



# Trail Whispers

BCHC—Caballeros del Sol

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Website: [www.bchc.org/cds](http://www.bchc.org/cds)

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Howdy,

Well another great ride goes into the annals of our history book. Thank You, Steve and Mary. Not too much was discussed at our last meeting, the cowboy swap meet, 101 clinic in May of next year. Steve said he received the materials for the hitching rack we would like to donate. For those of you that have not been to the meetings, there was discussion and a decision made to donate a hitching post to the restaurant or the store at Lake Hodges so folks can have a place to tie up their animules while they go inside to get a cool drink or a snack before they make the return ride to truck and trailer. So that's what the materials are for.

We are still looking for volunteers to cook and serve at the cowboy swap meet in Descanso on the 6<sup>th</sup> of Oct. Now is the time to come out and lend a helping hand. It was a lot of fun last year. So come to the next meeting and sign up for a couple hour stint, lunch will be free for all that help for a couple of hours. We will also be setting up a consignment booth for anyone that wants to sell any tack. Call Tauri Cornell if you would like to help

We have started the Plan for a 101 clinic in May of 2003. All volunteers who would like to help at the clinic will be greatly appreciated. Come to a meeting and sign up to help.

Rosemary, our lovely hostess came up the big winner in our new raffle and promptly donated it all back to the club. Thank you very much.

Sorry for such a short message, but things have been hectic at our house, need to get this to my newsletter editor, before she hangs me.

Happy riding.

**Bill Huston, President CdS/BCHC**

## Meeting Minutes

### Caballeros del Sol unit

#### Backcountry Horsemen of California

23 July, 2002, 7:00 p.m., more or less

The meeting was held at Montijo's Frontier Town.

#### Minutes from Past Meetings:

The minutes from the June meeting were accepted as published in the newsletter. Tauri moved, Mike seconded, passed.

#### Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report: presented by Donna.

Public Lands:

Great News - The County of San Diego has adopted the proposed RS-2477 Resolution.

Roadless/Wilderness issues threaten access, recreation opportunities, and fire suppression abilities in the Palomar District of the Cleveland National Forest. For areas designated "wild and scenic", adjacent areas become wilderness. The issue will be (was pulled) considered at the July 30th County Board of Supervisors meeting. (For more information, look for letter from Supervisor Horon, pg 6)

#### Work and Education Hours Reporting:

Reminder - Turn in your work hours to Steve Randall, and your education hours to Linda Eskin.

#### Education Report: No report this month.

#### Unit Business & Projects

##### Donation to BCHA:

Tauri discussed the possibility that BCHA - the national organization - may be forced to raise dues to help cover the increasing cost of printing and mailing the newspaper. To help avoid this possible increase in dues there is a movement afoot for each BCHC unit to voluntarily send \$1 per membership to BCHA. Tauri suggested that our unit, with approximately 60 memberships, participate. Steve moved that we should send \$1/ membership to BCHA, Marty seconded, the motion passed. Donna will send the check.

Tie Rail at Hernando's Hideaway, near Lake Hodges:

Tauri will check on exactly where the tie rail is needed. Steve has secured a commitment for donated materials for the project. Rosemary will carve a "Donated by..." sign for the tie rail.

Sunshine Committee Established:

We discussed several serious illnesses

among our extended Backcountry family. Mary Randall suggested that we form, and volunteered to lead, a "Sunshine" committee to send encouraging cards on behalf of our unit. If you know of a member who could use a cheerful message, please let Mary know. (Mary Randall's new e-mail address is marymule@cox.net)

#### Discussion of Upcoming Events:

Note - See the Calendar for a complete listing of events - these are just the ones that needed discussion at the meeting.

#### Horse Fest at Miramar Stables

The Flying Hooves Club will be hosting Horse Fest at Miramar Stables, Saturday, September 21st, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. - open to the public. There will be demonstrations of various breeds and riding styles, lead-line rides for the kids, free food, and tons of fun. This is a great opportunity to introduce friends and family to the tremendous diversity of equestrian activities going on in San Diego.

#### Cowboy Swapmeet at McClintock's

The date was originally set for October 6th, but because the Ramona Information Days for Equestrians (R.I.D.E.) has been scheduled for the same date the swapmeet may be rescheduled (possibly to September 28th). Our unit will staff the chuckwagon, as a unit fundraiser, during the swapmeet (Nola moved, Steve seconded, motion passed). Tauri has offered to produce a flyer, and she and Mike will look into opportunities for free P.R. as well.

#### Southern Units' Jamboree

This is a big, relaxed weekend for trail riding, and enjoying good friends around the campfire. Primitive camping is available on-site. There is a fee (or you need to have an Adventure Pass). Just show up - no RSVP required. The site is near Idylwild, up 79 to 371 to Anza. Contact Chip Herzog of the San Gorgonio Pass unit for more info.

#### Backcountry 101 - 2003

Backcountry 101 will be on sabbatical this year so that we can bring it back bigger and better in Spring of 2003. The date is tentatively set for May 17-18, the third weekend in May - to be "set in stone" by December. Backcountry 101 will be free to attendees to encourage everyone to attend. There will be many clinics of interest to all equestrians running throughout the day. Food will be sold all day, rather than breaking for lunch at noon. Vendor booths will offer a variety of interesting wares.

Volunteers for Backcountry 101 so far:

- ◆ Marty Jorgensen - Event Chair for 2003
- ◆ Tauri Cornell and Mike Ellison - Public Relations Committee and Clinician Recruitment Committee
- ◆ Donna Jesse - Registration Committee Chair
- ◆ Steve and Mary Randall - Packing and Stock Restraint Clinics and Demonstrations

#### **ACTION ITEM - PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO HELP OUT WITH BACKCOUNTRY 101 - MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!**

##### Rides:

See the Calendar for a complete listing of rides.

For all CdS rides, please RSVP with the trail boss or ride coordinator - their phone number will be on the calendar. If you will be late due to an emergency, try to let the trail boss know so the ride can wait (up to 20 minutes) for you to get ready. Please show the other riders the courtesy of getting ready as quickly as possible. Unless the trail boss hears from you, the ride will leave on time.

**September 14th** - Tenderfoot Ride - Sweetwater Summit Campground - Day Use Area (small fee). Linda is the ride coordinator (619 441-7675 to RSVP), and Bill will be the trail boss. Meet there at 10:00 a.m., ride out at 11:00 for just one hour, at a walk, then we'll enjoy our sack lunches around noon. Anyone who wants to ride more after lunch may do so.

**October 26** - Los Caballos Campground, Cuyamaca Rancho State Park - Leave the Day Use Area at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35.

##### August Meeting:

Tuesday, June 27th at the Montijo's Frontier Town, (directions on the back cover). The potluck begins at 6:00, and the meeting will start around 7:00. If you don't generally attend meetings, please try to make this one. We always have a relaxed, friendly, and productive time at our summer potluck meetings - it would be great to meet you there.

Be there at 6:00 for a potluck Bar-B-Que dinner (BYO-BBQ and a dish to share), and we will start the meeting at 7:00. Bring your barn buddies, and introduce them to BCHC.

**September's Meeting will be a Pool Party at Kandhy Franklin-Collins Home**

**October we will once again be back indoors at the Randall Home.**

## Education Corner...

### Quick Safety Projects

One morning in June, as I was checking over my truck and trailer before hauling my little "herd", I found a large gouge in the sidewall of one of my truck tires. D'oh! No way I was hauling with that! The tires were close to the end of their days anyway, so a few hours and four new tires later we were safely on our way. I'm glad I checked! I sure wouldn't want a blowout on a winding road, with my critters in the trailer. So this month I'd like to encourage you to make a few safety checks - these aren't all-inclusive, just a few things you can easily check, to get you started. Do a few chores each week, in those spare moments between rides:

#### Tire Tune-Up

Are your lug nuts torqued properly - on both your truck and trailer?

Are your tires inflated as recommended by the tire manufacturer? (Note - Two different tire stores have deliberately underinflated my F-350 truck tires "so the ride will be more comfortable", telling me that they really only need to be fully inflated "if you're going to be hauling heavy things or towing." Maybe they thought I would be using my truck to drive to the hairdresser? I sent them right back out both times to put the tires at the correct pressure! The moral - don't trust others, even professionals, to inflate your tires properly - double check them yourself.)

How's the tread depth? Sidewall condition - any cracks?

Don't forget to check both spares, too! A flat spare won't get you very far.

Do you have a lug wrench in your vehicle? One that fits your lug nuts? How about one for the trailer, if they are different?

Do you have a jack? Do you know how to use it? Do you have something (perhaps a heavy piece of wood) to put under the jack in case you have a flat on soft ground?

#### Trailer Tips

How's that emergency brake battery doing? If it were dead, would you know? Get in there and check it - if

your trailer has one.

Are all the lights working?

**Check the floor and frame for any rot, rust, cracking, etc.** If you don't know how, go to a trailer sales place and have them check it - and ask them to show you how. Don't forget to check the hitch on your truck, too.

Look up - are there any wasp nests in the roof? Better that you find them now, than your horse finding them under way. I like wasps - most aren't very aggressive, and they kill the destructive bugs in my garden... but they aren't allowed to live in my horse trailer.

#### Barnstorming

Look for, and fix, any loose or sharp places that could injure a horse scratching on the barn or fencing.

How's your fencing holding up? Check the gate hinges and latches, too. Is everything in good working order? Look for any problems now, and avoid looking for your loose mules in the middle of the night.

Do you have any pipe corral panels that are "levitating" - with space between the ground and the bottom of the vertical pipes? If so, adjust their height, or pack soil around the raised pipes so your animals cannot get a foot caught in the space.

Any unprotected t-posts? If so, head to the Home Depot and pick up some heavy duty t-post/rebar guards for the tops.

#### Tack Check

Check critical leather parts for cracks, cuts, or tears - reins, stirrup leathers, cinch latigos, etc. Don't forget to check those tiny leather ties that hold some headstalls together. Repair or replace any iffy parts.

Get out a screwdriver and check any Chicago screws you may have. The start of a ride, when your horse is full of energy, is no time to notice that the bit is suddenly dangling below her chin. Not that I've ever personally seen that happen, of course.

If your helmet is past the age where the manufacturer recommends replacing it, or if you've ever fallen and hit it on anything, replace it now. Think a

helmet is expensive? Try months in the hospital rehab ward! Get a current helmet, and wear it.

How's your first aid kit (horse, and personal)? Maybe some things have been used or removed, others outdated, some damaged by time and heat... Give the whole thing a good once-over, restock as needed, and be sure to put it back where it will be ready to use.

#### Rain, Rain...

I know, I know, some cool weather and rain would be a welcome relief. But we still need to be ready. It's so much more pleasant to avoid trouble by doing a little easy work on a warm summer evening than it is to bail water and dig ditches in a freezing rain.

Clean out your barn rain gutters, drainage ditches, swales, pipes, etc. Better to test them with a hose now than to discover they are plugged up, and the barn is flooding, at midnight in a downpour. Or so I've heard... If you cover anything with tarps, see if they are still in good enough shape to stand up to another winter.

Need horse-proof sandbags? Last year I made some serviceable "sandbags" out of truck inner tubes (cheap or free, from tire stores), filling them with soil and tying the ends with bailing twine. Just cut the inner tube to make a long tube - cut out the filler tube (mine were metal). Mine lasted several months before the donkeys got one end untied, dumped the dirt out, and turned the inner tubes into toys. But I can still re-use them this year, if needed.

One of these days you're going to need to work in the rain, or you'll want to go for a ride, wet or not. How's that slicker? Full of spider nests from months in the garage? Does it need its oil coating refreshed? And check your boots and hat, too.

Don't forget the upside of rain! If you've been meaning to plant new shade trees along your fenceline, Fall is the time to get them in the ground.

#### Get to it!

Take them one at a time, add some more of your own, and before you know it you'll have everything in great shape.

# HUMOR FROM THE E-MAIL BAG!

## "SERVICE"

At one time in my life, I thought I had a handle on the meaning of the word "service" - the act of doing things for other people.

Then I heard the terms Internal Revenue Service, Postal Service, Civil Service, Service Stations, (public service) and I became confused about the word "service". This is not what I thought "service" meant.

Then one day, I overheard two farmers talking and one of them mentioned that he was having a bull service a few of his cows. SHAZAM!! It all came into perspective. Now I understand what all those "service" agencies are doing to us!

## Sad Passing

Today we mourn the passing of an old friend, by the name of Common Sense.

Common Sense lived a long life but died in the United States from heart failure on the brink of the new millennium. No one really knows how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He selflessly devoted his life to service in schools, hospitals homes, factories helping folks get jobs done without fanfare and foolishness. For decades, petty rules, silly laws, and frivolous lawsuits held no power over Common Sense. He was credited with cultivating such valued lessons as to know when to come in out of the rain, why the early bird gets the worm, and that life isn't always fair. Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you earn), reliable parenting strategies (the adults are in charge, not the kids), and it's okay to come in second.

A veteran of the Industrial Revolution, the Great Depression, and the Technological Revolution, Common Sense survived cultural and educational

trends including body piercing, whole language, and "new math." But his health declined when he became infected with the "If-it-only-helps-one-person-it's-worth-it" virus.

In recent decades his waning strength proved no match for the ravages of well intentioned but overbearing regulations. He watched in pain as good people became ruled by self-seeking lawyers. His health rapidly deteriorated when schools endlessly implemented zero-tolerance policies. Reports of a six-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate, a teen suspended for taking a swig of mouthwash after lunch, and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student only worsened his condition. It declined even further when schools had to get parental consent to administer aspirin to a student but could not inform the parent when a female student was pregnant or wanted an abortion.

Finally, Common Sense lost his will to live as the Ten Commandments became contraband, churches became businesses, criminals received better treatment than victims, and federal judges stuck their noses in everything from the Boy Scouts to professional sports.

Finally, when a woman, too stupid to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot, was awarded a huge settlement, and a corrupt President of the his beloved country pardoned convicted and known criminals, Common Sense threw in the towel.

As the end neared, Common Sense drifted in and out of logic but was kept informed of developments regarding questionable regulations such as those for low flow toilets, rocking chairs, and stepadders.

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust; his wife, Discretion; his daughter, Responsibility; and his son, Reason. He is survived by two stepbrothers: My Rights, and Ima Whiner.

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.

## "Turning The Periodic Tables"

From "Scientific American" July, 2002, Vol. 41, Iss. 7., pg 63.

A New Jersey standard bearer for the scientific research community and respected partner in the field of sub-atomic research in particular, The Sandy Hook Institute of Technology, announced on June 3, 2002 that its research staff had effectively added another place-setting to the Periodic Table by having discovered earlier this year the newest and, in fact, heaviest element now known to exist. They dubbed it "Administratium".

Administratium has 1 neutron, 12 assistant neutrons, 75 deputy neutrons, and 111 assistant deputy neutrons, giving it the preeminent atomic mass of 312. These 312 particles are held together by a force called "morons", which are surrounded by vast quantities of shlepton-like particles called "peons".

Since Administratium has no electrons, it is inert. However, it can easily be detected because it impedes every reaction with which it comes into contact. For example, a minute quantity of Administratium causes one reaction to take over 4 days to complete when normally, the reaction should take less than a second.

Administratium has a normal half-life of 3 years. However, it does not decay. Rather, it undergoes a reorganization in which a portion of the assistant neutrons and deputy neutrons exchange places.

In fact, Administratium's mass will actually increase over time, since each reorganization causes some morons to become neutrons, forming isodopes. This characteristic of moron/neutron promotion leads some scientists to speculate that Administratium is formed whenever morons reach a certain concentration in sufficient numbers.

This hypothetical concentration is referred to as the "Critical Morass". One will recognize Administratium when one encounters it.

## Change the Laws Save our Forests, Land and Water By Frank Kennedy

Our present forest management brings three discussion items to mind:

### A. Forest fires.

If you divide any forest with roads you create firebreaks and access for fire control.

If you clear the underbrush and dead wood, it makes it harder for a fire to spread.

Thinning a forest is needed, just like thinning in a garden. You get better stronger trees.

### B. Loss of our water reserves.

A piece of land is like a sponge it absorbs water. The water in the land is like a reservoir; it holds the water that falls on it and the snow that melts. The water is then slowly released, just like a sponge, into our rivers and streams.

Now imagine covering a sponge with a sheet of plastic and then pouring water over it. This is comparable to allowing a forest to go without maintenance. The underbrush piles up and acts like a cover over the earth.

The rain and snow run off creating floods, instead of being absorbed into the ground and slowly draining into the rivers and streams.

This draining takes years, so during dry years we still get good water flow in our rivers and streams.

### C. Heating of the environment (Global warming).

Any plant evaporates water, which causes cooling.

Think of two inclined plots of land, one with grass and another with just dirt. Now imagine watering both with the same amount of water during the night. Now during the day which is cooler? Which conserved the water and allowed evaporation? Which kept the environment cooler?

The environmentalists have kept the harvesting of our forests by lumber companies to the bare minimum. This has caused all of the above, plus the loss of taxes, jobs and the cost of all lumber products to increase.

### Frank Kennedy, Edwards, CO

fkennedy123@hotmail.com

Please feel free to send your comments to my email address above and pass my article on to your friends.

Start a grass-roots effort

## NOLA'S LETTER TO THE BOS

District 1: Greg Cox; [greg-cox@co.san-diego.ca.us](mailto:greg-cox@co.san-diego.ca.us)

District 2: Dianne Jacob; [dianne-jacob@co.san-diego.ca.us](mailto:dianne-jacob@co.san-diego.ca.us)

District 3: Pam Slater; [pam-slater@co.san-diego.ca.us](mailto:pam-slater@co.san-diego.ca.us)

District 4: Ron Roberts; [ron-roberts@co.san-diego.ca.us](mailto:ron-roberts@co.san-diego.ca.us)

District 5: Bill Horn; [bill-horn@co.san-diego.ca.us](mailto:bill-horn@co.san-diego.ca.us)

Dear Supervisor

I live in Pam Slater's district and recreate mostly in Diane Jacob, Bill Horn and Ron Robert's Districts (in that order of frequency) with my horse. I am not a disgruntled OHVer, I am a tax-paying citizen that votes and recreates in this county and state. I personally oppose Boxer's California Wild Heritage Wilderness Act of 2002. I think that the amount of wilderness we now have is sufficient. Do not restrict access to our public lands to a further degree.

All of the land in question is already in public ownership. To place more land under the onus of 'wilderness' will only limit public access to it and increase management problems. Fire control is the foremost one in my mind right now. To make the so called 'roadless' areas in to wilderness will limit the management of them for fire, letting fuel build up and not maintaining existing road or firebreaks leaving us vulnerable to massive fires, such as have been experienced in Arizona and Colorado this year. (I am attaching an article from the Wall Street

Journal to help you understand some of this part of the problem.) Even our local Forest Service recognizes the problems with putting more property into this restrictive designation. (Another attachment.)

Why do proponents of this bill always claim the "clean water" and "species" angle in their diatribe? Where is the scientific documentation? They have none... The land and the species are already protected in the management they are under now! Your recent approval of the RS2477 assertion and your resolution that sound science be performed before new laws are passed, flies in the face of this Boxer Bill.

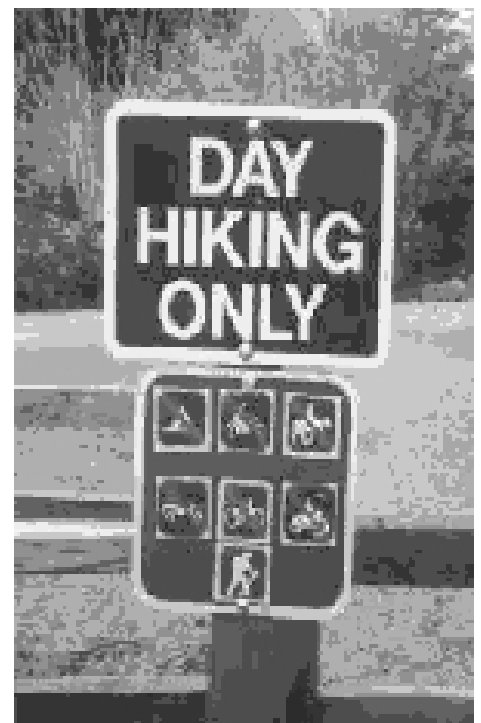
Thank you for your attention.

Nola Michel

858 278 9088

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ps: I do not want my public lands to look like this!



## Washington Watch

By Mike Hardiman

taken from website

<http://www.eco.freedom.org/el/>

**Author's note:** *The region described below is one of the original Target Areas of the **Wildlands Project** - the locals have risen up, exposed and almost defeated the land grabbers - with your help, they will finish the job and win! SEE ACTION ITEMS at end of article.*

### The Lynn Scarlett National Park

Farmers, ranchers, and other property owners in usually laid back Santa Barbara County, California are having the fight of their life over a proposal that would allow the federal government to condemn their land and turn it into a national park.

Local opposition to the proposal is intense and growing. Three city councils, two county supervisors, three chambers of commerce, two school districts, four agricultural organizations, numerous property owner and taxpayer citizen groups, and several thousand individuals who wrote letters and signed petitions have risen up in opposition to the park proposal. When one supervisor refused to fight the park, constituents garnered 14,000 names on recall petitions, nearly twice the number necessary to force a recall election.

Looks like another one of Bill Clinton's midnight land grabs, right?

Wrong. Look again. Blame this one on George Bush, not Bill Clinton. A top-level Bush Administration appointee, Interior Department Budget Director Lynn Scarlett, has joined forces with the Wildlands Project and a left-wing extreme enviro, Santa Barbara's Congressional Representative Lois Capps.

Together they are attempting to jam a 215,000-acre national park down the throats of unwilling residents, all in the name of currying favor with the politically powerful environmentalist lobby. Scarlett, like Capps, is a longtime resident of Santa Barbara.

At the behest of the Wildlands Project, Sierra Club and other land grabbers, Capps got the ball rolling on the national park proposal in November of 1999. She gained congressional approval for a "study" of a huge swath of Santa Barbara County.

The enviros' goal of this "study" is to establish a new unit of the national park system, which will permit federal agents to exercise eminent domain power, condemn private lands and eradicate the homes, ranches and farms dotting the area.

Capps' legislation had no cosponsors, no hearings, no amendments, no recorded vote, and consisted of thirteen lines inserted into a massive bill of more than one thousand pages, approved as Congress was walking out the door just before Thanksgiving recess.

### Scarlett Caves In To the Greenies

Incredibly, joining Capps is Lynn Scarlett, who serves as Budget Director of the Department of the Interior (DOI). DOI is the federal government's primary public lands management agency. It oversees the National Park Service (NPS), which is pushing hard for this latest addition to its multi-million acre empire. DOI Budget Director Scarlett was appointed by, and is a close personal confidant to, Interior Secretary Gale Norton.

Scarlett watched the drubbing that her friend and boss Gale Norton took from the liberal media during Norton's confirmation hearings in early 2001. As a result, Scarlett is afraid of getting on the bad side of the liberal media establishment or the left-wing environmentalist movement. So when the Santa Barbara national park "study" started running into serious trouble, Scarlett saw it as an opportunity to burnish her green credentials, and jumped into the fray - against local land owners!

### It's Just A Study

At issue is whether or not to establish an NPS unit in central and northern Santa Barbara County. From its coastline to the mountain ranges and the unusual ocean currents that create a nearly perfect year 'round climate, this region is certainly one of the most

beautiful landscapes in the world. So of course, in order to "save it" there needs to be a "study" done by Big Brother.

How could anyone be against that? After all, it's just a study. Well, here is the rest of the story: The completion of a "study" with a recommendation for any kind of federal role or action makes the area in question eligible for a national park designation - permanently. These "studies" have no expiration date, and so the threat of federal takeover and condemnation proceedings against residents never goes away.

Understandably, this devalues all private property in and around the area. Who would purchase a home that may be seized by the government five or ten years down the road? It also makes it nearly impossible to conduct the long-term plans necessary to run an agricultural operation, such as equipment purchases and planting crops like avocado trees, which take seven years to begin producing fruit.

The National Park Service has been working toward this goal in secret collusion with environmental activists for many years, and has excluded the public from much of its deliberations.

For example, here is a February 2000 email exchange between the NPS regional director conducting the study, Mr. Ray Murray, and a local enviro. Enviro: "We can shield sensitive info in several ways from Freedom of Information requests and subpoenas." Murray's response: "We may have to execute some kind of confidentiality agreement so that the draft does not become a public document."

### It's Already Protected!

Santa Barbara County already has some of the most severe state and local zoning and land use controls in the entire United States, and these codes have gradually tightened over the years, due to residents' desires to maintain the quality of their lifestyle. Lack of water, difficult topography, and unstable soil conditions place additional natural prohibitions on development.

The entire 215,000-acre area proposed for the park will never see more than about 150 additional homes built.

In nearly all of the proposed park area, the minimum zoning is 320 acres per house - which means two houses per square mile!

An NPS takeover and seizure of private property will ruin the livelihoods of thousands of families, and for no good reason. It will certainly not help the environment. The NPS has a multibillion-dollar backlog of maintenance projects; its properties are rife with overflowing trash bins, broken sewer pipes, and poorly maintained restrooms. Forest fires burn out of control, threatening and killing people and destroying private property.

Scarlett and her boss, Interior Secretary Gale Norton, are just plain afraid to stand up to the Sierra Club, which has led the way in making this land grab into a "national priority." They even brushed off requests from former Reagan Administration Interior, Secretary Judge William Clark, a resident of Paso Robles, which is a few miles from the proposed park; and former area Congressman Robert Lagomarsino. Scarlett rejected Clark's request for an injunction to stop the study, and Norton pushed aside Lagomarsino's property rights concerns.

### The Current Situation

The deadline for comments sent to the NPS on the "Gaviota National Park" proposal is September 1.

Support for local control and opposition to a federal takeover builds each month. Nearby Congressman Elton Gallegly and the candidate challenging Capps in the election, sod farmer Beth Rogers, have added their opposition to an NPS takeover. They have joined more than twenty local entities including city councils, chambers of commerce, boards of education and agriculture, landowner and taxpayer groups against the Great Gaviota Land Grab.

Meanwhile, the politically paralyzed Interior Department is pandering to its enemies and is incredibly out of step with the people who voted for President Bush. Many people have derisively nicknamed the proposal the Lynn Scarlett National Park.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO -

**SUPPORT ALTERNATIVE ONE** of the

Gaviota national park study. This means "Current Programs," and no federal involvement - this is the only choice that will protect property rights and win the battle. PLEASE include the term "Alternative One" in whatever you send.

### WHAT TO SAY To Support Alternative One:

- **The National Park Service has a five billion-dollar maintenance backlog! Clean up your mess before you grab any more land! NPS is incompetent to manage the empire it already controls.**
- **The area around Santa Barbara is already protected by very strict state and local zoning, there is no need for a federal land zoning overlay.**
- **Federal involvement will damage the environment, not help it when millions of tourists overrun the area.**
- **NPS is hostile to agricultural operations and will run people out of business who dare to challenge its "management plan."**
- **NPS is anti-private property, and threatens landowners with inholdings within park boundaries and property outside as well. It claims buffer zones for everything from endangered species to "viewsheds".**
- **GET OUT! Mind your own business! What part of the term "overwhelming local opposition" do you not understand?**

Creativity is encouraged. You get the idea. Get in their faces!

### WHERE TO SEND COMMENTS:

Email: [pgso\\_gaviota@nps.gov](mailto:pgso_gaviota@nps.gov) (Note: There is an underscore between pgso and gaviota.)

Fax: 510-817-1505

**Mail: Gaviota Coast Study National Park Service**  
1111 Jackson Street, #700,  
Oakland, CA 94607

## OTES FROM NOLA

In this issue you will find a number of concerns we have with various governments. We want you to communicate your concerns about every thing that is important to you with your elected officials. Below are ways to contact them.

Not sure where to FAX or call about issues? The Web site [www.congress.org](http://www.congress.org) can provide you with your Senators' names, FAX numbers, and phone numbers. Just plug in your zip code. Actually, from that site you can access your State and County officials too! If you have no computer, look in the front of your white pages. (pacbell) Call your Senators' Washington, DC offices - that's where the policy work is done.

To contact your California state government use [www.ca.gov](http://www.ca.gov) - click Government on the left hand column, click Cal. Legislature. While you are in there check out the counties and cities also.

CONTACT INFO District 1 (Imperial Beach, Chula Vista, National City, Coronado, Point Loma) Greg Cox, 619-531-5511, FAX: 619-235-0644, [greg-cox@co.san-diego.ca.us](mailto:greg-cox@co.san-diego.ca.us) District 2 (El Cajon, Poway, most of E. County) Dianne Jacob, 619-531-5522, FAX: 619-696-7253, [dianne-jacob@co.san-diego.ca.us](mailto:dianne-jacob@co.san-diego.ca.us) District 3 (La Jolla, Mira Mesa, Encinitas, Escondido) Pam Slater, 619-531-5533, FAX: 619-234-1559, [pam-slater@co.san-diego.ca.us](mailto:pam-slater@co.san-diego.ca.us) District 4 (Central City of San Diego) Ron Roberts, 619-531-5544, FAX: 619-531-6262, [ron-roberts@co.san-diego.ca.us](mailto:ron-roberts@co.san-diego.ca.us) District 5 (North county, including Carlsbad, Oceanside, Fallbrook, Valley Center) Bill Horn, 619-531-5555, [bill-horn@co.san-diego.ca.us](mailto:bill-horn@co.san-diego.ca.us)

**Write, FAX or phone your elected officials today!!**



## BOXER'S WILDERNESS BILL SPURS FIRE CONCERNS

By Dana Wilkie  
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE  
August 3, 2002

WASHINGTON - It's the most ambitious environmental protection plan California has seen in almost a decade - one that would cover vast stretches of wilderness and give Sen. Barbara Boxer something to trumpet when she runs for re-election in two years.

But a chorus of concern is growing that Boxer's Wild Heritage Wilderness Act would make it harder to fight fires in California's backcountry, which is already a virtual tinderbox.

This week's Pines fire has destroyed more than 20,000 acres of mountain and canyon land near Julian and is a good example, say some of the bill's critics, of why Boxer should not place 2.5 million acres in California under the Wilderness Act of 1964. In areas protected by the act, trucks and equipment that prevent or fight fires can be forbidden.

The Pines fire has been problematic because layers of brittle grass, brush and light timber have made the fire particularly hot. Periodically getting rid of such growth - by clearing it out or burning it off - is one way of preventing fires. About 20,000 acres in Boxer's plan border Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, which was threatened by fire Wednesday.

"To allow (long-dried layers of vegetation) to lie on the ground and not be managed just puts us into a cycle of continual fires over the years," said San Diego County Supervisor Bill Horn, who opposes Boxer's bill. A spokesman for U.S. Rep. Duncan Hunter, R-El Cajon, said the congressman has similar concerns.

"There are tons of wilderness areas in California," said spokesman Mike Harrison. "What concerns the congressman is that the people who are pushing this are never satisfied. Every time they get one place designated as wilderness, they want five or six more."

Tom Bohigian, Boxer's deputy state director, said the Democratic senator's bill would allow the federal agencies controlling the wilderness - whether the Forest Service or the Bureau of Land Management - to deal with fires and fire prevention as they see fit. If that means using firetrucks, bulldozers or chain saws, he said, that's fine.

"The senator believes that human safety and the protection of property are very important," said Bohigian, adding that Boxer worked for two years with local communities to eliminate as much opposition as possible. "That isn't to say you automatically go to the most intense response if that isn't called for. This is on a case-by-case basis."

But Jim Wright, deputy director of fire protection for the California Department of Forestry, said it's not that simple. He has seen wilderness fires grow because federal officials would not use a bulldozer to carve out a firebreak. And while most federal agencies like the Forest Service are willing to negotiate on firefighting tactics - especially when fires threaten state-owned land - Wright has often agreed to tactics less aggressive than he would normally use.

"Once (a fire) is in a wilderness area, it's going to get bigger because of the prohibitions you have," Wright said. "You cannot . . . get right next to the fire line and work it directly with fire engines."

Most of the San Diego County land that Boxer wants protected lies in the district of county Supervisor Diane Jacob, who supports the bill, as does the San Diego City Council. A Jacob spokeswoman said it was her impression that "the fire concern is addressed in the bill."

"One of the things we said was, 'Look, that land gets pretty dry out there,' " said spokeswoman Jennifer Stone. "One of the conditions of my boss' supporting it was that the fire personnel were on board."

The state Department of Forestry has no position on the bill. Bohigian's assurances have not persuaded the Regional Council of Rural Counties to drop its opposi-

tion to Boxer's plan. The council's 29 members represent half of the state's 58 counties.

"I had a fire in my district, and when it went into (federal) wilderness areas, we had to just watch it go up the sides of the mountain," said council Chairwoman Linda Arcularius, who is also chairwoman of the Inyo County Board of Supervisors. "The engines couldn't go in, and a lot of their field crews couldn't go in."

There are also worries that Boxer's plan might hurt local property tax revenue by putting more land under the public domain, and would prevent mountain bikers and others from enjoying the areas.

"I think the bill is going to have to be tailored down somewhat," said Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein, the state's senior senator and a member of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, which will have jurisdiction over the legislation, SB 2535.

"There are a number of concerns that have to be worked out." Statewide, Boxer would add 2.5 million acres to the 14 million acres already protected by the federal Wilderness Act of 1964. The act forbids expanded logging, mining or livestock grazing, and prohibits new roads, motorized vehicles and non-motorized vehicles such as mountain bikes. Using chain saws - as firefighters often do to clear growth that might ignite - is forbidden.

More than 40,000 acres in San Diego County would fall under Boxer's plan, including land upstream of the El Capitan reservoir known as the Eagle Peak Complex, desert areas in the Sawtooth Mountains and Carrizo Gorge, and the so-called Hauser additions in the Barrett Lake area.

The last time a lawmaker attempted such an ambitious environmental protection plan was when Feinstein in 1994 won passage of a bill protecting 6.6 million acres of California desert. Some who work with Boxer said the wilderness protection bill would give Boxer a similar accomplishment to point to when she campaigns for re-election in 2004.

July 28, 2002

To: San Diego Board of Supervisors

Subject: **Opposition to the California Wild Heritage Wilderness Act 2002**

The California Equestrian Trails & Lands Coalition (CET&LC) represents 40,000 plus trail users and have given serious thought to the California Wild Heritage Wilderness Act 2002. The very term used for "Wild Heritage" should have included continued "heritage" use of pack and saddle stock in wilderness designations, it did not. Wilderness as originally defined in the 1964 Wilderness Act listed all "historic users" which was basically pack and saddle stock and hikers, few others. Through the years of administration by the various agencies, more and more recreational stock restrictive elements have been implemented so now there is serious concern to the meaning of "historic users" prerogatives. We met with Senator Boxer's Staff and explained our concern and ask that this be clarified in the new language before we in the recreational horse/mule/burro industry could consider the new legislation. The language put in the new legislation will not protect our industry from further unwarranted restrictions. The CET&LC oppose the California Wild Heritage Wilderness Act.

For this and other reasons, more wilderness designations will predictably follow the past agency practices. **It has become a way to make public lands into preserves that restrict historic public uses.** There are other more constructive ways to control public land use factors than wilderness designation, such as Land Management Plans that have full public review. Reasonable people should know what really happens when they make areas wilderness.

These are a few of the more significant equestrian restrictions in the new (2002) Ansel Adams, John Muir and Dinkey Lakes Wilderness Plans in the Central California Sierra Mountains.

1. All quotas for use of trailheads have been cut overall by 50% some as much as 67%. The original quotas were based on field evaluations area by area for resource capacity, (camp sites, water, solitude, group size, etc.) then quotas established. The current 2001 plan uses use data as the basis which is very incomplete and flawed. Many trails didn't have quotas and have been combined with other trailheads which makes the quotas cut even more than a 50%. An example is the John Muir had 18 trailheads (west side) before this latest plan and now has 8 or 9 depending which chart you look at. They have stipulated through quota's a use less than 1/2 the resource capacity based on the Forest Service's own data.

2. Only 3% of the land mass (800,000 acres) is considered for significant use. The remaining 97% of acres are given the forest service desired condition of less use. This seems in line with the Forest Service approach of making the wilderness's have more limited access thus more pristine than when the areas were selected for wilderness designation.

3. Two thirds of the wilderness trails (hundreds of miles) will no longer be considered for the same level of service (including maintenance) as they were in the past. This is a way of cutting use by letting trails deteriorate through lower service definition.

#### **California Equestrian Trails & Lands Coalition position statement on Existing and New Wilderness Designations**

**The California Equestrian Trails & Lands Coalition will not support any new wilderness designations until the following is adopted for all existing and proposed wilderness areas.**

1. **There shall be no curtailment in the amount and distribution of recreational saddle and pack stock**

**use, and grazing incidental to that use, in existing wilderness. Nor should social values, norms and preferences of other wilderness users be used as a reason by administrators to restrict, phase out, or eliminate recreational stock use, grazing by recreational stock or trails and associated trailhead facilities of a sufficient standard to accommodate that use.**

2. **The numbers of recreational stock use days in wilderness will not be reduced below approximate levels existing at the time an area was designated as wilderness. If total use is allowed to increase beyond that which existed at the time of classification, recreational stock use will be allowed to increase at a rate proportionate to that which existed at the time of classification. If, through monitoring for a period of not less than five years, administrators determine that the capacity of the a wilderness area has been exceeded, differing classes of uses will reduced proportionately to that which existed at the time of classification.**

3. **It is recognized that there may be limited areas where the terrain is so fragile that recreational stock use may have to be restricted or prohibited. These will be the exception and will be determined by site specific analysis based on biological and physical criteria rather than subjective social preferences of other wilderness users.**

Charles (Toby) Horst, Chairman

California Equestrian Trails & Lands Coalition

June 18, 2002

## Caballeros del Sol Unit TRAIL RIDE ETIQUETTE Rules and Reasons

**Be On Time!** "Ride Out Time" means in the saddle ready to ride,—not just arriving. The trail boss needs to have an accurate count of those present.

On all BCHC/SD Rides **all riders MUST be members of Back Country Horsemen of California** (an insurance requirement).

**No alcohol will be consumed on the trail.**

**No Smoking while mounted on the trail.** Smoking allowed when stopped and dismounted. Park regulations must be obeyed at all times.

**Stay behind the Trail Boss and in front of the Drag Rider** at all times. These persons shall be identified to the group before the ride.

No horses will move out until **ALL** riders are mounted.

If your horse or mule is a **known kicker tie a RED RIBBON on his tail** as a warning. All horses are capable of kicking when pressured. Keep your distance to avoid problems. A good rule of thumb is to be able to see the heels of the horse in front of you.

**Do not lag behind a large distance.** From one to four horse lengths is normal. More distance makes it difficult for the trail boss to keep track of riders and could cause you to lose the group by making a wrong turn.

If you need to catch up with the group, **do not run or trot up behind another horse.** If you want to pass or catch up, talk to the rider ahead and alert him.

**Notify the trail boss if there is an accident or a problem** with a rider or a horse, or if you must leave the ride.

**Dogs are not allowed on organized trail rides** for safety reasons. Most parks do not allow dogs. If you ride with your dog it should respond well to your voice.

Also be aware that all of Southern California has rattlesnakes....

Stallions are allowed only at the discretion of the Trail Boss.

**Follow all park rules.** You are responsible for knowing these rules and following them. Failure to stay within the limitations allowed could cause all of us the loss of trail riding privileges.

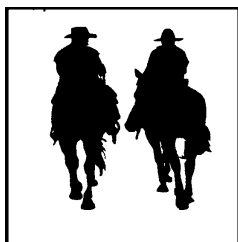
**Stay on designated trails.** Do not take shortcuts. Making "volunteer trails" and taking shortcuts causes erosion problems.

**Do not dispose of trash on the trail.** Pack it in, Pack it out!! If you see trash, pick it up if possible. Make our trails more pleasant for all.

**Close all gates you found closed, leave open all gates you found open.** If a gate is posted open/closed, make sure you leave it in that position. Don't presume someone else will do it. (Unless on an organized ride then the Drag Rider will).

**Do not chase cattle.** Scattering cows upsets the animals and can cause loss of privileges to ride on range land. **Do nothing to disturb the natural flora or fauna.** Every flower picked is one less for those behind you to enjoy and less seeds for next years flowers.

**Do enjoy yourself,** your animal and the natural beauty around you. Visit with your trail companions. And last of all, **leave a clean trailhead** or camp, free of manure, pleasant for the next user.



## BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN REDSHANK RIDERS PACKING AND CAMPING CLINIC

**CLINIC TAILORED TO YOUR  
SCHEDULE**

**From: Arleene H. Foster  
Redshank Riders Unit**

A course of instruction with emphasis on BACKCOUNTRY camping with pack and riding stock. Tailored to your schedule

**PURPOSE:** To teach students how to safely pack and camp and enjoy themselves in the Backcountry with livestock, with personal conduct to help preserve the area.

**KNOTS AND HITCHES:** Learn how to tie diamond and box hitches, and how to determine which best meets your needs. All students must be current members of the Backcountry Horseman of California. New members are welcome. BCHC membership application available upon request.

Students will bring their own personal food, drinking water, camping gear, horses/mules (pack animals not required), tack, horse feed, blankets, water bucket, stock restraints etc. You will high line your stock, trailer tie or bring a portable corral. Water for stock is available in camp. Dogs are allowed but must be kept on a leash.

Accepting reservations on a first come first served basis. Please let me know in advance the days you will be available. Donation for the day is \$15.00 per student. All proceeds to benefit the BCHC Redshank Unit.

Backcountry Horseman of California Inc. is a Non-Profit C4 Corporation dedicated to preserving the historic use of saddle and pack stock on public lands. For more information contact David and Arleene Foster (909) 767-1237 [arlene278@juno.com](mailto:arlene278@juno.com)

# Backcountry Horsemen of California

## Caballeros del Sol Unit      2002 CALENDAR

**BCHC sponsored activities are BOLD**

**Any BCHC activity may be attended by BCHC members from any unit, unless so noted. Call a board member for a contact phone number.**

*Other activities of interest are in italics (not sponsored by BCHC)*

**BCHC Caballeros del Sol Meetings:**

**All regular meetings are the fourth Tuesday of each month. Check the back of each newsletter for location and directions to the meetings**

### AUGUST

August 27th

**BCHC / CdS Meeting**

Tuesday, June 27th at the Montijo's Frontier Town, (directions on the back cover). The potluck begins at 6:00, and the meeting will start around 7:00. If you don't generally attend meetings, please try to make this one. We always have a relaxed, friendly, and productive time at our summer potluck meetings - it would be great to meet you there.

Be there at 6:00 for a potluck Bar-B-Que dinner (BYO-BBQ and a dish to share), and we will start the meeting at 7:00. Bring your barn buddies, and introduce them to BCHC.

**Directions on Map on Back Page!**

August 30th - Sept 2nd

**BCHC / Southern Units Jamboree**

Garner Valley. A no camping Fee (other than Adventure Pass) Ride on your own or with friends. Primitive acmping with your horse. Bring all you need including water. Call Tauri Cornell (619 575 3355) if you need further information.

### SEPTEMBER

September 14th

**CdS Tenderfoot Ride**

Sweetwater Summit Campground - Day Use Area (small fee). Linda Eskin is the ride coordinator (619 441-7675 to RSVP), and Bill will be the trail boss. Meet there at 10:00 a.m., ride out at 11:00 for just one hour, at a walk, then we'll enjoy out sack lunches around noon. Anyone who wants to ride more after lunch may do so.

September 21

FHRC Horse Fest  
Miramar MSAC Stables

September 24th

**BCHC / CdS Meeting**

**Meeting will be held after a pool party at the Franklin-Collins home in Crest. Map and/or directions will be in next issue. More next Month or at the Aug meeting.**

September 27th - 29th

**BCHC / SD Workparty - CRSP**

Bernie and Peggy Martin's  
Oakzanita Ranch (619-445-1289)

Call for information.

### OCTOBER

October 5th

**BCHC / SD Day Ride**

San Dieguito River Park

October 6th

*Cowboy SwapMeet*

Descanso, Ca

Our unit is running the Food Booth

October 18th-20th

**BCHC State Board Meetings**

If you wish to attend call Bill Huston

October 22nd

**BCHC / CdS Meeting**

**This will be our first indoor meeting. Held at the Randall Home. Map will be in Sept Issue. Meeting time 7pm**

October 26

**CdS Day Ride**

Los Caballos Campground, Cuyamaca  
Rancho State Park - Leave the Day  
Use Area at 10:00 a.m.

October 25th - 27th

**BCHC / Los Padres Unit  
Halloween Camp 'n Ride  
Santa Ynez**

### NOVEMBER

November 2nd

**BCHC / Redshank Unit  
Turkey Trot & Treasure Hunt**

November 14th - 17th

**BCHC / SD Workparty**

Lower Willows / Vern Whitaker

November 26th

**BCHC / CdS Meeting**

### DECEMBER

December 7th-8th

*Vaquero Days*

Descanso, Ca

**No BCHC / CdS Mtg in December**

**Joint old/new Board Mtg in Dec.**

**Caballeros del Sol's Annual Post-Holiday Party will be in January**

Backcountry Horsemen of California  
Caballeros del Sol Unit  
P.O.Box 12311, El Cajon, CA 92022  
(Return Address Requested)

Stamp



Label

August 2002

## NEXT MEETING

at the Montijo-Bush Frontier Town 13549 Highway 8 Business 619 443 2953

BBQ 6pm Meeting 7pm

