



Trail Whispers

BCHC—Caballeros del Sol

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JULY 2003

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President's Message

By Darrah Glynn

Well summer is in full swing and hasn't it been a great one so far? We have had a couple of overly warm days, but all in all, great riding weather. I hope you are getting to make the full use of your riding time.

By the time you read this, I will be off on my adventure. I am spending the next 7 weeks in the back country. I will be with my friend Cindy who is a Wilderness Ranger in the Sequoia National Park. We will be living working out of the Kern Canyon River Ranger Station (so if your in the area stop in and see us). I admit, she will be doing most the work, but hey, I will be volunteering as much as I can. I will also be watching Marshall her 6 year old, so my hands will be full. We will be checking in visitors, riding out to clean camp sites, teaching Gentle Use at every turn, first aid, packing items the forest service needs to different locations, and whatever else. She did promise we would spend her day off at the lake. You know, all work and no play.....yada yada. This work is play!

Anyway, I won't be attending the meetings but Nola will be handling everything. I know I will miss a couple of great rides planned this summer and I'm sure you will all

have a great time on them. I will mostly miss the ice cream that the August ride will have!

While I'm gone keep your eyes on public lands. There is so much going on and so much effort needs to be put toward it if we are going to gain even so much as an inch back of what has been taken from us already. We need even more effort to keep from losing any more ground, literally speaking.

I look forward to my return after Labor Day weekend to share my summer experience with you and hear all about yours. Take care and until then....Be Happy In The Saddle!

INSIDE

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OTES FROM NOLA

Thanks for the time off. I really enjoyed my road trip seeing friends and relatives. The next trip I have planned is in September and by that time Darrah will be back from her backcountry adventure. I want to thank Linda Eskin for getting out the news last month and she has graciously offered for do in September's I will be gone for about three weeks.

The last two months minutes are somewhere in ether space and can't retrieve them They will be published as soon as I receive another copy of them. Meanwhile, back at the ranch, I need to get this issue to you so you know where to go when and what's going on.

Our next meeting will be at the Randall Home the details are on the back / cover page. I think the August meeting will be at Khandy Franklin-Collins home. It will be a pool party in her wonderful salt water pool with shorts meeting to follow a BYOM BBQ and pot luck dinner. Details on this will be in the next issue.

The Ride in August will at the beach and Tijuana River Park. The staging area is easy to find as it is right across the River on the right side on Hollister Ave. Instead of having a BBQ on the beach we will bring our own lunches. This will be a Poker Ride played like we did on our last ride (maybe at lunch). \$5 a hand, winner receives half the pot. (The rest goes into the treasury, so support your club and play!) There will be an Ice Cream Sundae Fest back at the trailers. Plan on bringing your friends to this one, it's an open ride and all are welcome



CALIFORNIA LAND ACQUISITIONS - SUMMARY

BARBARA J. FERGUSON

The "State Park System Plan" new direction is to acquire lands for "Sustainable Ecosystems" and "Unique Natural Resource Areas". This State Park (DPR) direction coupled with the acquisition of lands by the Department of Fish and Game (DPG) via grants from Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) has shifted the idea of public lands for public use to state lands for preservation.

Below is a summary of the approved acquisitions of lands by the State for Fiscal Years 2000 through May of 2003.

FY 2000-2001	90,364 Acres	\$123,668,567
FY 2001-2002	64,516 Acres	\$31,200,919
FY 2002-003		
Through May 2003	69,603 Acres	\$160,053,509
TOTAL	224,483 Acres	\$315,021,995

Several pots of money are available for land acquisitions. The federal program under the Land and Water Conservation Fund allocated over \$8 million to California for FY 2003. Proposition 12, 13 and 40 has provided **billions of dollars** for land acquisitions. Proposition 117, (Mountian Lion Protection Act) passed in 1990, created the Habitat Conservation Fund (HCF). \$30 million is transferred annually from the General Fund to the HCF until 2020.

In addition to acquisitions, it is now the policy of the State of California to purchase conservation easements. The Natural Heritage Preservation Tax Credit Act of 2000 set aside \$100 million in tax credits for land and/or water rights for conservation purposes. To date \$40,825,211 tax credits have been approved for 7,091 acres.

What is the status of the 224,483 acres acquired by the State? Is the public allowed "reasonable" access? Have management plans been developed with appropriate public participation? Where those lands purchased with public monies for private conservancy's such as Trust for Public Lands or American River Conservancy required to provide reasonable public access?

COUNTY TRAILS PROGRAM

Here is a quick update on the status of the County trails program. I am working, as part of my Planning Group's Trails Subcommittee, on coordinating connections between Subregions in our area, and the City of El Cajon, and the Crestridge Preserve. Linda Eskin

The County Trails Program (CTP) encompasses both a Regional Trails Plan (RTP) and a Community Trails Master Plan (CTMP) and involves both development and management of trails and pathways on public, semi-public and private lands.

COMMUNITY TRAILS MASTER PLAN (CTMP) STATUS

The Draft CTMP was released for public review on June 10, 2003. The Draft Trails Plan is available on the County's web site at: <http://www.co.sandiego.ca.us/parks/>

The comment period ends August 1st, 2003. If you would like to submit comments, please forward them on or before August 1st to:

County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation

Attention: CTMP Public Comment
5201 Ruffin Road, Suite P
San Diego, CA 92123-1699

FROM: Backcountry Horsemen of California High Sierra Unit
Wolverton Pack Station Committee
1102 N. Chinowth Street
Visalia, California 93291-4113
Telephone: (559) 733-5770
FAX: (559) 733-4922

July 8, 2003

TO: Officers and Members of
Backcountry Horsemen of California, Inc.

Re: Right-to-Ride on Public Lands Act

Ladies and Gentlemen:

A powerful, significant opportunity confronts us. Congressman George Radanovich is soliciting fellow Members of the House of Representatives to co-sponsor the Right-to-Ride on Public Lands Act at this very moment. Congressman Radanovich is Chair of the powerful Resources Committee. I beseech you to immediately contact your local Congressman and urge him or her to contact Tricia Geringer in Congressman Radanovich's office (House of Representatives phone number 5-4540) or Damon Nelson in Representative Devin Nunes' office immediately to indicate his or her support for this bill and to be an "original co-sponsor" of the bill.

The proposed Right-to-Ride Legislation was presented to the National Board of Directors by National Director Ben York at the National Board of Directors meeting in Coos Bay, Oregon in April 2003 and received unanimous approval and support. It is essential that all of our units and as many individuals as possible now urge their local Congressmen to become co-sponsors and supporters of this legislation.

You can view a copy of the bill at <http://www.bchc.com/documents/RIGHT-TO-RIDE.pdf>.

For assistance in determining your representative, try .

Very truly yours,

RICHARD H. COCHRAN



WILD HORSE UPDATE

Kathleen Hayden

Most of you recall that Backcountry Horsemen of California and Ca. State Horsemen's Association filed a lawsuit against State Parks for CEQA violations but dismissed the lawsuit when State Parks refused any compromise at the settlement conference.

The rationale for dismissal, in addition to the cost of continuing, was that even if we won the lawsuit and Parks was required to comply with CEQA they would still remove the horses.

We decided to go the political route with Senator Morrow at the helm...He is ably assisted by media staff member, Trudy Thomas in his Carlsbad Office. We are working with Senator Morrow to restore this historic resource by legislation, the last herd of wild horses in So. Ca. representative of our Nation's Pioneering Spirit.

The issue is basically about the loss of Historic Resources. It began in 1995 with the closure of portions of the D'Anza Trail, a recorded deeded county road and the entire Canyon closure from June-Sept to allegedly protect the BIG-HORN Sheep.

We have conferred with Wild Horse experts at length over the fallacies and discrepancies contained in State Parks reports and "emergency" measures to remove this herd.

BLM has claimed jurisdiction over this herd and will bring the horses back to Ca. at the request of the Senators Morrow and Hollingsworth.

We are informed that cougar killings of Bighorn have increased directly related to the removal of the horses. AT this time we are looking into independant sound science studies to support the return of our herd to their native habitat.

Stay tuned for the thundering sounds of hooves on desert sands....

THE CONFUSED COWBOY

The cowboy looked around
his cozy home upon the range,

And realized that lately
he'd been seeenin' some things change.

But instead of getting better,
certain things were getting worse.

They sure weren't moving forward;
they were going in reverse!

It was getting close to roundup time,
and he'd had a trying week,

So when something made him angry,
he felt inclined to speak.

The final straw came
as he was readying for bed,

And the actions of his wife
had that cowboy seeing red.

He'd walked into the bedroom,
and found to his chagrin

His wife in her new nightie,
rubbing Bag Balm on her skin.

He said, "Darlin', you know that
I'm not one for confrontation,

But I think it's time that
you and I had a serious conversation!

I have tried hard to be patient,
but this is the last straw,

And you better pay attention,
'cause I'm laying down the law.

I'm realizing now
I should have used my veto power

The first time that I found that
horse shampoo stuck inside our
shower.

I guess I thought it'd end there;
to that I will fess up,

But the mane and tail conditioner
was the next thing to show up.

Then came your daily ritual,
the thought of it still pales;

You sit down at the table
and rub Hooflex on your nails.

And now, I see you sitting here,
pretty as you please

Slathering that Bag Balm
on your hands and feet and knees.

You've got to cut this out now,
or we're headed for divorce!

Good gosh! You've got me feeling
like I'm sleeping with my horse!

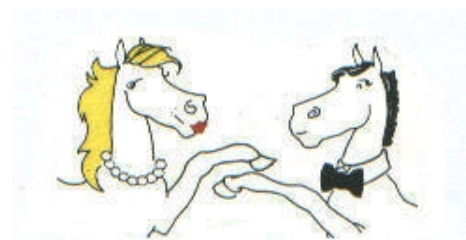
I'm sorry that I yelled.
I didn't mean to come unglued,

But I'm afraid that soon
I'll find Clovite in my food!"

His wife just started laughing
and exclaimed, "Don't be a ninny!"

Then she hugged her cowboy hus-
band,
and gave a little whinny!

forwarded from
Sandy Arledge Quarter Horses, Inc.



NATIONAL FORESTS ONE STEP CLOSER TO CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH

House Resources Committee approves Healthy Forests Restoration Act

Washington, DC - Under the leadership of Chairman Richard Pombo (R-CA), the House Committee on Resources passed the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 today. To date, the bipartisan measure has garnered nearly 100 cosponsors from 33 states and is supported by a coalition of expert conservation organizations.

“The imminent threat of catastrophic fires in our national forests has forced the Bush Administration and this committee into action,” Chairman Pombo said. “Given the devastating effects of these wildfires, it would be irresponsible to leave outdated regulations in place and have bureaucracy to blame for the loss of another million acres, another home, or another human life. This measure gives forest managers increased flexibility and 21st century technologies to combat threats and ensure the health of these national treasures for generations to come. I applaud Congressmen Scott McInnis and Greg Walden for their hard work in developing this critical legislation, and I look forward to seeing the President sign it into law.”

“The exploding threat of large-scale catastrophic wildfires and massive insect and disease epidemics combine to pose the single largest challenge facing federal land and resources managers today,” said Congressman Scott McInnis (R-CO). “The Healthy Forests Restoration Act is a bal-

anced and comprehensive measure primed to take this daunting task head on, by empowering our land managers with the tools needed to address this threat to our air, water, wildlife and forest ecosystems.”

“We’ve talked, and debated and pontificated enough on this issue,” McInnis continued. “There has been more than enough hand-wringing and foot stomping. If there has been more Congressional oversight conducted on an environmental issue in the last couple years, I’d like to know which one that is. With another scary fire season on the verge of bearing down on us, there can be no question—the time for action on this critical environmental program is now.”

“I want healthier forests and I want cleaner, safer watersheds,” said Rep. Greg Walden (R-OR). “The people of Oregon like their forests green, not black. If we don’t move to clean up the bureaucratic maze that inhibits the ability of our professional foresters to do the work that they’re charged with performing, the result is that we turn over our forests to catastrophic wildfire and disease and insect infestation. Today we’re spending obscene amounts of money fighting forest fires that could be better spent on improving forest health and species habitat and enhancing the quality of our watersheds. We must reverse this trend and take responsible steps toward reducing the threat of wildfire and other threats to our forests. I’m confident our bill will accomplish these goals, and I look forward to its passage in the full

House.”

“In Arizona, the Rodeo-Chediski and Indian fires destroyed over 500 homes and consumed 468,000 acres of forested lands,” added Congressman Rick Renzi (R-AZ). “Forest management professionals need to be able to employ preventative techniques aimed at reducing the hazardous fuels build up around our residential areas. The Healthy Forests Restoration Act will provide ecologists and forestry officials with the necessary mandate to implement a balanced approach for our forests, insuring the safety of the residents of rural Arizona and the natural grandeur of our forests for generations to come.”

The fire season has started early this year and our forests and communities face a very real danger of burning to the ground,” said Congressman Steve Pearce (R-NM). “We have worked hard in the Resources Committee to see that Congress can vote on sensible forest legislation. Now that the bill has passed out of committee, the bill must pass the House so we can save our communities. It is our moral obligation to keep New Mexico and other fire states from facing devastating effects and to do all we can to ensure that America’s forests are healthy and vibrant.”



Response to article “Hikers in Headwaters?”

By Candace Ricks-Oathout

I read the article “Hikers in Headwaters?” with a great deal of interest. It, unfortunately, expresses a theory about most environmental activists that my personal experiences have shown to be true. There is a prevalent attitude within the environmental industry in the United States that man has no place in nature. The problem with this theory is that the presence of man on the American Continent pre-dates the Colombian discovery and European Expansion onto the continent. Modern Americans seem to have a form of collective amnesia with regard the countless generations of people who inhabited this continent before the European explorers “discovered” it. The “pristine” forests and grasslands they viewed as untrammled by man were in reality managed by the hunter-gatherer societies and other civilizations that inhabited them.

It seems that a vast number of members of the so-called environmental community believe that only they are enlightened enough to be inspired and changed by their experience in the forest. It is not for the masses to have the reverence for the forest that they have. The first question that occurs to me when I hear this line of reasoning is, if no one ever sets foot in the forest, how do we inspire the future generations we are “saving the wilderness” for? How is it possible for them to have the same reverence for the forest if they can never experience it?

My second thought exposes my Judeo-Christian background as I can't help but reflect upon references in the Bible to the creation and man's role in it. What is never mentioned in environmental dissertations on the subject is that God created man in His own image and placed Adam in the garden to dress and keep it. He gave Adam and Eve stewardship over this creation. He blessed them to be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it and have dominion over every living thing that moveth upon the earth (Gen. 1: 28). When God cast Adam

and Eve out from the Garden of Eden, His dismissal contained a reiteration of His charge to dress and keep the garden, although He promised Adam that this would no longer be an easy task. He said; “.cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life.in the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread.” (Gen. 3:17 &18). Now I understand that if you don't believe in the Bible you probably won't accept its teachings with regard to man's role.

There is, however, another fallacy at work also that, I believe, needs to be challenged. That fallacy is that nature can exist in a perfect balance if man is kept out of the equation, the idea that the garden will return if only we stop logging, mining, or even hiking in wilderness areas. Many representing the environmental industry blame the Christian community as a whole for focusing on only the phrases subdue and have dominion over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. They always seem to focus on the negative connotations of the words, dominion and subdue. Although the first definition of the word dominion: is rule or power to rule, a secondary definition: is a governed territory or country. Dominion, then, becomes stewardship of a country or territory not necessarily power to rule over it. Like wise the word subdue not only means to conquer or vanquish. It means to make less intense, soften, reduce. It also means to bring land under cultivation. When the above quoted passages are read using the different connotations provided by using the less known definitions of the words, the concepts of Stewardship and responsibility become much more apparent.

If we look at the past thirty years or so of land management in our national forests and parks as we have stopped timber sales and encouraged a fire suppression regime, we have changed habitats needed by the very endangered species we have sought to protect. We are in danger of losing the red-cockaded woodpecker in the Chatahoochee-Oconee National Forest because the forest is becoming too thick for the big birds. Even though we have learned a lot about the negative affects of fire suppression in wildlands,

we still haven't learned that we cannot control nature nor can we lock it away and expect anything less than chaos. The “old growth” forest so prized by those who helped create the 7,000-acre Headwaters redwood forest is, in fact, end-stage forest. It is drier and much more susceptible to the type of crown fires that lead to a scorched earth result from these fires. It is 10,000 years since the retreat of the Pleistocene ice sheet. The average age of “old growth” forest in the Pacific Northwest is 650 years. This means that the forest primeval has been taken down i.e. changed by fire, wind, insects or other means at least fifteen times. It is inevitable that it will happen again. The more we think we have learned about ecosystems, the more we need to realize how much more we have to learn.

When we look at the demands of the organizations that are involved in the Wildlands Project, the first concept that appears is that it is a collective project. It must be carried out not by individuals each taking responsibility for their place on the earth and exercising stewardship over it to the best of their ability and understanding, but by a central authority who knows better than the individuals governed. This certainly does not represent the gospel principles of personal responsibility and self-determination. It certainly does not represent the principles upon which the government of the United States was founded

When the environmental industry counsels the rest of us to be mindful of our footprint on the earth and be aware that we need to use our resources wisely they are not wrong. I believe there are several issues that most folks (especially the environmental industry) tend to miss or gloss over. First, the commandment to replenish the earth, to replenish is defined as; to make full or complete again. This clearly casts man in a stewardship role rather than a wastrel who can use up all resources without consequence. It is our responsibility to use the resources of the earth wisely. But this does not mean removing mankind from their interactions with the earth. It does not mean ignoring all the technological advances that God

has blessed us with. It does not mean drastically reducing the number of people on the earth or them from the knowledge of where and how the food they eat, the clothes they wear, the shelters they live in and the transportation methods they use come from. It keeps them from developing the awe and humility that comes from intimate knowledge of the forest, the knowledge that comes from the experience of hiking into the Headwaters Forest or the vast desert expanses of the Mojave Preserve

THE FOUR FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

HOW TO WRITE YOUR COMMENT

From an email by Larry Thompson

Here is some of the primary ammunition for active management of our forest resources.

To achieve active management, one needs access. The Multiple Use & Sustained Yield Act [Title 16, Chapter 2, Subchapter I secs. 528-531] and the Forest Roads and Trails Act [Title 16, Chapter 2, Subchapter I, secs. 532-538] were specifically written with these types of situations in mind.

These two Acts are still the law of the land and are critical to the comments that we will be submitting to the USFS. I highly recommend that everyone read these two Acts and plan on incorporating them into your comments.

Also, FLPMA (Fed Land) is very relevant to the position that we must take. So-called "protection" of our forest resources IS NOT restricted to preservation of biodiversity as penultimate. This type of "protection" is only contemplated for designated wilderness and not the forest as a whole as the CBD (Center for Biodiversity) would have the public believe. The Multiple Use & Sustained Yield Act is the LAW in areas outside designated wilderness—nothing has changed that imperative. The forest service needs to be reminded of this fact in all our comments. How does each alternative comply with the law....that is the question

JUDGE DECLARES "ROADLESS RULE" ILLEGAL

By JOAN BARRON *Star-Tribune staff writer*

CHEYENNE WY— Federal Judge Clarence Brimmer ordered Monday that the "roadless rule" the U.S. Forest Service adopted at the end of the Clinton administration be set aside.

Brimmer found that the rule was adopted in violation of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Wilderness Act, and must be permanently enjoined from going into effect.

The judge said the Forest Service's "mad dash" to get a roadless rule adopted in December 2000 before President Bill Clinton left office "turned the NEPA process on its head."

The Clinton-era rule proposal would have virtually banned road building or other development in roadless parcels of 5,000 acres or more, some 2 percent of the nation's land mass.

The state of Wyoming filed a complaint for a declaratory judgment and injunctive relief in U.S. District Court in May 2001.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, which oversees the Forest Service, was the defendant. The Wyoming Outdoor Council and other conservation groups intervened in the case.

The lawsuit asked the court to stop the implementation of the Roadless Area Conservation Final Rule, revisions to the National Forest Management Act Planning Regulations, the Forest Transportation System Final Administrative Policy and the National Forest System Road Management Rule.

The Forest Service's roadless initiative's proposed action and preferred alternative would prohibit road construction and reconstruction in portions of inventoried roadless areas.

Wyoming claimed that the administration's actions had the effect of creating de facto wilderness areas, which is a responsibility reserved for Congress.

"Today," Brimmer wrote at the

beginning of the 100-page ruling, "the court considers the legality of the 58.5 million acres of roadless area that the United States Forest Service drove through the administrative process in a vehicle smelling of political prestidigitation."

Of the total, 9.2 million acres are in Wyoming.

See: <http://www.casperstartribune.net/articles/2003/07/15/news/8eae0898c8b88a7868121d4ce9dd3a9b.txt> for the entire article.



On the first day of creation, God created the Horse.

On the second day, God created man to serve the Horse.

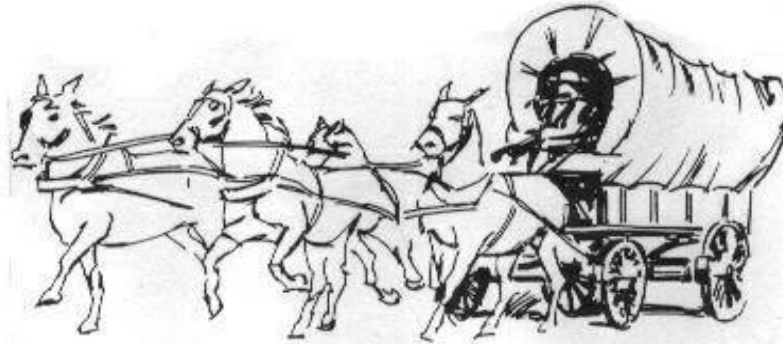
On the third day, God created all the animals of the earth to spook the Horse when man was on his back.

On the fourth day, God created an honest days work so that man could labor to pay for the keeping of the Horse.

On the fifth day, God created the grasses in the field so that Horse could eat and man could toil and cleanup after the Horse.

On the sixth day, God created veterinary science to keep the Horse healthy and man broke.

On the seventh day, God rested and said "This is good. This will teach Man humility, it will tire him out and keep him striving ever forward to meet the needs of the Horse."



BCHC/CdS

CALENDAR 2003

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:

Board meetings are the fourth Tuesday of each month.,

General Meeting will be held quarterly with a special attraction and Potluck or BBQ
Check the back of each newsletter for location and directions to the meetings

July 22rd **Meeting**

Randall's Home
6149 Medill, El Cajon,
CA 92021, Phone: 619
561 6764

Meeting 7 PM
Potluck & BYOM BBQ
6PM
bring your own meat
and a dish to share

August 23rd: **Borderfield** **BEACH RIDE** **and ICE CREAM** **FEST**

Hosts: Mike and Tauri
Ellison.
We will be inviting the
public and other units to
join us to get away from

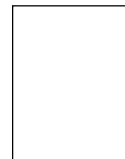
the heat for a fun
day!

TRAIL TRIALS
Bonita Valley Horsemen is sponsoring a trail trial at Sweetwater Summit County Park on August 9. Contact is Ray or Diane at 619-470-3244 -
dimanfarn@cox.net

Oct 17 – 19, 2003
State Board Meeting
Santa Nella

March 11 – 14, 2004
Rendezvous
Santa Maria

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



JULY 2003

Label

NEXT BOARD MEETING

All Members Welcome

**22 July 2003 Randall's Home
6149 Medill, El Cajon, CA 92021, Phone: 619 561 6764**

Meeting 7 PM

Potluck & BYOM BBQ 6PM

bring your own meat and a dish to share

DIRECTIONS

Hiway 8, Exit: Los Coches Rd.

North to Aurora Dr., Left onto Aurora

Left onto Serenity, Go to top (end)

take the cement driveway at 11 o'clock

At the top, turn left in the dirt driveway (you are there)

Mailed courtesy of Morgan Stanley, Rancho Santa Fe