



Backcountry Horsemen of California

Who We Are and What We Do!

Backcountry Horsemen of California (BCHC) is a group of dedicated men and women working to preserve the historic use of trails with recreational pack and saddle stock. They perform public service activities for numerous land management agencies and they are continually working to educate their members on how to be “Gentle Users.”

The use of livestock has played an important role in the American culture. California and the western states have particularly had a long tradition of using pack and saddle stock in the backcountry. BCHC carries on this tradition in modern times. With this use comes the responsibility and obligation to care for our public lands and to ensure their use for future generations.

Backcountry Horsemen of California works in cooperation with government agencies to help clear trails, maintain historic sites, construct new facilities, sponsor educational seminars and clinics, and assist with service projects as requested. They also strive to stay current on relevant issues and to provide input on management plans and activities that pertain to backcountry trails on public lands.

Membership in BCHC is open to any individual or family sharing the concerns of the organization. There are numerous units throughout the State. A member may affiliate with any one of our units, and as an Associate Member with any of the others. The units conduct activities of their choice, but also operate under broad guidelines established by the State Board. Each unit is represented on that Board by one or more Directors.

BCHC focuses its efforts in three key areas:

- Service Projects
- Education
- Public Lands Issues

BCHC offers a few Tips and Techniques for “Gentle Use” of the backcountry. You'll find this on our web site. We hope you will consider following these ideals, and we look forward to seeing you on the trail!

Approved for distribution by
Backcountry Horsemen of California
PO Box 40007
Bakersfield, CA 93384-0007
www.bchcalifornia.org (12/08)