

PENINSULA CHAPTER  
BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON

# The TRAIL ADVOCATE

April May 2016

## Upcoming Events

- Apr 9, Buckhorn ride, new date. See pg 5
- Apr 11, Board Meeting, 5 p.m.  
Clallam Court House
- Apr 16 OAT Run, 8 am
- Apr 16, Jr. Ranger Day ONP HQ, 8:30 am
- Apr 17, OPEN sponsored vet clinic, Roop Rd, Sequim, see pg 9
- Apr 23 Salt Creek Spaghetti Ride, Joyce
- Apr 30 Mule Barn Day ONP
- May 9 Tack sale at Sequim Grange.
- May 11 Meetings: Board 5 pm and General 6:30 pm
- May 22 Miller Peninsula Rhododendron Breakfast 9 am and Ride

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## Salt Creek Spaghetti Feed and Ride, Saturday, April 23, Joyce 9 a.m.

April showers bring May flowers, but we're hoping for a clear day to enjoy a trail ride and spaghetti lunch! Be there or be square on Saturday.

Take 101 west to 112 west, turn right at Camp Hayden Rd across from Salt Creek RV Park. The park is at the end of Camp Hayden Rd.

Bring your beverage, salad or dessert to share. The chapter will provide spaghetti, plates, and cutlery.

## Sunday, May 22 Miller Peninsula Trail Ride and Breakfast

Come see the improvements to Miller Peninsula trails that Chapter members have made. Arrive at 9 am for breakfast with a tentative 10 am ride out.

## President's Message

April 5, 2016

Fellow Peninsula Chapter Members,  
Several members made the journey to Rendezvous in Ellensburg in March for the annual state BCHW get together. We made a great impression with the display boards showing the chapter's work at the Miller Peninsula that were created by Cate Bendock. Cate's photo boards took first place in the "Chapter Pride on Display" competition. This is our third first place in the display competition. Unfortunately Cate was not in attendance to receive the plaque, but our hearty thanks and congratulations to her for a great display.

The event was highlighted by packing and cross-cut saw demonstrations, the gentled BLM mustang adoption, photography and Dutch oven cooking competitions, vendor shopping opportunities, BCHW store, and the used tack sale. Following the Annual Dinner, a wild auction of donated items garnered \$10,000 in proceeds. Bidding was quick and exciting.

Beck Seibel gave several demonstrations of her training with the mustang "Pumpkin" she had been gentling for adoption at the Rendezvous. Don Gondor gave the "Favorite Trails" talk in Cate's absence. Larry Baysinger took first place in the Dutch Oven cooking competition with his chicken meal. Jan Whitlow's table decorations drew admiring comments from the crowd.

Happy Trails,  
*Dan Dosey*  
President BCHW Peninsula  
Chapter



## The Trail Bulletin

### West Side Trail Work at Mt Muller, or Fun with Dave!

We keep guessing wrong on the weather and since we're volunteers, the consensus is we don't want to be soaking wet while wacking salal and clearing it off the trail. So a couple of weeks have passed since we worked the trail. Jan Whitlow rode out on March 23 from the horse camp along the bottom trail to the rock shelter to assess that part of the trail. She found only a few small branches and one 8" diameter tree on the trail after the heavy winds of the week before. It looked like someone had recently cut up a few large trees from the trail shortly before she checked. The one tree still across the trail is easy for horses to step over, bikes will have to dismount, and Jan removed all the smaller branches. So anyone wishing to ride from the horse camp should find a clear trail!

Work will resume on the trail to the rock shelter from the access road that goes up the mountain at the power lines at Fairholme hill. We ride to work and have a pack animal to haul the equipment. Notices about scheduled work days are emailed out a couple of days before we intend to go, and because of the weather, the planning has been on short lead time. The idea is to schedule a regular day and go once a week when the rains abate. As with all Peninsula trail work, wackers, swampers, sawyers, and an enthusiastic attitude are always needed!

Dave also reports on March 27: The West Elwha Trail is open to Hughes Creek (foot log) about 2 miles in for stock use. Hughes Creek is still fast high water and there are 2 big trees blocking the stock-ford. The foot log has lost a sill on the south side and is at a crappy angle for hikers. There is about a 3.5 ft climb up to trail height. I called Larry Lack and he was happy for the report. I plan on driving in to what's left of Altaire Campground and finishing the trail soon. Tom Mix says that trail has eroded to bare basalt and is not suitable for stock at this time past the foot log.



#### Littleton Horsecamp Stalls get Safety Upgrade

The old, sometimes rotten, wooden rails are being replaced with stronger and safer steel pipe. In addition, the long stalls on the main level are now set up as 12 x 12 with metal gates for each stall.

With brush removal and general clean-up done, the camp is ready for use! The old rails have been cut into firewood lengths and stacked for your campfire.

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#### Political Aspirations?

*If you would like to serve as an Officer or help with any committee, please email the committee chair or come to a board meeting.*



## Trail Projects Coordinator Report — March 14, 2016

By Tom Mix

### Work Parties

**Miller Peninsula** – Three trail reroutes have been flagged and are ready for construction. Work parties have been held and more are scheduled. The first reroute has been treaded and overhead limbs cleared. The overhead clearance has been accomplished on the second reroute. We are finishing the tread on the first and starting to work on the second reroute tread now.

**Quinault** – Mike Bonomo and his crew spent 3 days grading trail near the USFS Ranger office at Lake Quinault.

**Mt Muller** – Dave and his crew are making progress retreading trail on the system. The water system documentation has started with Don and Molly.

**Little River** – Our site meeting with DNR and their WCC crew leader was accomplished and the result was that they reworked the turnpike cross ditching to be stock friendly and completely rebuilt a 35 foot puncheon to stock standards. The work site is about 2 miles in. WTA worked a day to rebuild trail tread after a tree took it out about 4 miles in and made a repair to the nasty, steep and big rock turn near the #4 foot log. There are reports of minor downfalls inhibiting stock travel. No trips are planned soon as the river is running high and the fords are challenging.

**Olympic National Park - Wilderness Watch suit:** We initiated a state wide support for joining ONP in their defense of keeping existing shelters and other manmade structures maintained within the Park wilderness areas. Rod Farlee has obtained pro bono legal support for this endeavor. The suit filed by Wilderness Watch wants no maintenance on any manmade structures (think bridges, turnpikes, crib walls, etc) within the Park, starting with the shelters.

### Upcoming trail parties:

**Miller Peninsula** – build trail at 3 reroute flag lines, install hitch rails, install 3 or 4 picnic tables, brush the east trail loop to 5 year standards. We have approval to install hitch rails at the existing picnic tables. We are supporting local park management in

thwarting headquarters desire for paving the trailhead ADA loop. We have been asked to bring in an excavator to dig ditch and maybe dry wells for improved water management near the paved parking area. We have permission to flag a new full loop trail on the bluff to the east of the beach trail and north of Fireweed road.



**Lower Dungeness - Puncheon project** - requested by WTA (Charlie) and Mike Bonomo (Gray Wolf) to fabricate (saw) puncheon planks. About 40 feet of planking remains to be sawn. The old puncheon bridge about 2 bridges above the saw and construction site is being repaired to stock use standards. *A void having stock on this trail until further notice.*

**Mt Muller/Littleton** - Water system will be documented by Don and Dan in collaboration with Molly. We asked ODT crew to reestablish the approach and water hole at the first bridge on the ODT before the rock house. We lost stream access when the ODT bridge was installed. Due to other entities getting involved, we need to step aside a while until “who is to do what” gets outlined. One approach is to provide a short stock trail for self-watering at the stream, another is to place a stock tank and associated piping to get water to trail level, a third option is to do nothing and let the stock users fend for themselves. Dave Seibel will lead the system trail work parties this coming season.

**Duckabush** - USFS has asked for our help in removing a troublesome complex near 5 mile camp on the Duckabush. No stock can pass that site. Hikers have great difficulty in passing. Del and I surveyed the site. If they accept our plan – we will be working at the complex about 4 days this next season. The USFS brought in a blaster and asked them to assess the complex. We may end up with a combo of sawing, rigging and blasting work. Tickets for this event will be in high demand. WTA has asked for pack support on April 7 and again on the 10th to River camp.

**Little River** - We will plan to visit the trail later this season to install railings on foot log #5 and

**Monthly Trail Work Parties on the 2nd Tuesday and 3rd Saturday, join the fun —  
Watch Email for Locations or call Tom Mix @ 582-0460**

maybe #4. Plus we need to remove a blocking tree above foot log #5. Gene Rimov is assembling a plan similar to last season's successful event.

**Wolf Creek** – Dave and Linda have a plan to head in from the bottom and accomplish log out on the lower 4 mile reach of the trail. On hold until the main Elwha road gets rebuilt.

**Happy Lake Ridge trail** – Linda is asking for a work party to reopen this trail. Three seasons ago we got to the ridge and started along the ridge. We need to return to do corridor trimming and log out. Expect this to be an overnigher at Happy Lake. On hold until the main Elwha road gets rebuilt.

**Lower Dungeness** -Foot Log: On hold pending review by USFS Engineering and approval of sill site selection.

**Fossil Creek** -We will be invited to assist with rigging and placement of girders and decking once all the materials are at the work site. Due to exquisite scheduling by the USFS the road was decommissioned just before the bridge could be installed - thus the 3 mile move element. Latest work has it that the USFS is seeking an additional \$60+k grant to move the girders and place them.

**Sawyer certs:** Contact Tom or Del should you need to get certified or recertified for chain or cross cut saw work. Check to see that your First Aid and CPR are current.

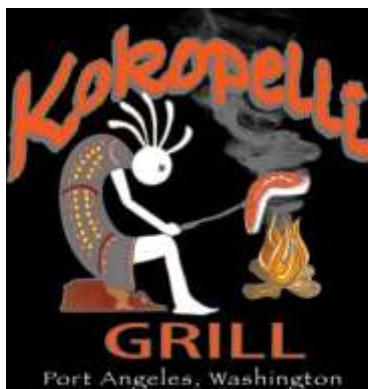
**June 22 CPR/First Aid Training** at the Olympic National Forest Hood Canal Ranger District at 295142 Highway 101 South, Quilcene, WA 98376. It is important for everyone to have a first aid card. This training is great in any situation, work or play, travel or at home. If you have one, check your card and make sure it is not expired or about to expire. If you don't have a valid card, plan on attending one of the training sessions. For those of you who do trail work, ride the trails, or backpack/camp in the back country, the Wilderness training is highly recommended. **Wilderness First Aid class on June 28-29.** The classes are complimentary, not exclusive.

## Sandy Shore Ride and Potluck April 9, ride out at 10 am

The annual "Sandy Shore" ride with Peninsula and Buckhorn chapters has been rescheduled for Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, riding out from the Seton Pit on Wahl Lake Rd. (Across Hwy. 104 from Hwy. 19, Beaver Valley Rd.). Plan to arrive at 9 am to avoid disappointment. The large yellow gate may be closed and locked after 10 a.m. so don't be late or you won't get in! (Someone will be at the trailhead with a key in case anyone needs to leave early).

The route will be well-flagged, and riders can go at their own pace. Horses should be shod or in boots, as there is a lot of forest road riding. Many areas have water and mud, and there are two creek crossings.

The potluck is after the ride. Please RSVP [bchwpc@gmail.com](mailto:bchwpc@gmail.com) if you plan on attending.



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\*Contact the ride host to check for updates on the event plus whether or not weed-free feed is required by law.  
Note: all National Forest and National Parks require weed-free feed, check with your local feed store for availability. Peninsula local stores that carry Weed Free Hay are Co-op and Leitz Farms. Plus most pelleted feed is weed free certified it will show on the label.

\*Please remember to bring a manure fork to clean up after your horse/s following every ride! By always using good Leave No Trace ethics and a little common sense, our 'Right to Ride' in America's beautiful front country, back country and wilderness will be ensured for years to come.





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- **Outdoor MOVIE NIGHT**
- **LIVE MUSIC AND WINE TASTING**
- **ALL THE RIDING YOU CAN HANDLE**
- **DAY TRIP TO BOULDER SHELTER**  
*(MUST HAUL OUT, BE IN GOOD SHAPE AND HAVE TRAIL EXPERIENCE. LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE.)*



**REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS:**

**WE MUST HAVE 40 REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS BY AUGUST 10TH OR THE EVENT WILL BE CANCELED. MUST BE 18 OR OLDER OR ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT/LEGAL GUARDIAN.**



**LHHC EVENTS ARE BY DONATION ONLY. THE SUGGESTED DONATION FOR THIS EVENT IS AS FOLLOWS:**

**DOES NOT INCLUDE:**

- ✦ **MEALS FOR YOUR ANIMALS**
- ✦ **MAID SERVICES** (PLEASE CLEANUP AFTER YOURSELF AND YOUR CRITTERS)



- AGE 0-5 ~ FREE**
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- AGE 13-79: \$130.00**
- AGE 80-100 ~ FREE**

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**For more information on this specific event, call or email Anna at :  
425-737-7404 / annasacres@gmail.com  
For General Camping Reservations  
Call Judy at:360-775-6500**



**MAIL REGISTRATION FORM & DONATION TO:  
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1219 188TH ST NE  
ARLINGTON, WA 98223**

NOV 9 5 30 PM '07

To join BCHW, complete this application, sign the liability release (all members 18 and over), attach payment and turn in both to your Chapter Treasurer or Membership Chair.



Make Checks to: Peninsula Chapter

• Mail to: BCHW – PC, PO Box 1931, Port Angeles, WA 98362

MEMBER INFO  YES: Add the \* info to the Peninsula Chapter Directory for Members Only

New Member  Renewal – Membership number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\*Adult's name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Children's name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*City: \_\_\_\_\_

\*ST: \_\_\_\_\_

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Legislative district (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Check to opt out of mailed (hardcopy) newsletter:  BCHWashington (Trailhead News)

Check one: Please send ALL communication from this Chapter by: email  posted mail

STATE MEMBERSHIP

Basic Membership

- Single \$41.00
 Family \$54.00

Optional Membership (includes family or single from above)

- Contributing \$75.00
 Sustaining \$125.00
 Patron \$250.00
 Benefactor \$500.00
 Lifetime (Single) \$1200.00

State dues paid online (attach receipt copy)

Additional State Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

State Subtotal \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

All chapter members must also be a member of BCHW. However, BCHW dues only need to be paid once each year. Joining additional (secondary) chapters only requires paying chapter dues.

PENINSULA CHAPTER

- Single \$9.00  Family \$11.00

If joining a secondary Chapter, provide the Chapter name where BCHW dues have been paid for 2015:

Table with 2 columns: Description, Amount. Rows include Chapter Dues, Additional Chapter Donation, Chapter Subtotal, and Grand Total (State+Chapter).

LIABILITY RELEASE & NOTICES

All ADULT members MUST sign! Adult's signature covers minor children.

Recognizing the fact that there is a potential for an accident wherever horse use is involved, which can cause injuries to horses, riders, and spectators, and also recognizing the fact that Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, Inc., including Chapters, officers, directors, or members, cannot always know the condition of trails or the experience levels of riders or horses taking part in trail rides or other BCHW events, I do hereby release and hold harmless the above named from any claim or right for damages which might occur to me, my minor children, or horses.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Backcountry Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) is a public charity as defined in Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c) (3). Accordingly, membership dues paid to BCHW may be treated as deductions characterized as "charitable contributions" when computing federal and state income tax obligations.



## Wilderness Watch Resolution

WHEREAS Wilderness Watch, an activist group in Missoula, has filed a lawsuit against Olympic National Park, seeking to enjoin the Park from "authorizing further rehabilitation and reconstruction of any man-made structure" within the Olympic Wilderness, and "removal" of all six historic trail shelters the Park has restored since 2009, and

WHEREAS this threatens the continued existence of trail stock bridges, hitch racks, stock enclosures, ranger cabins and trail shelters within Olympic Wilderness, be it therefore

RESOLVED we recognize this lawsuit as a threat to our access to and enjoyment of Wilderness, here and across the nation; and be it further

RESOLVED that BCHW file an amicus curiae "friend of the court" brief in support of the National Park Service in this case and/or file for intervenor status as an affected party, and be it further

RESOLVED that we accept offers of pro bono legal representation to advise and assist us therein, in concert with other supporting organizations, including the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Friends of Olympic Na-

tional Park, Friends of Olympic Trail Shelters, The Olympians and others.

Supporting points:

This furthers our mission:

"2.To work to insure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use.

"3. To assist the various government... 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."

There are over 10,000 inventoried "man-made" trail structures and 22 historic structures within Olympic Wilderness.

Their maintenance is supported by three mule pack trains run by Olympic NP plus BCHW pack support and volunteer labor.

This lawsuit seeks to overturn Olympic National Park's 2008 General Management Plan, supported by BCHW, which preserves stock trails and facilities, and its few surviving historic buildings.

Wilderness Watch's last lawsuit against Olympic National Park in 2007 resulted in the loss of Home Sweet Home and Low Divide Shelters, and has since hobbled with red tape the maintenance of trail bridges and all other historic structures in Olympic Wilderness, including Enchanted Valley Chalet.

Wilderness Watch's last similar lawsuit, seeking removal of Green Mountain Lookout in Glacier Peak Wilderness, was opposed by BCHW and a coalition of other outdoors and preservation groups, and was overturned by unanimous act of Congress in 2014.

These six trail shelters - Canyon Creek Shelter (Sol Duc), Bear Camp Shelter and Anderson Pass Shelter (Dosewallips), Elk Lake Shelter (Hoh), Botten Cabin and Wilder Shelter (Elwha) - are eligible or listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Our members enjoy the utility and historic value of each of the few surviving trail shelters, and hope to pass our heritage on to the next generation.

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## TRAIL ADVOCATE

### Little River Trail Stock Alert

On April 4, Del, Tom, John, Sam, Jeff along with Rocky, Dakota and Osh sawed out a rather large (4 foot diameter) downed tree and a few technical trees about 10 minutes walk up trail from the first foot log complex. DNR has done a great job with their reach of trail installing puncheon and turnpike. The downed Fir was over 500 years old. The technical trees were a great puzzle to solve.

#### **Stock Alert: Stock is advised to not travel past the first foot log.**

About 7 or 8 minutes walk up trail from the foot logs is a nasty cliff face where the tread has been torn out by falling trees, root wads and sloughing hillside all at a cliff face of hard basalt. Should stock travel up trail once they realize the tread is unsafe - it is a bit too late as there is no turnaround.

We have requested ONP to post the trailhead sign alerting stock to not travel past the first foot logs. John will post a temporary sign to that effect. ONP WIC and Trails have been advised. We have made a request for Trails to send a blaster in to give us a base to regain the tread.

*Beck Seibel telling an attentive crowd about her gentling methods for mustangs. Pumpkin was unphased by the crowd and their enthusiastic applause.*





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Back Country Horsemen  
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**OPEN**  
Olympic Peninsula Equine Network

PO Box 252, Sequim WA 98382  
[www.olympenequine.net.org](http://www.olympenequine.net.org)  
(360) 207-1688

**What:** OPEN will be hosting an Equine Vet Clinic  
**When:** April 17<sup>th</sup> 2016 starting at 10am.  
**Where:** 554 Roupe Road, Sequim Wa 98382

OPEN & Dr. Sean Tuley are working together again offering horse owners reasonable prices on various veterinary procedures at this one day vet clinic.

- Teeth Float \$120 to \$150
- Castration \$200
- Other routine vet services are available including; x-rays, vaccinations, worming, etc. call or message us for prices on specific procedures.

There is a 10 float limit appointments are required; we have a covered area to work so the weather is not an issue....

Please call our message line (360) 207-1688 and someone will return your call or you can contact us through our Facebook page to make an appointment

\*There will be a \$50 farm call charge for the first horse per family and \$25 for each additional animal; this goes to OPEN for hosting the clinic



**VOLUNTEER HOURS**

Thank you to those of who have submitted their volunteer hours. If you have hours to report, no matter how few, send to to Judy Sage by email, regular mail, Pony Express or if you have Excel on your computer I can send you the file we use. If you have any questions or need help filling out your hours I'd be glad to help. My cell is 360-775-6500, my email no1sage@gmail.com. If you wish to mail it or send Pony Express to:  
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## Bits of news from hither and yon

**BBQ Flat Campground Dedication**—A popular hiking and backcountry horse riding area between Ellensburg and Yakima is set to reopen this summer. The open, flat, forested area in the Wenas area northwest of Selah has long been a popular backcountry horseback riding destination. It connects to higher country with views to several mountain ranges.

The BBQ Flats dedication will be held on **May 21, 2016**.

Entry to the pine forested lands has been intermittent since May 2012 because an entry road crossed private lands. The Legislature in 2013 approved \$500,000 for land purchase and improvements at the request of Judy Warnick (R) of Moses Lake.

A land purchase and swap gives permanent access to the campground, which is within state Department of Natural Resources lands. BCHW—Wenas Chapter has been an essential partner in preparing the area for public use.

**Klahanne Talk by Cate**— On February 21, fearless speaker Cate Bendock gave a slide presentation about sharing the trail and “Stop, Stand, and Speak” principles to the Klahanne hiking group. Some 40 members of the club were in attendance and thoroughly enjoyed the talk, and the lively discussion that followed.. Jan Whitlow assisted with passing out fliers and donning the backpack with the bear hide over the top to demonstrate that horses can visualize life-threatening danger from the simplest things.

**Olympia Chapter Western Dream Ride** on July 15-17, 2016 @ The Flying Horseshoe Ranch in Cle Elum, WA. \$125/person Registration closes 1 July or with 150 participants.

Info at <http://olympicbchwa.org/WDR.htm>



## Time For Junior Ranger Day Olympic National Park (ONP)

Each year ONP hosts the Junior Ranger Day for kids and adults to learn about the Park and enjoy many activities about wildlife, plants, and safety. The Peninsula Chapter was invited to attend last year with our Sharing the Trails Safely - 3S Program and Leave No Trace (LNT) training for youth. We were a hit! We're invited back this year for more fun.



The event takes place at the ONP Headquarters at 3002 Mt. Angeles Rd, Port Angeles. Take Race St. up the hill and follow the signs. The event is Saturday, April 16, from 9 am - 3 pm

Our Chapter provides a live performance of the 3S Program (Stop, Stand, and Speak) Last year this was done by member Jen Bond and her family, and they are doing it this year too. We also have horses and mules with pack gear on a highline to demonstrate Backcountry packing, and our LNT display to promote the 7 Principles. We give out free coloring books that feature the LNT Principles and kids get to feed all the stock carrots off of Frisbees to save little fingers and encourage encountering stock safely.

Your help as a member is needed. As you can imagine, there are many kids and lots of activity. Our stock animals appreciate having responsible, stock savvy people around to help kids learn about us. Please plan on attending or helping. Email Cate at [bchwpc@gmail.com](mailto:bchwpc@gmail.com) or call her at 541-761-1849. It's a fun day and a great way to help.





PO BOX 1931  
 PORT ANGELES, WA 98362

### BCHW MISSION STATEMENT

1. To perpetuate the commonsense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness.
2. To work to ensure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use.
3. To assist the various government and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.
4. 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.
5. To foster and encourage the formation of new chapters in the state organization.

Board Position	Elected Member
<b>President Ex-Officio</b>	Dan Dosey 360-461-9774 Cate Bendock bendock2010@hotmail.com
<b>Vice President</b>	Del Sage no1sage@gmail.com
<b>Secretary alternate</b>	Don Gondor d3gond3r@hotmail.com Tom Mix backcountrypacker.mix@gmail.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	Cate Bendock bendock2010@hotmail.com
<b>State Director alternate</b>	Dave Seibel daveseibel@sbcglobal.net Del Sage no1sage@gmail.com

Committee Positions	Appointed Member
<b>Legislature</b>	Juelie Dalzell (Buckhorn) acting for Peninsula
<b>Leave No Trace</b>	Jennifer Bond mama_rides@yahoo.com
<b>Publicity</b>	Cate Bendock bendock2010@hotmail.com
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