

# Backcountry Horsemen of California



SHASTA - TRINITY  
UNIT



## July 2007 Newsletter



**Make sure to mark your calendars!!**

**Fish Plant July 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Fish Plant Application:**

**1000 Lakes Wilderness Area**

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Here it is, almost July, and already the Shasta Trinity BCHC members have accomplished a lot: Thanks to Dereith Rochlitz, the BLM manager for the Balls Ferry area thinks our group is wonderful. (Of course we are! We not only have ideas for public lands, we diligently work to make our ideas come to fruition, so others may enjoy our efforts.) Please also see Wendy Stackhouse's article regarding the cooperative efforts of Shasta Trinity unit members, the U.S. Forest Service and a willing CCC crew. Through their joint efforts, for the first time in years, the trails at Thousand Lakes in Lassen National Forest are once again open.

Got your sawbucks' & deckers' tack all lined up? Got your animals ready to hit the trails? Check our website for camp move-ins, resupplies and move-outs. Available to help? Contact Larry Shuman @ 527-8907 and let him know you are ready. Many hands make for light work, a wonderful chance to see new places and get to know your other unit members even better.

Want to participate in the annual Fish Plant? You can still mail in your application to Larry or Rose Shuman. Can only come for one day? Your lead horse isn't up to it this year? You can still help out. You don't think those fingerlings jump into those ice chests by themselves, do you?? The Fish & Game people need help with bagging, putting extra oxygen into the fingerlings' bags and putting the fish on ice for their journey in the panniers. Each morning is quite a production requiring the cooperation of 50-65 people, plus animals, trucks and horse trailers. Outriders are valuable to help keep an extra eye on loads, secure knots when needed, and lend that extra helping hand when the unexpected happens.

Reminder: This year is especially dry all over Northern California. Please be safe, wise and respectful of our Public Lands. They belong to all of us and need to be maintained for our future generations.

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## 1000 Lakes Wilderness Trails Open

For the first time in more than 4 (probably 5 or more ) years the trails within the 1000 Lakes Wilderness (Lassen National Forest north of Lassen Park) are logged out and passable. This great feat was accomplished due to the perseverance of a few determined BCHC members, cooperation from new USFS staff and (as always) help from the California Conservation Corp. Art Stackhouse and Alan Hill met with the newly appointed Recreational Officer for the Hat Creek Ranger District last fall for a mounted tour of the wilderness. This was a very good exchange, with Art and Alan voicing concerns over trail condition and USFS voicing concerns over horse damage. Both parties were able to view, first hand, each others issues and made a plan to try to get something done this spring. **This issue of horse damage is a VERY important point and one we all need to work to address (see discussion below).**

So how, after 5 or more years did we make this year happen? First....Jan Sorochtey, the new Recreation Officer is a friendly, follow-through kind of person. She applied for and received a chainsaw exemption for tree removal in the wilderness. Then...Lynda Burkhalter, CCC's (Assistant Redding District Mgr), "found" some money for cross-cut and chainsaw training that would fund a 16 person CCC crew for three days of "training" (aka doing productive work logging out ). BCHC kept the process moving and helped with coordination and packing supplies.

On June 3, Art and Wendy Stackhouse, Ivar Weston and Bill and Anita Payer packed 10 loads of tools, camp and equip for a *novice* CCC crew into Barrett Lake Camp for in wilderness "*saw use training*". After three days of wind, rain, sleet, snow and lots of sawing, Larry Shuman, Don Banghart, David Weins, Jim Ingles and Len Kirk trudged through snow to retrieve the *seasoned* crew. Although tired and soggy, all were smiling with lots of stories (mostly relating to weather) to tell.

## Partnership in action on yet another National Forest and wilderness area.

On to horse use damage in the 1000 Lakes Wilderness. Horse misuse in the wilderness is a significant problem, and the USFS is looking for ways to reduce horse impacts. The main issues are associated with overnight tying to trees and pawing. Because of the proximity of the area to Redding and other towns, the wilderness gets a lot of day and weekend horse use. Both BCHC and the USFS agree that the misuse is likely not from BCHC members, all of whom should know correct backcountry practice, none the less, all horse users get lumped together when poor practices occur. The soils in the wilderness are young, shallow, poorly developed and revegetation is slow. Because the wilderness is small and has limited feed, trailhead camping is preferred by the USFS for horse visitors. Overnight camping is possible but with the use of common sense, supplemental feed and acceptable practices with high lines located on high ground well away from soft meadows and sandy volcanic soils.

The USFS has agreed to try to first work with BCHC and use educational outreach to solve this problem. If it continues or worsens other actions may be necessary – none of us want that.

If you use this sensitive wilderness please follow best management practices for horses in the backcountry. When stopping for lunch or fishing please use a high line if you will be more than a few minutes. Use high lines, keep onto trails and fill in any divots your horse may leave – hobble pawers. While riding, fix problems you see. Report problem areas or problem users. If you see misuse in action please try to explain the correct practice and encourage all mounted users to follow good backcountry practice.

One or two bad apples can ruin the bucket so let's not let that happen in 1000 Lakes. Call Wendy if you have any questions regarding the misuse or access. Enjoy the open trails!

Cowboy Wisdom: Don't judge people by their relatives. Judge them by their friends:  
You're kinda stuck with your relatives, but can choose your friends.

## Planning on Helping Out @ the Annual Fish Plant? Fish Plant 2007 will be held July 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>

If you want to partake in the annual chores and help out with the packing and distribution of the fingerlings up into the Trinity lakes and then return to enjoy the meals provided by our renown outdoor cooking wizards, **please** let Rose or Larry Shuman know you are planning to attend. They need \$\$ and reservations by July 20th. The price is \$30.00 per person/per day, or \$60 total per person for both days. Send money & reservations to Rose or Larry Shuman @ 16900 C Road Cottonwood, CA 96022 Rose & Larry may also be reached via 530-527-8907 **Note: No non-members permitted. To participate in the Trout Plant, you must belong to BCHC-Shasta Trinity.** The fee includes: Dinner on Wednesday night, Thursday breakfast, lunch & dinner; and on Friday: breakfast & lunch.

**Directions to Alan Hill's Ranch:** Take Highway 3 North toward Trinity Center. Take Norwegian Ranch Road (approximately 2 miles south of Trinity Center – only goes East.) Go to the end of Norwegian Ranch Road and follow the signs. Larry Shuman will put up signs the Tuesday before the annual event. Reminder: your animals will need to know how to hi-line or tie. Portable restrooms and showers will be available. No washing of horses/mules, please. Water is in short supply! Smoking is not permitted!!

### Make checks payable to: BCHC- Shasta-Trinity

Cut Here ↓

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### RESERVATIONS FOR ANNUAL TROUT PLANT JULY 26<sup>TH</sup> & 27<sup>TH</sup> 2007

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_, CA ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

# IN PARTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$30.00 PER DAY/PER PERSON TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# OF DAYS TO PARTICIPATE \_\_\_\_\_

# OF RIDING ANIMALS \_\_\_\_\_

# OF PACKING ANIMALS \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: FEE IS FOR MEMBERS ONLY. NON-MEMBERS WILL HAVE TO JOIN IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE. SEE LAST PAGE FOR APPLICATION TO JOIN BCHC!!**

**PHILOSOPHY AND PURPOSE**

The purpose of this organization shall be:

1. To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's backcountry and wilderness.
2. To work with and insure 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 backcountry resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage.
5. To foster and encourage the formation of new units of the organization.

SEE US ON THE INTERNET

SHASTA - TRINITY UNIT-WEB SITE

<http://users.snowcrest.net/bchcst>

**Back Country Horsemen of California  
Membership Application  
Shasta-Trinity Unit**

Membership Data Center  
P.O. Box 1610  
Oakdale, CA 95361-1610

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_  
( Primary Membership Name – NO Business Names – Print Clearly)

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Secondary Membership Name – MUST share same Address )

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

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone ( )** \_\_\_\_\_ **Amount Enclosed \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Type:**

- |                                      |          |  |
|--------------------------------------|----------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> individual  | \$40.00  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family      | \$50.00  | Preferred Unit Affiliation                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor  | \$100.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Shasta Trinity Unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron      | \$250.00 |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mt. Whitney | \$500.00 | ( or circle one below)                       |

Antelope Valley	San Joaquin Sierra	Eastern Sierra High
Kern Sierra	Lake Mendocino	Los Padres
North Bay	Ohlone Riders	Redshank Riders
San Geronimo Pass	Santa Ana River	Sierra Freepackers
Top of the State	Borrego Valley	Cabelleros Del Sol
High Sierra	Kern River Valley	Mid Valley
Mother Lode	Redwood	San Diego
Sequoia	Sutter Buttes	Country
Mojave River		

**BackCountry Horsemen  
Shasta Trinity Unit  
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