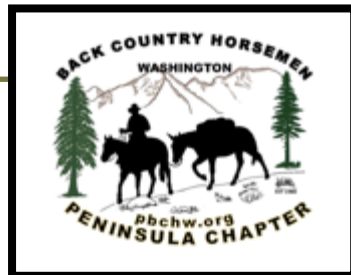


Summer 2020

# Trail Crafters News

Olympic Peninsula, Washington



## Eagle Creek Bridge

Twisp, WA  
Constructed July 2020

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), is a 501

(c)(3) organization with 31 chapters across the state dedicated to: keeping trails open for all users; educating horse users in Leave-No-Trace practices; and providing volunteer service to resource agencies.

## Special Interest Articles

- Dan Kelly Ride, Pg 2
- Siebert Creek, Pg 3
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## PENINSULA CHAPTER BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON

PO Box 1931 Port Angeles, WA 98362 visit us on FB [peninsulabchwchapter@gmail.com](mailto:peninsulabchwchapter@gmail.com)

Peninsula Chapter's New Website: [www.pbchw.org](http://www.pbchw.org) (Check it out!)

Upcoming Events: Nothing is scheduled at this time due to the uncertainty of the COVID-19 quarantine.

## President's Message – Dan Dosey

### Still Kickin'

As we continue through the uncharted waters of a pandemic, I think all of us are working to keep our lives as normal as possible. With the opening of State Park and Forest trails, members have been venturing out in small groups, practicing "social distancing" protocols, and  
Enjoying adventures on horseback.

Trail work has continued at the NOLT Siebert Creek Property, a "modified" Dan Kelly Ride occurred, and pack crew volunteers helped supply a work party in the Tubal Cain Mine area; all emphasizing COVID-19 safety protocols. The Board has been having ZOOM meetings to carry on with necessary business.

Members from Peninsula Chapter ventured to Twisp July 1st – 7<sup>th</sup> to construct a new stock bridge at Eagle Creek as part of a Modified State-Wide Work Party effort. The old bridge had been destroyed in a forest fire in 2018.

Unfortunately, we have not felt that a group picnic gathering is a virus-safe event to attempt this summer. I think we are all feeling some social deprivation; but, need to err on the side of caution. Please let me know if you are aware of any members who need assistance or support as we tackle these issues. Stay safe, everyone.

Dan

## Dan Kelly Ride – June 27, 2020

A modified version of our traditional June ride brought out 7 horses and riders, plus an unusual participant: a goat! He was a very good citizen and none of the horses seemed alarmed by his presence. He just followed his equine buddy along the trail.

We did not want to encourage people to gather near one another, so there was no food served prior to this year's event. Riders went out in small groups to enjoy the OAT (Olympic Adventure Route) Trail. The parking lot has been resurfaced by the County, and is very welcoming. The weather was perfect!



Companion goat along for the ride!



Preparing for the ride.



Trucks and trailers have ample parking space.

### Trailhead Courtesy:

This is the season when more community members begin to use all of our trail systems; therefore, everyone should be reminded to practice the **Leave No Trace** principles that we teach. Be sure to clean up any "deposits" you and your horses leave around your horse trailers or on the trails. If you cannot get your horse to move off the trail to "poop," dismount and kick the stuff off the trail (especially the ADA section at Miller). Walkers and bicycle riders will appreciate your courtesy! This includes shavings and hay in the parking area! Park rangers use a "blower" to clean the parking lot, and some of that stuff just won't move when damp! We want to be sure that equestrians set a good example for other trail users.

## **Siebert Creek Conservation Area, North Olympic Land Trust June 2020**

Trail crews continued to hold work parties at the Siebert Creek Conservation area during June. A full dump truck load of gravel, then another 2 yards, was spread on the trails to cover roots, stabilize soft spots, and improve wet areas. A tracked, power totter was borrowed from Buckhorn Chapter and several old-fashioned wheelbarrows were kept busy for 3 days. Drainage was improved with log-reinforced ditches. Another load of gravel is expected to be delivered and distributed to the trails in July. This fall, our sawyers will return to thin some of the alder. A new length of trail has been flagged and will be built to add a loop to a view-point area. This trail is getting increased use now that it is safer for horses. This has been a very worthwhile project and it has been easy to follow Covid-19 safety protocols because of the limited scope of this venture.



Loading gravel into the motorized totter.



Power totter and wheelbarrows were used to move gravel along the trail.



New drainage and gravel added to trail section.



Beautiful new ramped turn where stump was removed.



## Eagle Creek Bridge, Twisp River Trail – July 1 – 7, 2020

The State Wide Work Party was cancelled this year because of dangers from the COVID-19 virus, but a small contingent of volunteers from a number of chapters around the state “carefully” gathered to complete the major construction project that had been planned for the SWWP. Del Sage, Tom Mix, and Jim and Donna Hollatz were the participants from Peninsula Chapter. They traveled to Twisp and camped out in their trucks while working on the project. Tom took the chapter’s fully equipped tool trailer.

The bridge had burned during a forest fire in 2018, leaving 3 badly charred stringers across the creek, surrounded by a forest of charcoal coated, dead pine and fir trees. The bridge site was about ¼ mile from a FS road, so tools and supplies had to be transported up a trail. An ATV with a trailer was used to transport the precut bridge planks, so no stock animals were involved. Tony Karniss, from Lewis County Chapter, brought a fully loaded trailer with all the lumber (cut from a huge FS tree in Lewis County) and hardware. Rob Deboer, from Skagit Chapter brought a tracked trail-toter that was used to haul rock and gravel.



Remains of Old Bridge



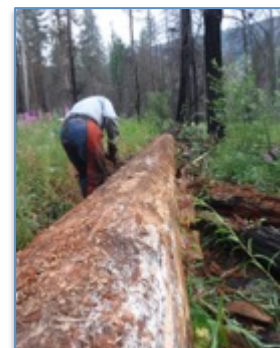
Tony's Loaded Trailer



Power totter moving rock



Removing bark to fell tree.



Removing bark from stringer.

A major hurdle was finding 3 solid trees to use for the bridge stringers. Bark had to be removed around each tree because the charred bark was too abrasive to cut with chain saws. The first tree cut was not good, but 3 nice Douglas Firs were soon discovered, felled, and the bark removed. Then our expert rigging crew carried out the process of moving the new logs into place, removing the old logs, and constructing the new bridge and trail approaches. The ashes and soot from the fire left everyone coated with a fine black powder and many rocks had to be picked up and moved with the totter to build proper sills and approaches.

## Eagle Creek Bridge, Twisp River Trail – July 1 – 7, 2020, cont.

The new bridge is 34 feet long and 7 feet wide with a 42" bull rail for stock safety. It is built to hold a snow load of 200 pounds. It consists of 3 log stringers, positioned and pinned into place on cedar sills. Abutment planks were installed. Then the decking crew placed the planks with enough space to allow debris to fall through. That completed, the railing was added with supports and braces. Approach logs were placed to hold fill material and form the trail route. About 12 yards of rock was used to build up the bridge approach on one end, then a 10 yard load of gravel completed the fill. (All the rocks and gravel were carried by the toter.) The whole project was completed in about 7 days with COVID safety protocols and no injuries or equipment damage. Hazard trees in the area of the bridge were removed to ensure they would not fall and damage the new bridge. This fantastic bridge should last at least 25 years.



Installation of abutment.



Logs used to build approach.



Installation of planking.



Moving rock to build approach.



Completed approach.



Finished Bridge!

## Photography Assistance Requested

One of the best ways to document all of our wonderful activities is through photos! We do not have an official photographer and it is difficult for one person to be at all of our events, so it would be extremely helpful if those of you in attendance would take some photos and send them to Newsletter editor, Donna Hollatz (jdholatz@gmail.com). This documentation can then be used for posters, newsletters, state calendar, and other promotions. If you have a photo that you feel is worthy of submission to "Chapter Accomplishments" or "Calendar" at the state level, please send it to me "full size" as that is the format that is needed for submissions.

If you have not done so, take a look at the BCHW web site: [www.bchw.org](http://www.bchw.org) and scroll down to the video of Chapter Accomplishments. A very nice video has photos and narrative about our chapter and others for 2019. Other BCHW related videos can be seen at: [www.bchw.org/videos2.htm](http://www.bchw.org/videos2.htm).

A HUGE THANK YOU TO THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE SENT PHOTOS IN THE PAST!

## GO PNC! Be Proud of Your Volunteer Trail Work!!!

**IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU TURN IN YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS BY THE 5<sup>TH</sup> OF EACH MONTH.** Don't hesitate to send Suzanne an email, [rkingandsking@gmail.com](mailto:rkingandsking@gmail.com), as soon as you do volunteer work of any kind related to trails, events, education, or anything tied to our Mission Statement.

Here are our latest numbers and comparison from last few years:

### **2016**

Total VH 7899.5  
Total Value \$261,197.36

### **2017-year end**

Total VH 5165  
Total Value \$165,492

### **2018 year end**

Total VH 6,150.5  
Total Value \$205,265.50

### **2019 year end**

Total VH 6,380  
Total Value \$240,919.75

### **Oct. 1, 2019 thru August 9, 2020**

Total Basic Hours	3,339.5	\$84,923.49
Total Skilled Hours	708.5	\$38,967.50
LNT & Educ.	300	\$7,629.00
Admin. & Plc Mtgs.	1440.5	\$36,631.92
Travel Time	633.5	\$16,109.91
Total Hours	6,422	\$184,261.81
Vehicle Mileage	17,377	\$16,508.15
Total Miles	17,377	\$16,508.15
Total Stock Days	90	\$9,000.00

Grand Total \$209,769.96

**VOLUNTEERING IT'S WHO WE ARE MAKE YOUR HOURS COUNT – REPORT THEM**



## Your 2020 Peninsula Chapter Officers & Chairs

Take the time to note that this list of Chapter members continues to step up and be your Board Directors and Chairs. They do an outstanding job. We are a very successful BCHW Chapter because of the work they do for you. You can support them in many ways: attend your General Meetings, do volunteer event and trail work, attend our ride events, join every year, bring in new members, and send them a thank you now and then. As with all organizations, burn out is a given. Consider shadowing the person who holds one of these positions so that you can step up to take their place in the near future. Your Chapter's future depends on you!

<b>President</b> - Dan Dosey,	<a href="mailto:dande111@centurylink.net">dande111@centurylink.net</a>
<b>Vice President</b> - Delman Sage	<a href="mailto:no1sage@gmail.com">no1sage@gmail.com</a>
<b>Secretary</b> – Juelie Dalzel	<a href="mailto:gobi@olympus.net">gobi@olympus.net</a>
<b>Treasurer</b> – Rob Hupfer	<a href="mailto:robhupfer.bchw@gmail.com">robhupfer.bchw@gmail.com</a>
<b>State Director</b> – Don Gonder	<a href="mailto:degbchwpc2016@outlook.com">degbchwpc2016@outlook.com</a>
<b>Alternate State Director</b> - Delman Sage	<a href="mailto:no1sage@gmail.com">no1sage@gmail.com</a>
<b>Trail Project Coord.</b> - Tom Mix	<a href="mailto:backcountrypacker.mix@gmail.com">backcountrypacker.mix@gmail.com</a>
<b>Membership Chair</b> - Kandy Mulrony	<a href="mailto:kandylynnm@hotmail.com">kandylynnm@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Events &amp; Education Chair</b> - Linda Morin,	<a href="mailto:ehoytr3@yahoo.com">ehoytr3@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Volunteer Hours Chair</b> – Suzanne James-King	<a href="mailto:rkingandsking@gmail.com">rkingandsking@gmail.com</a>
<b>Legislative Chair</b> - Juelie Dalzell	<a href="mailto:gobi@olympus.net">gobi@olympus.net</a>
<b>Email for the Chapter:</b>	<a href="mailto:peninsulabchwchapter@gmail.com">peninsulabchwchapter@gmail.com</a>

## Trail Projects Coordinator Report by Tom Mix – Through July 13, 2020

NOLT: Siebert Creek: Returning July 24/25 to place gravel on tread.

Elk Creek: no plan to replace failed foot log. Awaiting land owner permission to use access road grade instead of fixing trail to get equipment to job site.

DNR: Dungeness Trails: received the okay to regrade a stock rig parking area along Happy Valley Road adjacent to its intersection with River Road. This decision coordinated with JST/DNR/County/OPBA. We do the earthwork.

Miller Peninsula: ODT Connector Trail has initial hand finishing tread work done.

ONP: Sawyers: ONP intends to honor our sawyer credentials. NPS expected to issue joint USFS/NPS sawyer credential recognition memo soon.

Upcoming pack trip to place WTA crew 8 miles in from ONP camp at road end. In on Aug 26, out Aug 30.

USFS: Packed PNTA crew to Tubal Cain and will return July 17 to extract the crew.

Updated saw policy to be released soon. New sawyer training materials will be tested by BCHW this fall.

Twisp: We built a 34 foot stock bridge over Eagle Creek near Twisp July 1–7. Took about 300 photos.

LBQ: Mike and his crew have restarted the reroute effort.

County: Asking our advice on how best to address the failing Whisky Creek foot/bike bridge on OAT. The stock ford need upgrading at the same crossing.

WSP: No updates on progress of assembling a Miller Peninsula development plan.

## Who's Who at the State Level

President	Ridlon	Jason	president@bchw.org
Vice President	Deboer	Rob	vice_pres@bchw.org
Secretary	Short	Tina	secretary@bchw.org
Treasurer	Starke	Teri	treasurer@bchw.org
Safety Chair	Regimbal	Chuck	safetychair@bchw.org
Special Assistant for Advocacy	Chapman	Jeff	bbbranch@olympus.net
Legislative Chair	Chapman	Jeff	bbbranch@olympus.net
Public Lands Chair	Young	Kathy	public_land@bchw.org
Membership Chair	Chambers	Dana	membership@bchw.org
Awards Chair	Krutakk	MaryJo	Mjkrutak@outlook.com
Education Chair	Merrick	Kim	eloise55@gmail.com
LNT Chair	Byram	Jane	Int@bchw.org
Saw Program Coordinator	Mix	Tom	backcountrypacker.mix@gmail.com
Saw Program Coordinator	Karniss	Tony	tkarniss@gmail.com
Volunteer Hours Chair	Wesselius	Deb	volunteerhours@bchw.org
Membership Development Chair	Carmichael	Ken	kcarmichael2225@gmail.com
Governance and By-Laws Chair	Carmichael	Ken	gov_and_bylaws@bchw.org
Special Projects Coordinator	Ridlon	Jason	jhridlon@fairpoint.net
Ways and Means Chair	Starke	Teri	ways_means@bchw.org
Rendezvous Chair	Sedgwick	Nicole	bchwexec@bchw.org
Publicity Chair and THN Editor	Yarboro	Dick	easyrider@scattercreek.com
Webmaster	Thode	Jim	webboss@bchw.org
Photographer	Thode	Jim	webboss@bchw.org
BCHA Director	McKenna	Bill	bcha_dir1@bchw.org
BCHA Director	Ridlon	Jason	bcha_dir2@bchw.org
BCHA Alternate Director	Stewart	Doug	dougstewart55@gmail.com
Historian Chair	vacant		
Grant Administrator	Wallace	Darrell	bcha_dir1@bchw.org
Stores	Lenox	Lori	<b>llenox82@gmail.com</b>
Volunteer Copy Editor/Proof Rdr	Johnston	Sandra	<b>sgjohn1234@aol.com</b>



## Classified Ads

All BCHW members can post a free equine or farm related ad. 20 words or less. Must include contact info. Due by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month by email: [PeninsulaBCHWChapter@Gmail.Com](mailto:PeninsulaBCHWChapter@Gmail.Com)



## Legislative News – Jeff Chapman

### Legislative Committee

There are many meetings going on in preparation for the 2021 full session. Today was Representative Ryu's Outdoor Recreation Roundtable Zoom meeting (which included Senator Warnick). We went over the work of the different subcommittees on putting together efforts to preserve existing recreation funding, study new funding options, and develop a list of funding options found in other states that might offer some consideration. The other effort is the update of the 2015 Earth Economics study of the benefits of recreation in Washington State by type of use. This study was also covered in yesterday's RCO Funding Board meeting (along with budgets and grant match topics).

Everyone is well aware that there is a very large budget deficit and recreation funding is at risk. NOVA gas tax is down simply because people are driving less. Representative Ryu said today that equity and diversity benefits will have a major part in what gets funded and what doesn't across the board in the next legislative session. Most recreation groups, outdoor companies, and public lands agencies have brought forward values statements on this topic with the intent of expanding diversity recognition and opportunities throughout the recreation spectrum. There is also a national pledge effort by the Outdoor Industry Association. For example, here is the recent values statement on racism by Region 6 of the US Forest Service for all National Forests in Washington and Oregon.

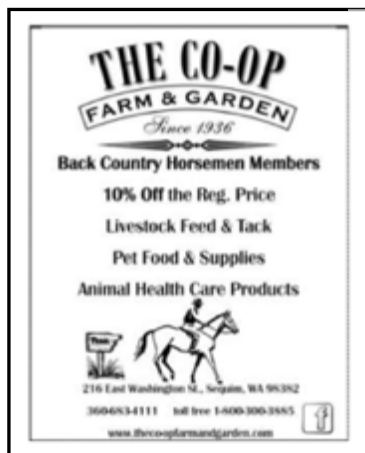
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r6/home/?cid=FSEPRD749593>

It is hard to say how this will be figured into grant ratings. With match requirement eliminations for the next round, it is sort of unclear how ratings will pencil out. One good news I mentioned today in the Recreation Roundtable is that with the passage of the Great American Outdoors Act (assuming it is signed into law), there will be more revenue for Stateside LWCF as well as new federal backlog maintenance funding. However, we don't know how this backlog maintenance money will be distributed and spent though the buzz about this has begun.

Agency budget meetings continue with stakeholders such as the recent WDFW meeting. There is concern about reducing monies that are important for hunters and fishers, such as shutting down some hatcheries or reducing winter feed for elk.

News is not great other than the promise of new federal money from the GAO Act. I'll continue to stay involved in all of these efforts, but it isn't an easy trail to ride.

Jeff



Our local store is very generous with donations to BCHW-PNC! Please show your appreciation by supporting this business.

These businesses support BCHW. Please take your business to them.



## Opportunity to Make Donations to the Chapter!

The following is from an article found in USA Today. I tried it and found it works as advertised.

October 31, 2013; **USA TODAY**. This holiday season, Amazon is in quite the charitable mood when it comes to giving away money to nonprofits. Amazon has released a new project, **Amazon Smile**, which gives shoppers the opportunity to donate through the site to the charity of their choice. By shopping at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) instead of plain old [amazon.com](http://amazon.com), 0.5 percent of the value of their purchases will be donated. What's even more amazing is that there seems to be no limit to the amount Amazon will give to charity, although as of now auto-renewed subscription purchases and digital products aren't included in the AmazonSmile project.

Ian McAllister, general manager of AmazonSmile, says the company did it simply "because it thought customers would love it." Donations will be made on behalf of a foundation established by Amazon, so those using AmazonSmile will not be able to claim donations as charitable deductions.

Philanthropic charities looking to register their organizations can visit [org.amazon.com](http://org.amazon.com), sign up, and begin spreading the AmazonSmile link to start the giving to your nonprofit. And, in a moment of shameless self-promotion, if you'd like to support the *Nonprofit Quarterly* (listed under the IRS and GuideStar as the Nonprofit Information Network Association) through AmazonSmile, [please click here](http://smile.amazon.com/ch/20-4080038) <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/20-4080038>

Aine Creedon

Every little bit helps so if you do buy from Amazon try this out.

Don Gonder, Secretary BCHWPC