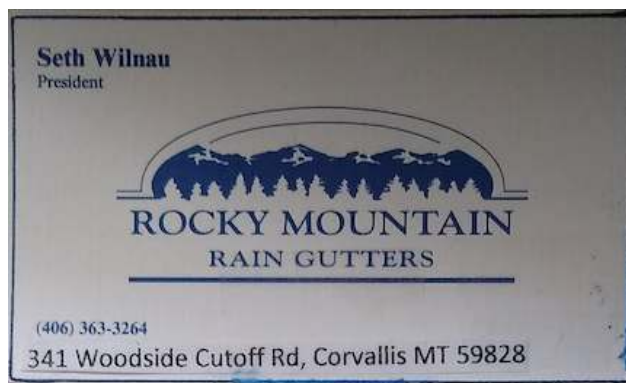
Hackamore Bosal. Approximately 24 plait noseband, 16 plait cheek piece. 11" long, 5/8" diameter with hanger. \$95





## Ads & Services Offered

Please consider our kind advertisers the next time need arise





# Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen



---

## **NEXT BRBCH MEETING**

**Thursday, August 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Location: Coyote Coulee**

**Meeting at 6:30**

