Riders' Roundup



OET Members enjoying a trail ride in beautiful Central Oregon.

Ride with Us - Protect Oregon's Trails

Oregon Equestrian Trails (OET) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving, maintaining, and expanding access to horse trails and horse camps across the state. We are the unified voice for equestrians in Oregon.

Join a Community That Keeps Oregon Riding Strong

Across Oregon's forests, mountains, beaches and open spaces, equestrian trails and camps don't stay open by accident — they stay open because people like you speak up, show up, and ride together.

Protect What You Love. Be Part of Something Bigger

We advocate at the state and local level to keep trails open and accessible. When decisions are made about land use, we make sure equestrians are heard.

Ride More, Worry Less. Join other passionate riders

From trail clearing to campground improvements, our volunteers work year-round to maintain safe, enjoyable riding spaces.

Your Voice Matters

Public lands are constantly changing. Without a strong and organized equestrian presence, access can be reduced or lost. Together, we ensure that doesn't happen.

More Than Just Advocacy — It's Fun, Too!

Being part of OET means more than meetings and maintenance. It means:

- Organized group rides across Oregon
- Campouts and social events
- Trail challenges and recreational programs
- Volunteer projects that make a real impact

Ride with us! Checkout some of 2026 OET Chapter Sponsored Ride Activities:

May 3	Stub Stewart Prize Ride, Stub Stewart State Park
May 9	Bristow Bingo, Elijah Bristow State Park
May 10	Mothers Day Duck Hunt, Sister Cow Camp
May 22-25	Group Campout, Northrup Horse Camp
June 6	Poker Ride, Sisters Cow Camp
June 6	Horse Camping Clinic, Williamette Mission State Park
June 23-29	OET State Work Party, Quinn Meadows Horse Camp
June 27	Poker Ride, Mildred Kanipe Park
June 28	Joker's Wild Poker Ride, TE ranch
July 3-5	Group Campout, Northrup Horse Camp
Aug 8-9	Group Campout, Wild Mare Horse Camp

More ride details: **OregonEquestrianTrails.org/calendar**

Sign up and Join us at:

OregonEquestrianTrails.org/membership/registration/

NORTHRUP CREEK HORSE CAMP



Come ride with us!

GROUP HORSE CAMPING TRIPS

Celebrate the 20th anniversary of Northrup Creek Horse Camp with North Coast Oregon Equestrian Trails (OET) this summer! Enjoy miles of maintained trails over streams, through forests, and along logging roads; plus a small obstacle course.






MAY 22-25	MEMORIAL WEEKEND	Dutch Oven Potluck
JULY 3-5	JULY 4TH WEEKEND	Parade, Bunko, BBQ Potluck
SEPT 4-7	LABOR DAY WEEKEND	Scavenger Hunt Ride

Campsites are limited and require advanced reservation online at www.tinyurl.com/NorthrupCreek

Clatsop State Forest, NW Oregon

Have a question? Email **Ashley.Lertora@gmail.com**

FB Group: North Coast Oregon Equestrian Trails

Mark Your Calendar JUNE 23-29th!

OREGON EQUESTRIAN TRAILS

Quinn Meadow!

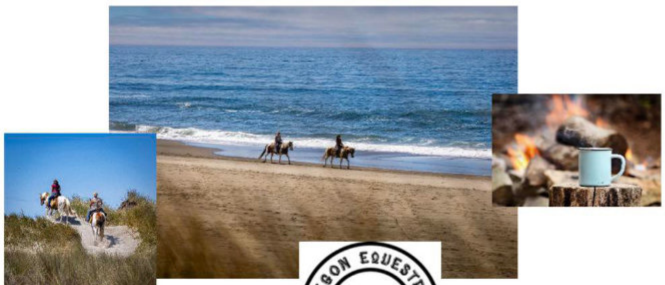
LIFE IS BEST WHEN YOU'RE Camping

~Trail Maintenance Parties every day~
Come for one day or come for all

contact email: vpfieldservices@myoet.org

Please join in for our annual all members campout and trail clearing party!
Plan ahead and get a free campsite.
Sawyers, clippers, draggers, swampers are all needed.
Nightly Potluck and campfire songs!
Best of all, bring your horse!

Coastal Horse Camping



OREGON EQUESTRIAN TRAILS

OET Campout hosted by South Coast Chapter

August 8 & 9, 2026

Wild Mare Horse Camp in Siuslaw National Forest, North Bend, OR

Facilities: 12 horse sites with corrals, potable water, vault toilets, picnic tables, firepit

Wild Mare Horse Camp is nestled within the scenic Siuslaw National Forest near North Bend, Oregon. The camp offers a unique opportunity to explore the southern end of the Oregon Dunes and the beautiful Oregon coast beach. Campers are invited to ride through trails among shore pines, Douglas fir, and huckleberry that lead out to the Pacific Ocean. Enjoy camping under a canopy of alder and spruce, while experiencing the spectacular landscape of the Oregon coast.

Reservations: recreation.gov

Information: **Valerie Lantz** 541-290-8194 | **Kellie Beaston** 775-221-5535 | **Kimi Larkin** 541-321-2092

Come join us for a

Poker Ride

at Sisters Cow Camp in Sisters, Oregon

Saturday June 6th





Registration starts Saturday morning at 9:00 AM
First rider out at 9:30 AM, last rider out at 11:00 AM

First poker hand is $15
Additional hands are $5 each

CASH AND PRIZES TO WINNERS

Proceeds go to the Central Oregon Chapter of Oregon Equestrian Trail's Mission - clearing trails, maintaining horse camps, and representing rider's concerns using public lands

Lunch available for purchase
For more information contact
Brenda Coats 541-280-3849

Directions to Sisters Cow Camp

*Go West out of Sisters on Hwy 242, go 1 mile, turn **left onto FS road** 15. Go about 2 miles and turn left at the sign for **Sisters Cow Camp**.*

*OET operates under a special use permit with the Deschutes National Forest, who is an equal opportunity outdoor recreation service provider



President

Melissa McLaughlin



I've been digging into OET's history recently—not the kind that remembers when we built metal corrals or when a particular trail was established, but the more recent history of what OET stands for and who we are as an organization.

Our mission statement is intentionally broad. It's meant to guide us. But from time to time, we encounter situations where that guidance leaves room for interpretation—and that's when discussion becomes important. Those moments are an opportunity to ask: *Who are we now?* And *how do we want to interpret our mission today?*

OET is not, and should not be, a static organization that simply moves forward without pausing for reflection.

In 2022, OET also created a vision statement. For those of you who are newer, we spent about 18 months in a strategic planning process with a professional facilitator. The result was a vision shaped by the 60 or so members who participated in work sessions at the Annual Meeting held at Perrydale Trails.

Here is the vision that came out of that process:

A future OET continues to focus on volunteering, physical work, education, and fundraising. The social benefits of OET are emphasized—perhaps more than in the past. OET ensures access to camps, trailheads, and nature in a conflict-free atmosphere, while providing members with lighter workloads and meaningful contributions. Membership continues to advocate, give back, and provide essential services to camps and trails, while becoming bigger, younger, and more active. OET strengthens itself through partnerships with other trail groups and by recognizing the critical importance of the land managers it works with.

We are now almost halfway to that ten-year mark. And I believe we are on our way toward that future. This isn't about judging where we are—or asking anyone else to judge. But it *is* a good time to hold our mission and vision up to the light of today's environment.

During that strategic planning process, we talked about both internal and external influences. External realities—like the rising cost of horse ownership and the cost of hauling to distant trailheads. Internal ones—like an aging membership and shrinking numbers.

OET is a community—and really, a collection of chapter communities. Building community takes intention. It looks like greeting a visitor, asking about someone's horse, or noticing when someone is sitting off to themselves. Often, it's the small things that matter most.

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Riders' Roundup

A monthly publication from Oregon Equestrian Trails, a non-profit trail and horse camp organization.

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VP of Public Lands

Kim McCarrel



Going Far Together: How Interagency Collaboration redesigned the Dry Canyon Trail

There's an old African proverb that says, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." Here is a story about how some land management agencies have "gone far together" to accomplish something pretty amazing for the equestrian community.

The story begins with Central Oregon OET members expressing serious concern about the Dry Canyon Trail in the Cline Buttes Recreation Area. Cline Buttes is 50 square miles of BLM land between Bend, Redmond, and Sisters. It features nine trailheads and over 200 miles of trails on sandy terrain covered by junipers and sagebrush. Horses and hikers are separated from bikes on all the trails. Motorized users are separated from non-motorized, with one exception: horses and motorcycles shared a 1.5-mile stretch of trail through Dry Canyon. In one stretch, the canyon is so narrow that horses cannot get off the trail to avoid oncoming motorcycles. It's dangerous and scary.

After several years of trying, the Central Oregon chapter got the OK from BLM to build a new trail to separate motorcycles and horses in Dry Canyon. Because of the physical complexities of creating a second trail in the narrow, boulder-filled canyon, the chapter applied for and got a Recreational Trails Program grant to hire a contractor to build the new trail. The contractor's challenges included building the horse trail over some huge boulders in a spot where the canyon is only 20 feet wide, and then finding a way to keep motorcycles off the new horse trail in the wider sections of the canyon.

In the wider sections of the canyon, the shared trail was very wide and braided, with huge whoops (swales). Over the years, equestrians who didn't want to ride the whoops would ride off to the side, creating a new trail. But then motorcyclists who also didn't want to ride the whoops would follow the horse trail, go too fast, and create whoops on it. So the horses would create a new trail to the side and the motorcyclists would follow it and – well, pretty soon you have a wide, braided trail with big whoops in it.

The contractor, the BLM recreation planner, and Central Oregon chapter members walked the canyon repeatedly as they planned how to build the new trail. It became apparent that because of the open terrain in some parts of the canyon and because the new horse trail would be so close to the motorized trail in the narrow sections, it would be nearly impossible to keep motorcycles off the horse trail.

Dan Shaneyfelt, the BLM recreation planner, felt the solution would be to move the motorized trail to the east side of the canyon so the horse trail could be built along the west side. But he was hamstrung by BLM's lack of funding for this work. He contacted the Combined Off-Highway Vehicle Combined Operations agency (COHVOPS, pronounced co-vops), a quasi-governmental agency jointly funded by the Forest Service and BLM. COHVOPS is responsible for maintaining all federal motorized trails in Central Oregon. He also reached out to Oregon State Parks, which has considerable expertise in building and maintaining motorized trails.

And here's where the miracle occurred: BLM had staff but no funding. COHVOPS had funding from a major federal grant, but was very short-staffed and unable to hire due to a hiring freeze. The two agencies came together to figure out how to combine BLM staff and COHVOPS funds to address motorized issues in Dry Canyon. I can't overemphasize how hard this was. Interagency rivalries typically prevent this type of cooperation. And agency rules make it VERY difficult to share resources. But somehow, the managers of the two agencies found a way through the paperwork maze so they could work together. Oregon State Parks agreed to lend a hand, and voila! A partnership was formed.

Within about a month, the agencies had brought in equipment to build an entirely new motorized single-track on the east side of the canyon. This trail is designed to be so much fun to ride that motorcyclists won't want to ride anywhere else. The trail builders also used the trees and rocks as trail features to keep motorcyclists on the single-track. The new motorized trail is out of sight of the equestrian trail in the wider parts of the canyon and will be separated from the horse trail by a low fence where the canyon narrows. Not only that, the agencies ripped up the braided and whooped part of the trail so it is no longer rideable, and will plant native plants on it this fall.

Our Mission Statement

OET advocates for recreational access, partners with land managers to care for trails and horse camps, and unites equestrians through opportunities and information related to trail riding.

In the meantime, OET's contractor built the horse trail so it never crosses the motorized trail as it meanders among the trees and boulders on the west side of the canyon. In the narrow, steep section of the trail, he moved huge rocks to create a staircase that horses travel with ease, but motorcycles can't manage. Equestrians love the new Dry Canyon Horse Trail.

This project wouldn't have happened if OET hadn't asked for permission to build a separate trail, secured a grant to fund it, and hired a contractor capable of addressing the challenges posed by the terrain. That was the catalyst, for sure. But then, BLM's hardworking recreation planner enlisted help from other agencies to address the motorcycle issues more fully than our new horse trail could by itself. He and his managers found a way to navigate the roadblocks that keep federal agencies from working together. Their collaboration created a purpose-built motorcycle trail that keeps motorcycles on their own trail and off the horse trail.

This interagency collaboration created a solution that improves the recreation experience for both equestrians and motorcyclists while protecting the land and fragile vegetation. Their actions ensure that the new horse trail will be used only by equestrians and hikers. It's a beautiful thing!

VP Marketing Outreach

Collette Hayes



Hi OET'ers!

March was a very busy month for me as I toured various chapters to discuss the upcoming Prize Ride at Stub Stewart State Park. I was thrilled to find members so enthusiastic about participating and collaborating on this event. The camaraderie within OET is truly like no other—especially because it involves horses!

I genuinely enjoyed meeting so many of you during your chapter meetings. It was wonderful to connect faces with names and visit with everyone. Hearing about your ongoing chapter activities brings me great fulfillment; it's clear that everyone is driven by our shared purpose.

I am looking forward to a busy riding season of working, recruiting, and—most importantly—riding with you all.

Thank you all, and Happy Riding!

VP of Field Service

Matt Dolphin



What Does the VP of Field Services Do? (And Why It Matters)

As my term as Vice President of Field Services with Oregon Equestrian Trails (OET) winds down over the next eight months, I've been reflecting on what this role really looks like and why it matters enough that we need someone new to step into it.

On paper, the position covers a wide range of responsibilities related to trails, camping facilities, and coordination across the organization. In practice, the role has evolved along with OET itself.

At its core, this position is about supporting the people who make OET work.

Over the past few years, that has looked like:

- Recognizing volunteers at the annual meeting, making sure the people who show up and do the work are seen and appreciated
- Tracking and reporting volunteer hours statewide, helping demonstrate the impact our members have on public lands.
- Organizing the annual state work party at Quinn Meadow.

Just as important, the role serves as a connector. It involves keeping a pulse on what is happening across chapters, helping elevate issues when needed, and supporting communication between members, leadership, and land managers.

Like any volunteer role, this one is not static. Some responsibilities shift over time, and there is room for the next person to shape it based on what OET needs most.

Who Should Consider It?

You do not need to have all the answers or years of experience in every aspect of the job. What matters most is:

- A genuine appreciation for trail work and the people who do it
- Strong organization and follow-through
- Comfort with communication and coordination
- A willingness to help keep things moving behind the scenes

Looking Ahead

OET runs on volunteer energy. This role helps make sure that energy is recognized, organized, and sustained.

With my term ending in eight months, now is a great time for someone to step in, learn the ropes, and help carry this work forward. If you have ever thought about getting more involved at the state level, I would be glad to talk with you about what the role is really like.

Because more than anything, this position is about supporting the people who show up for the trails, for the horses, and for each other.

2026 Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Chapter	Event	Location	Information
May					
May 1-4		Northwest	Work Party	L.L. Stub Stewart State Park, Buxton	All chapter members are invited! Come Friday and stay thru Monday. Saturday - clean up horse camp and prep for the Sunday Prize Ride!
May 3		Northwest	Ride	L.L. Stub Stewart State Park, Buxton	Public Prize Ride, $25 entry or free entry with new membership. Raffle tickets 5 for $20. Questions: vpoutreachoet@gmail.com
May 6	6:00PM - 7:00PM	State	Meeting	Virtual. Google Meets or call in to 601-688-3254 PIN 290189192#	OET Field Service/Public Lands Call. https://meet.google.com/iqw-kjtu-tuc
May 8-10		Northwest	Work Party	Reehers Camp	
May 9		Eugene	Ride	Elijah Bristow State Park Dexter	Bristow Bingo! Fundraiser. Costume Contest. Contact Melanie Kate-Mason: Text 541-870-3189
May 10		Central Oregon	Ride	Sisters Cow Camp	Mother's Day Lucky Duck Hunt. Contact Gayla Nelson darq69@gmail.com
May 15-16		Mt. Hood	Work Party	Stone Creek Camp, Timothy Lake	Work with BCH clearing PCT.
May 20-26		Mt. Hood	Campout	L.L. Stub Stewart State Park, Buxton	Campout
May 20	10:00AM - 1:00PM	Mt. Hood	Ride	Sandy River Delta https://maps.app.goo.gl/YLGsQksZcXwyjw7x5	Foot in stirrup 10:00 AM. Lunch to follow. Bring lunch and a chair. Contact Sara Faulkner, (971) 274-6516
May 22-25		North Coast	Campout	Northrup Creek Horse Camp 87644 Northrup Creek Rd Clatskanie	Celebrate 20 years of NCHC! Coastal woodlands camp with water, no electricity. Trails include hills and gravel roads, boots or shoes recommended. Dutch Oven potluck.
May 22-25	10:00AM - 1:00PM	North Valley	Campout	Graham Corral, Sisters	More info to follow
May 30	10:30AM Start	Columbia County	Ride	Whipple Creek Washington	Contact Trail Boss Nancy 503-875-4699
June					
Jun 1	6:00PM - 7:00PM	State	Meeting	Virtual. Google Meets or call in to 601-688-3254 PIN 290189192#	OET Field Service/Public Lands Call. https://meet.google.com/iqw-kjtu-tuc
Jun 6		Central Oregon	Ride	Sisters Cow Camp	Jimmerson Trail Poker Ride. Contact Gayla Nelson darq69@gmail.com
Jun 13		North Valley	Ride	Howards Mill	Trail Boss: Faith Roney
Jun 15-22		Roseburg	Work Party	Kelsay Valley Horse Camp	Trail Clearing. Contact Kyle Miller kyletheelkhunter@gmail.com

Jun 23-28		State	Work Party	Quinn Meadows Horse Camp, Bend	Help clear those awesome trails up at Quinn Meadows. Come for one day or come for all! It's up to you and it is free camping. Contact Matt as it gets closer. vpfieldservices@myoet.org
Jun 17	10:00AM - 1:00PM	Mt. Hood	Ride	Sandy River Delta https://maps.app.goo.gl/YLGsQksZcXwyjw7x5	Foot in stirrup 10:00 AM. Lunch to follow. Bring lunch and a chair. Contact Sara Faulkner, (971) 274-6516
Jun 27	10:30AM Start	Columbia County	Ride	Stub Stewart State Park Buxton Trailhead	Contact Trail Boss Nancy 503-875-4699
Jun 27	9:00AM - 11:00AM	Roseburg	Ride	Mildred Kanipe Memorial Park, Oakland	Poker Ride. First rider out at 9:00 a.m., last rider out at 11:00 a.m. Lunch and drinks available by donation.
Jun 28		Mid-Valley	Ride	TE Ranch, Philomath	Jokers Wild Ride. PokerRideInfo@gmail.com
July					
Jul 3-5		North Coast	Campout	Northrup Creek Horse Camp, 87644 Northrup Creek Rd, Clatskanie	Celebrate 20 years of NCHC! Coastal woodlands camp with water, no electricity. Trails include hills and gravel roads, boots or shoes recommended. Dutch Oven potluck.
Jul 6	6:00PM - 7:00PM	State	Meeting	Virtual. Google Meets or call in to 601-688-3254 PIN 290189192#	OET Field Service/Public Lands Call. https://meet.google.com/iqw-kjtu-tuc
Jul 11		North Valley	Ride	Hardy Creek	Trail Boss: Brent and Sandy Branch
Jul 11		Roseburg	Work Party		Fish Packing. Tentative Date roseburgoff@myoet.org
Jul 12		Roseburg	Work Party		PCT Cleanup roseburgoff@myoet.org
Jul 15	10:00AM - 1:00PM	Mt. Hood	Ride	Sandy River Delta https://maps.app.goo.gl/YLGsQksZcXwyjw7x5	Foot in stirrup 10:00 AM. Lunch to follow. Bring lunch and a chair. Contact Sara Faulkner, (971) 274-6516
Jul 21	6:00PM - 8:00PM	Silver Falls	Ride		Summer Soltice Ride
Jul 25	10:30AM Start	Columbia County	Ride	Reehers	Contact Trail Boss Nancy 503-875-4699
August					
Aug 3	6:00PM - 7:00PM	State	Meeting	Virtual. Google Meets or call in to 601-688-3254 PIN 290189192#	OET Field Service/Public Lands Call. https://meet.google.com/iqw-kjtu-tuc
Aug 8-9		South Coast	Campout	Wild Mare Horse Camp North Bend	
Aug 19	10:00AM - 1:00PM	Mt. Hood	Ride	Sandy River Delta https://maps.app.goo.gl/YLGsQksZcXwyjw7x5	Foot in stirrup 10:00 AM. Lunch to follow. Bring lunch and a chair. Contact Sara Faulkner, (971) 274-6516
Aug 22	10:00AM - 2:00PM	State	Meeting	Virtual. Google Meets or call in to 628-400-8556 PIN 573 588 208#	State Board Meeting. Santiam Horse Camp.

Aug 29	10:30AM Start	Columbia County	Ride	Camp Wilkerson	Contact Trail Boss Nancy 503-875-4699
September					
7-Sep		North Coast	Campout	Northrup Creek Horse Camp, 87644 Northrup Creek Rd, Clatskanie	Celebrate 20 years of NCHC! Woodland camp with water, no electricity. Trails include hills and gravel roads, boots or shoes recommended. A scavenger hunt will be offered this weekend!
Sep 7	6:00PM - 7:00PM	State	Meeting	Virtual. Google Meets or call in to 601-688-3254 PIN 290189192#	OET Field Service/Public Lands Call. https://meet.google.com/iqw-kjtu-tuc
Sep 16	10:00AM - 1:00PM	Mt. Hood	Ride	Sandy River Delta https://maps.app.goo.gl/YLGsQksZcXwyjw7x5	Foot in stirrup 10:00 AM. Lunch to follow. Bring lunch and a chair. Contact Sara Faulkner, (971) 274-6516
Sep 19	10:30AM Start	Columbia County	Ride	Ft. Stevens, Delaura Bech	Contact Trail Boss Nancy 503-875-4699
Sep 26-27		Columbia County	Campout	Stage Coach Campground	Contact Trail Boss Nancy 503-875-4699
October					
Oct 5	6:00PM - 7:00PM	State	Meeting	Virtual. Google Meets or call in to 601-688-3254 PIN 290189192#	OET Field Service/Public Lands Call. https://meet.google.com/iqw-kjtu-tuc
Oct 17	8:00AM - 1:30PM	Public	Special	Clackamas Co. Fair & Event Center 694 NE 4th Ave, Canby	Clackamas County 4-H Tack Sale. New and used tack & other horse-related items. Parking $5, admission $1 per person.
Oct 17		North Valley	Ride	McIver State Park	Trail Boss: Tamara Glover
Oct 21	10:00AM - 1:00PM	Mt. Hood	Ride	Sandy River Delta https://maps.app.goo.gl/YLGsQksZcXwyjw7x5	Foot in stirrup 10:00 AM. Lunch to follow. Bring lunch and a chair. Contact Sara Faulkner, (971) 274-6516
November					
Nov 2	6:00PM - 7:00PM	State	Meeting	Virtual. Google Meets or call in to 601-688-3254 PIN 290189192#	OET Field Service/Public Lands Call. https://meet.google.com/iqw-kjtu-tuc
Nov 18	10:00AM - 1:00PM	Mt. Hood	Ride	Sandy River Delta https://maps.app.goo.gl/YLGsQksZcXwyjw7x5	Foot in stirrup 10:00 AM. Lunch to follow. Bring lunch and a chair. Contact Sara Faulkner, (971) 274-6516
December					
Dec 7	6:00PM - 7:00PM	State	Meeting	Virtual. Google Meets or call in to 601-688-3254 PIN 290189192#	OET Field Service/Public Lands Call. https://meet.google.com/iqw-kjtu-tuc
Dec 16	10:00AM - 1:00PM	Mt. Hood	Ride	Sandy River Delta https://maps.app.goo.gl/YLGsQksZcXwyjw7x5	Foot in stirrup 10:00 AM. Lunch to follow. Bring lunch and a chair. Contact Sara Faulkner, (971) 274-6516

Please visit OregonEquestrianTrails.org/calendar for more details of scheduled Events.

OET Tech Corner

Texting From the Middle of Nowhere
(Show Rescuers Exactly where you are)

By Marty DeVall, OET Web Master

Hello fellow riders! We all know the feeling. You are five miles up a beautiful trail, the air is crisp, your horse is happy, and you reach for your phone to send a photo to your spouse. You look at the screen and see the dreaded message: **No Service**.

For many of us, this is just part of riding in Oregon. But what if you need to tell someone you're running late? Or worse, what if you—or your horse—get hurt? This month, we are comparing three ways to stay connected when the cell towers disappear.

The "Free" Backup: Apple iPhone (Model 14, 15, or 16)

If you have an iPhone 14 or newer, satellite safety features are already built-in.

- **How it works:** To connect, you must hold your phone up and point it at a satellite; the screen will guide you to stay locked on.
- **Emergency SOS:** You can text 911 even with zero signal.
- **Roadside Assistance:** You can text AAA for trailer issues like a flat tire while out of range.
- **Satellite Messaging (iOS 18):** With the latest update, you can send texts to family via satellite, though it is slower than normal.

The Catch: It drains your battery quickly, and you must stop moving to point the phone at the sky. It does not automatically track your location for others to follow.

The Gold Standard: Garmin inReach Mini 2

This is the rugged, deck-of-cards-sized device often used by search-and-rescue teams.

- **How it works:** It communicates with satellites automatically from your saddle or vest.
- **The Big Advantage:** It has its own screen and physical buttons. If your phone dies or breaks, you can still read maps, send texts, and trigger an SOS directly from the device.
- **Cost:** Approximately $400 ($250 on sale), with monthly plans starting around $15.

The Budget-Friendly Choice: ZOLEO Satellite Communicator

The ZOLEO is a rugged, screenless box that acts as a bridge between the sky and your phone.

- **How it works:** You use a free app on your smartphone to type messages, which feels just like normal texting.
- **The Big Advantage:** It is seamless. If you have a cell signal, it uses that; if you lose it, the device switches to satellite automatically.
- **Cost:** Approximately $150, with monthly plans starting around $20.

Quick Comparison

Feature	iPhone 14/15/16	Garmin inReach Mini 2	ZOLEO
Device Cost	$0 (If you own one)	~$400 ($250 sale)	~$150
Monthly Cost	Free (Promotional)	~$15/mo	~$20/mo
Battery Life	Hours (Satellite mode)	Weeks	Days
Screen?	Yes	Yes (Standalone)	No (Needs Phone)
Tracking	Manual updates only	Auto Breadcrumbs	Auto Breadcrumbs

The Verdict for OET Members

If you already have a new iPhone, you have a great safety net for casual rides—just be sure to update to iOS 18 and practice in "Demo Mode" before you head out!

However, if you ride alone often or go deep into the wilderness, a dedicated device like the Garmin or ZOLEO is safer. They are waterproof, don't rely on your phone's battery, and track your location automatically so rescuers can find you even if you are unable to text.

Stay safe and keep the rubber side down!

Piggybacks and Projects: Celebrating Joe Taylor

By Jodi Knutson, Mid-Valley Chapter



It is with great sadness that we announce that Mid-Valley OET member Joe Taylor passed away March 17, 2026.

Joe and Karen are long time Mid-Valley OET members who have done a lot to support OET and BCH. Joe was the one who drove all the way to NE Oregon to pick up the corral panels for Cultus Horse Camp. Joe often brought his tractor to OET work parties to assist in accomplishing the mission, such as building corrals at Seven Mile or brush hogging the entrance road to South Pyramid Horse Camp. Joe also assisted BCH to build the manure bins at Big Meadows and brought his cement mixer, "know-how," and labor, to get the cinder block walls built. Joe and Karen always donated a ton of hay to our Jokers Wild poker ride fund raiser that is held the last Sunday of June, and Joe had a home-made tank and waterer to wet the gravel road to tamp down dust for the poker ride participants.



Joe was the person who built the OET display for our state roundup chapter display. It had little wooden corrals made from sticks and plastic toy horses in the corrals. He would cut fresh tree branches to add to it each year. We won favorite display several times with it. Joe stored our display under his hay loft, until one day that hay loft crashed down smashing the display to pieces. Mid-Valley OET has not won the competition for best display since.

One time, my 10-year-old daughter Madelynn was with us on a work party where we were hiking over Benchmark Butte, clearing trail and carrying backpacks and heavy tools on a very hot day. A cloud of mosquitos was attacking us also. As a tired youngster will do in those types of trying days, she started crying telling me she was too tired to hike anymore. We still had lots of elevation change to go. I was loaded down with my backpack and tools, and I told her "I am sorry, you're going to have to continue to hike". Suddenly the whining stopped and she went giggling past me getting a piggyback ride from Joe!

If you attended our work parties and campouts you would know that Joe often brought salmon fillets for the potlucks. Joe caught these salmon on his annual trips to Alaska where he had a cabin. What luck we had eating that while camping! Joe would BBQ them over the coals on the fire and he has a special secret sauce he would brush on them as they cooked to perfection!



Joe and Karen owned an arena, where they would often host OET rides and or events. Joe constructed water crossings, teeter-totters and other scary obstacles for our horses to practice on to make them better trail horses. They also owned a stud and would breed horses to produce either foals or mules. I know two of Joes mules, JJ, who he rode most of the time and Festus, who I got to ride on the PCT once and he was such a nice smooth ride. Festus could travel 4 MPH over the steepest and roughest terrain without skipping a beat.

One hot summer week my husband and I were moving and Joe brought his big horse trailer and assisted with the moving even though it was 100 degrees.

Joe was a big giver, and he will be sorely missed.

April 2026

Public Lands/Field Services Meeting Notes

In Attendance: Della Webb (Eugene), Gloria Rice (Columbia County), Gayla Nelson (Central OR), Cindy Albrecht (Silver Falls), Matt Dolphin (VP Field Services / West Valley), and Melissa Mclaughlin (President).

Field Services

Quinn Meadow (June 23–28): Campsites requested; assignments pending and will be first-come, first-served, with flexibility to request more if needed.

Eugene

April 11 – Elijah Bristow Work Party: Gravel secured; concern about volunteer turnout due to new state park pass requirement. Potential need for OET to advocate for volunteer exemptions or credits.

May 9 – "Bristow Bingo" Fundraiser.

Watershed Project (Elijah Bristow): Monitoring proposal that may flood trails, remove/replace a bridges, and require realignments; awaiting plans for review.

Box Canyon Horse Camp: New sign approved and funded (~$1,000); water tank installed; Access limited due to Forest Road 19 closure.

Columbia

Camp Wilkerson: Corrals completed; ongoing trail clearing to prepare for spring use; continued informal coordination with ODF on surrounding trails.

Funding & Outreach: Received grant and donations; partnering with Chamber of Commerce for visibility (banner, flyers, business connections).

West Valley

April 24-26 Sheep Springs work party

May 2? – Nehalem Bay Work Party (tentative): Still coordinating with ranger

Central Oregon

STAR Project: Multi-year trail development underway; limited work continuing while awaiting funding (expected late summer) and Forest Service approvals.

Trail System & Signage: Expanding connections (Whispering Pines, Cow Camp, loops); improving signage and mapping, though access to maps (Gaia) remains inconsistent.

May (Mother's Day) – Duck Ride Fundraiser

Aug 13–16 – Corral Flats Campout (dry camp)

Silver Falls

Upcoming Work Party (Santiam Horse Camp): Storm damage cleanup (trees, corrals) in coordination with Backcountry Horsemen.

Chapter activity temporarily limited due to injuries among key members.

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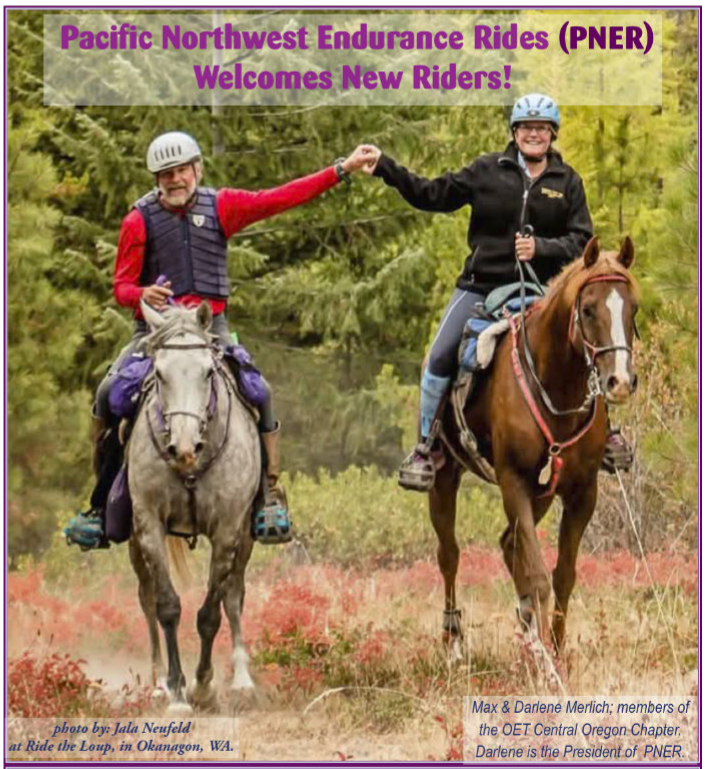

If you love trail riding and enjoy the camaraderie of camping & riding new trails with other horse enthusiasts, Endurance Riding may be a sport for you! Many of our PNER Rides are now offering Introductory (Trail) Rides. Introductory Rides are designed for riders who would like to sample the "endurance" experience on a short course. The horse will stand for vet check exams and the rider will follow a flagged course with other riders traveling at various speeds on courses ranging from eight to twelve miles.

www.pner.net • facebook.com/groups/pnerrocks

April 18th, 2026
2nd Qtr OET State Board Meeting Summary

In Attendance – Melissa McLaughlin, Collette Hayes, Kim McCarrel, Mary Kamm, Brent Branch, Suzanne Cathey, Bonnie depriest, Micheline Black, Gayle Nelson, Kim Grabill. **Virtual Attendance** – Leslye Wing, Lynda Harding, Ashley Letora, Matt Dolphin

Meeting Microphone

The newly-purchased Owl equivalent (360 degree camera/ speaker/microphone) presented a bit of a challenge but after a short delay the meeting commenced and virtual attendees were able to hear much better.

President – Melissa McLaughlin

Please see May's President Report on page 3.

Vice President Outreach – Collette Hayes

Collette shared latest promo 4 page piece that is created by extra mailings of Riders' Roundup. She has requested that chapters submit a short chapter promoinformative blurb to be used on these pages in future issues. Collette handed out packages of promo materials to each attending chapter representative. Package included Share the trail brochures, OET brochures, kleenex with OET promo label attached, OET pen, thank you cards. Collette can create OET promo labels that can be attached to generic kleenex travel packages, thank you cards, etc. Chapters are encouraged to purchase items and ask Collette to produce labels to attach to items for promo purposes.

Promo Share - Brett Branch

The North Valley Chapter is holding a Free Horse Camping Clinic at Williamette Mission State Park on Free State Park Day June 6th. They reserved all 4 horse camping sites and will have 4 illustrated sites set up - SUV car camping, truck camper, living quarter camper, and camping in horse trailer. Information will be presented regarding what to feed your horse in camp, trip planning, how to secure your horse, weather considerations, trail maps, and GPS apps, what to carry in saddlebags while over-nighting on the trail (ultralight packing).

Brent also showed us an info card they created about NV OET - who they are and what they do.



VP Public Lands – Kim McCarrel

OET signed on to support a recreation industry-wide letter asking Congress to increase the funding in the next fiscal year for our federal land managers (Forest Service, BLM, National Parks, etc.). We also asked the Oregon delegation to support this budget increase.

Kim mentioned how BLM and COHVOPS are working together to separate horses and motorcycles in a narrow canyon in the Cline Buttes area. (See complete story in VP Public Land Report on page 4)

VP Field Services – Matt Dolphin

Matt will be connecting with the members who have expressed interest in attending Quinn Meadows State Work Party June 23-30.

Annual State Park Passes have increased in price from $30 to $60. These passes are purchased by OET and awarded to members who have contributed 100 or more volunteer hours. The current budget for awards is $1200 and we need to discuss increasing this amount. Action was tabled to a later date to gather more financial info and since it is not an urgent request.

Matt has indicated that he is unable to accept the upcoming nomination for Field Services VP next term, and we need to find a new FS VP for next term. You've done a great job Matt..thank you so much!

Treasurer Report – Melissa McLaughlin (Susan High was unable to attend)

2026 first quarter financial reports were presented. Most notably was that the reports now include chapter bank balances. The board was excited to see chapter accounts listed on the Balance Sheet to really see the fiscal power that OET has. $125K looks much different than $52K!

The chapter money totals were the figures at the end of last year. The Board requests that chapter balances are updated quarterly. So another chapter treasurer report request will need to go out in late June.

The board also requested to see previous year comparisons on the balance sheet and Profit & Loss so trends can be seen year over year. We are especially interested in watching the difference in newsletter costs since we got so many people to switch to the E-version.

"Since 1921"
DC FARMERS CO-OP

Membership – Micheline Black

There are 502 toatl members. 61 new members and 43 Welcome-back members. The top 3 Chapters with increased number of members are Central Oregon, North Valley and Northwest.

A conversation ensued regarding how to change the concept that to join OET one must volunteer to work. Just being a member helps by giving OET a bigger voice to advocate for our mission.

Kim related that a member has created a popular photo book, and has promoted Central Oregon's activities on Facebook, and this public outreach has helped gaining members.

Riders' Roundup – Leslye Wing

Leslye asked the chapters to please enter their rides, work parties, and fundraising activities in the website OET Calendar. The RR Calendar has almost double the amount of entries than the website, because she adds activities mentioned in the chapter reports into her calendar, but they need to be on the web also.

Grant Requests (none submitted)

Crystal Rilee Park – Melissa McLaughlin

The board last discussed this park issue two or three years ago and made a decision at that time not to take a position. Since then, the issue hasn't gone away. A common theme is that our lack of public communication is being interpreted as the organization no longer representing some equestrians or what OET stands for.

Whether or not that's the intent, it's important. Silence can create its own message, and Melissa thinks it's time we're more intentional about what that message is.

Melissa asked that we revisit our decision to be silent or if we want to adjust our approach—and just as importantly, how we communicate that. Board members were reminded of their responsibility to clarify whether they are speaking for OET or personally.

Our values around access, stewardship, and enjoying our parks and trails are clear. The question is how we show up in a way that reflects those values and demonstrates that we are listening.

Melissa drafted a sample statement as a starting point—to give us something concrete to respond to as we think about how we communicate going forward.

Melissa asked the board to consider discussing the value of communicating a fresh message that aligns with our values. This is so that our members and the riding community have transparency into what we believe, that we are paying attention, and acknowledging common goals. It can be a neutral stance. We don't have to come out on one side or the other about park usage to gain trust.

Just as state parks assign their park managers to decide what trails they want to allow bikes and E-bikes on, the Crystal Rilee Park land managers will make the final decision after hearing and reviewing the needs of their community. OET has held conversations with park management about shared trail usage and made several offers to help. I hope that whatever permanent decision is made they know that OET will be first in line to help out.

Melissa's suggested statement:

"OET recognizes that there are differing perspectives regarding the use of this park, and we have heard concerns from both members and the broader community.

As an organization, we believe in the importance of enjoying our parks and trails with safety and serenity, and in preserving this park's historical, agricultural, and natural character.

At this time, OET is not taking a position on specific user groups, but we remain committed to listening, staying engaged, and supporting thoughtful stewardship of our public spaces."

After some discussion the board asked Melissa to adjust the statement and she will return with revised statement



Upcoming Dates & Locations - OET State Board Meetings

August 22, 2026 — Santiam Horse Camp, Gates, Highway 22

November 21, 2026 — Emerald People's Utility District (EPUD) Meeting Room, Eugene

January 23, 2027 — Annual Membership Meeting & Banquet. Roth's Fresh Market, Salem

January 24 2027 — 1st Qtr Meeting.Roth's Fresh Market, Salem

I Love Wild Horses!

Photos by Kim McCarrel

Driving through the Ochocos, I came upon a band of wild horses. Several of them were asleep. Others ambled into the road to pose head-to-tail. So cool!





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Additional tickets available for purchase on-site

Drinks and packaged snacks will be available for purchase (cash only) until 3:00pm

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For the safety of ALL riders
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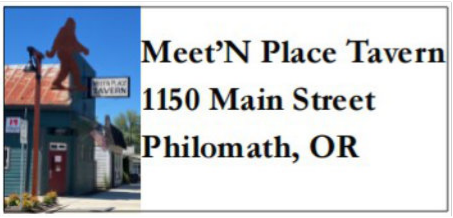






OET Chapters

Chapter	Meeting Time	Meeting Location	Contact
Central Oregon Chapter	First Tuesday Doors Open: 6:00 p.m. Meeting: 6:30 p.m.	Pleasant Ridge Hall 7067 SW Canal Redmond, OR	Gayla Nelson centraloregon@oregonequestriantrails.org **(541) 549-9177**
Columbia County Chapter	Second Wednesday Dinner: 6:00 p.m. Meeting: 7:00 p.m.	Warren Moose Lodge 57317 Old Portland Rd. Warren, OR	Bob Rice columbiacounty@oregonequestriantrails.org **(503) 366-3736**
Eugene Chapter	*New Day!* Third Tuesday Speaker: 6:30PM Meeting: 7:00 p.m.	EPUD Meeting Room 33733 Seavey Loop Rd. Eugene	Mary Kamm eugene@oregonequestriantrails.org **(607) 434-5295**
Mid-Valley Chapter	Second Wednesday Dinner: 6:00 p.m. Meeting: 7:00 p.m.	Sizzler 2148 Santiam Hwy SE Albany	Mark Lehnert midvalley@oregonequestriantrails.org **(541) 730-1653**
Mt. Hood Chapter	Second Thursday Dinner: 6:00 p.m. Meeting: 7:00 p.m.	Elmers 1590 NE Burnside Gresham	Mary Blankevoort mthood@oregonequestriantrails.org **(503) 703-1232**
North Coast Chapter	Second Tuesday Meeting: 5:30 p.m.	Clatsop County Fairgrounds 4H Clubhouse - across from main complex 92937 Walluski Loop, Astoria	Ashley Lertora northcoast@oregonequestriantrails.org **(503) 325-2733**
North Valley Chapter	First Tuesday Dinner : 6:00 p.m. Meeting: 7:00 p.m.	Jimmy O's Pizzeria 1678 S Beavercreek Rd Oregon City	Brett Branch northvalley@oregonequestriantrails.org **(503) 913-2943**
Northwest Chapter	Third Monday Dinner/Social: 6:00 p.m. Meeting: 7:00 p.m.	Prime Time Sports Bar & Restaurant 4450 Pacific Avenue Forest Grove	Melissa Wolf northwest@oregonequestriantrails.org **(503) 550-2048**
Roseburg Chapter	*New Day!* Fourth Thursday Meeting: 6:00 p.m.	Douglas Co. Electrical Co-op 1931 N. Stephens Street Roseburg	Lynda Harding roseburg@oregonequestriantrails.org **(559) 696-7601**
Silver Falls Chapter	Third Monday Meeting: 6:30 p.m.	Salem Saddle Club Mtg Rm 7005 Lardon Rd Salem	Bonnie DePriest silverfalls@oregonequestriantrails.org **(503) 981-8124**
South Coast Chapter	Third Wednesday Meeting: 6:30 p.m.	Dave's Pizza 740 Kooz Bay Blvd Coos Bay	Kimi Larkin southcoast@oregonequestriantrails.org **(541) 321-2092**
West Valley Chapter	First Thursday No-host dinner: 6:00 p.m. Meeting: 7:00 p.m.	American Legion Post 21 126 NE Atlantic McMinnville	Kim Grabill westvalley@oregonequestriantrails.org **(503) 538-0679**

Chapters may need to alter meetings or events.
Please contact Chapter Chairs for up-to-date meeting locations and times

Chapter Reports

Central Oregon Chapter



Central Oregon OETers have been active on the trails this April. Kim McCarrel has led several work parties signing newly official trails in the Ochocos. Pat Marquis is the driving force behind the Sister Trail Additions and Realignments (STAR) project. He has been organizing and leading work parties creating new trails and clearing existing trails that connect Whispering Pine Horse Camp to Sisters Cow Camp, with additional connections to the Millican Trail System and Scott Pass. It has been a massive effort on Pat's part which has involved MANY years of meetings, environmental surveys (NEPA), and archaeology surveys.

Along with having a membership table to entice new equestrians to OET, many of our members enjoyed a wonderful day participating in the local Sheriff's Posse Trail Trials.

Quite a few chapter members participated in a ride enjoying the newly separated horse and motorcycle trails in Dry Canyon, part of the Fryrear trail system, which creates much safer passage through the narrow canyon.

Upcoming riding opportunities here include the Mother's Day Rubber Duckie Ride with prizes of $100, $75, and $50; the June 6th Poker Ride out of Sisters Cow Camp (bring water for your horse); and the Still Prineville Endurance Ride weekend on May 1, 2, and 3. Three days of the event include an evening Trail Challenge on Friday, Saturday's Ride & Tie, Equathon, and Rider's Choice Trail Ride, and Sunday's 25-mile Competitive Trail Ride and Poker Ride. Come over for a full weekend of riding and camaraderie!







Top: Adding trail markers in the Ochocos.

Next: Riders scouting out route for Rubber Duckie Ride at Sisters Cow Camp, in the rain.

Next: Separation of horse trail and bike trail at Dry Canyon.

Bottom: Trail Clearing at the Badlands.

TOKLAT®



Columbia County chapter members after installing metal corrals at Camp Wilkerson.

Columbia County Chapter

Our chapter maintains trails at Dibblee Beach and Camp Wilkerson in Columbia Country.

Dibblee Point County Park in Ranier, Oregon, offers over five miles of trails for horseback riding, including scenic paths along the Columbia River and through forested areas.

At Camp Wilkerson we have just finished installing metal corrals in the 6-site Horse Camp. We boast lovely forested trails, and longer rides on old dirt logging roads. We also have a new restroom right by the horse camp which includes heated showers. We have cleared the trails of big downed trees, lots of salal and ferns, and have put up new trail markers that should make it a lot easier to follow the trail system. Just a note: you don't have to follow the markers explicitly, feel free to mix and match, have fun exploring. Contact Nancy Melton, Trail Boss, for details, indianheaven@gmail.com, or use our Facebook page for info and any questions: https://www.oregonequestriantrails.org/chapters/columbia-county-chapter/

We have been busy enjoying and taking advantage of the lovely weather. Our monthly trail ride in March was at Forest Park and we are glad to have had a number of participants! Our April ride will be at 10:30am April 25 at the Nehalem Divide on the Crown Zellerbach trail in Columbia County. Contact Nancy Melton for details.

We enjoyed having equine vet Dr. Dustin Galbraith and vet tech Kelly D'Agrosa from Valley Veterinary Clinic in Ranier as guest speakers this month. Thank you for the information and discussion!



Eugene Chapter

April 11th was our first EOET work party of the season. Our work party leader, Dani Wright, reported that we spread 60 tons of gravel on mud and washouts along the trails at Elijah Bristow State Park. Despite the forecast for rain, 12 "waterproof" EOET members showed up to spread gravel and cut back blackberries, working along side members of the state park staff.

At our April 21st chapter meeting, we heard from member Robin Keeton about her epic journey, through the Scottish highlands, on Highland Ponies. We also did additional planning for our upcoming fundraiser, Bristow Bingo Ride, to be held at Elijah Bristow on May 9th. Ride chairperson, Melanie Kate-Mearson, reviewed details and enlisted volunteers. If you can help on the day of the ride, please contact Melanie.

Our upcoming May meeting will feature Jackie Decker, owner of Mystic Farm Paso Finos (formerly in Oregon, now located in Arizona). Jackie will be sharing her observations of the Horse Rallies that she observed in Europe. These unique events emphasize knowledge of horses, skills in working with your horse both mounted and in-hand. EOET would like to invite members of other chapters to join us for this presentation on what Jackie describes as the "future of horsemanship"! The presentation will be May 19th, at 6:30 pm, located in the EPUD community meeting room at 33733 Seavey Loop Road in Eugene.



Mt. Hood Chapter

Members have been helping clear trails at the Molalla River Corridor's Hardy Creek system in March and April, and recently helped North Valley on a big project to remove Scotch Broom from the unmowed field at McIver. This was a huge job, but many hands blessed by nice weather got the job done!

Barb and Dave Adams have continued to represent us at the Sandy River Delta, including improved signage signifying presence of horses on the trails, helping with trash can maintenance, and trail improvements.

Weekly rides on Thursdays at McIver begin on May 7, and we still hope to ride at the Sandy River Delta on the third Wednesdays of the month.

We are looking forward to our next Chapter meeting with guests, Pat and Nikki James from Outlaw Enterprises. They will discuss safe horse hauling and trailer maintenance.

First camping trip of the year will be be Memorial Day at Stub Stewart State Park.

AND.....we are pushing $2000 in the first year of our Oregon Bottle Drop collection effort!





Mt. Hood members enjoying a monthly meeting. Mt. Hood members removing Scotch Broom at Milo McIver State Park.

North Coast Chapter

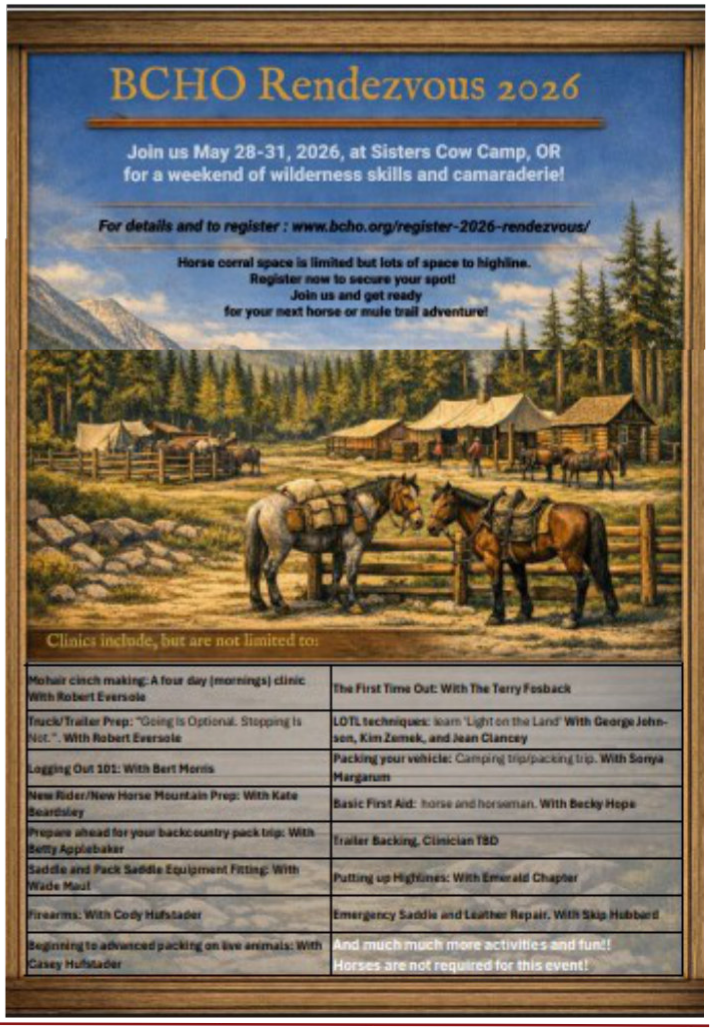
The North Coast chapter is gearing up for drier weather and more horse time! Member Linda Brim will host at Northrup Creek horse camp over Memorial Day weekend. This is the first of our 20th Anniversary celebrations this summer. There will be a dutch oven potluck that weekend. We will also have special activities on July 4th and Labor Day.

Ashley Lertora reported that Oregon Dept. of Forestry has signed our usual Memorandum Of Understanding with the chapters who collaborate in maintaining their horse camps and trails. Three forests are involved: Clatsop, Tillamook and Santiam.

We offer a hearty round of applause to Collette Hayes and her Northwest Chapter for including us in their Prize Ride at Stub Stewart. They are promoting activities and membership of the neighboring chapters as part of the ride event. Linda and Ashley will volunteer and bring some donations for prizes.

We scheduled our annual work party at Northrup Creek on May 16. Members will bring loppers, weed whackers, rakes, and a tractor to clean up the campground and mow the meadow to get it ready for the season.

We hope members will make good use of our Facebook page and post when they choose to go on a day ride. It is always fun to have some company!



North Valley Chapter

North Valley OET held our meeting on April 7 at Jimy O's Pizzeria, Oregon City OR. Our guest speaker was Laura Clarry. She presented on Working Equitation.

We started the meeting with introductions. The topic was "Baby Horse Stories."

Marty DeVall (Field Sevices) reported that final approval for parking sign is in progress.

Shonda Smith reported that Graham Corral Horse Camp horse tank will have a QR Code to place on the water tank for donations. This money will reimburse NVOET for water refills.

Karen Frogner reported that our Hardy Creek Trail Clearing was a success. There were 15 volunteers. The trails are logged out.

Lindy Rutherford reported that our booth at the 4-H Tack Sale was successful with outreach and the sale of saddles donated by Karen Frogner.

Lindy Rutherford also reported on our Camping Clinic to be held at Willamette Mission State Park on June 6. We discussed the Clinic topics: Camping rigs, What to feed your horse, Horse accommodations, Map apps, Saddle Bags for the trail, and Overnighting (Terraka Mishler will present on Ultralight Camping).

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 22-25 – Group Campout – Graham Corral Horse Camp
May/June – Support trail clearing at Timothy Lake with TRBCHO
June 6 – Horse Camping Seminar – Willamette Mission State Park
June 13 – Group Ride – Howard's Mill
June TBD – State OET Work Party – Quinn Meadow – Sisters
July 1 – Rascal Rodeo Support – Molalla OR
July 11 – Group Ride – Hardy Creek
July 15-22 – Group Campout – Whitefish Horse Camp
August TBD – Group Campout – Paulina Horse Camp
August TBD – Group Ride – Frog Lake or Timothy Lake – Mt. Hood N.F.
September TBD – Group Ride - Beach
October 17 – Group Ride – McIver State Park – Pink Out
November 7 – NVOET Meeting – Tamarind Ranch – Planning and Potluck
December TBD – Holiday Party and Potluck

Northwest Chapter

April was a busy and productive month for the NW Chapter! We participated in a mega trail clean-up event hosted by the State Forests Trust of Oregon on April 18. We tidied the Wilson River Equestrian Trailhead at Jones Creek and served lunch to other trail user groups participating in the clean-up. On Earth Day, April 22, we had a great time cleaning up Stagecoach Horse Camp and recruited two new members on their first work party!

Early May brought our prize ride at Stub Stewart and campground clean up at Reehers Camp. Check the calendar for our upcoming scheduled rides!

Silver Falls Chapter

Our Silver Falls OET meeting on April 20, 2026 had seven attendees. We had a brief meeting.

Our cleanup at Santiam Horse Camp on April 10,11, and 12th was completed with the help of BCHO and ODF members. Some logs sawed, a tree taken down, and gate chains fixed. Corrals were raked, repaired, and topped with new gravel. We still need to complete the gravel when the tractor is repaired.

Our Ride at Willamette Mission State Park was cancelled on April 19th due to excess rain and flooding. Also, our ride committee person had an accident and broke her hip. We hope she gets better soon. The next ride will be on May 17th at WMSP, weather permitting. Boots in the stirrups at 10 am. It should be a nice day in May, hopefully.

Our chapter is planning for some fall speakers. On September 21, 2026, Karla Hoggan from the Oregon Livestock Council will talk to us. Other speakers will be announced.

Bonnie was approved to be the new Bank Card signer.

Our Canby Tack Sale was very successful. We had 35 volunteer hours and 288 miles. Most of the proceeds were from donations from the sale of Nancy Netwal's tack that were left in her will to us.

We are looking forward to our next meeting on May 18th at the Salem Saddle Club.

Hope to see you there.







South Coast Chapter

Spring arrived in April at the South Coast which made riding and work parties enjoyable and productive. Wild Mare Horse Camp has 6 corrals with new footing and brush cut back with firewood at some sites. Brushing trails on the North Spit is planned for May 16.

The South Coast Chapter meeting attendees were honored to have USFS Deputy Ranger Allen describe current USFS priority reorganization. They include wildland fire, timber harvesting, thinning & restoration, public access/recreation, aquatic restoration and overall reorganization and streamlining of management. Finding a camp host or hosts remains on the list for Wild Mare Horse Camp.

The South Coast Chapter experienced some changes in the leadership positions during March and April. Michelle Frost stepped down from Secretary. Valerie Lantz offered to fill in. Kellie said she can continue to help do Outreach tasks but needed help. Cathy Hammond said she would like to help in Outreach. Kimi sent out email ballots and received support for the officer changes.

A ride and camp out on April 24/25 at Wild Mare Horse Camp was well attended by members and their families. The potluck included particularly good food!

The next event planned is a "Hydration Station" at Wild Mare Day Use Area during the CCMSP Scholarship Ride on May 9. Family refreshments will need volunteers for set up and serving.

Several members expressed interest in attending the State Work Party at Quinn Meadow.

A South Coast Chapter camp out at Horse Creek on Cape Mountain is planned for July 9-12. Make your own reservation via Recreation.gov for this USFS horse camp.

An August 8-9 camp out and ride event planned for Wild Mare Campground has full reservations as of 4/29/26.

The South Coast leadership team made it a goal to have plenty of volunteer work and fun this year and that goal is being met!

West Valley Chapter

Plans are in motion for more guest speakers, fresh ideas and renewed push to reconnect with members and bring a new atmosphere to our chapter!

The April meeting brought both inspiration and momentum, highlighted by a heartfelt presentation from our guest speakers Carol and Holly of Hoofprints In The Sand Horse Rescue. Based in Newberg, this all-volunteer nonprofit is changing the lives of horses in need—one rescue at a time. OET members will have a chance to make a direct impact by donating to the Horse Rescue. Their most urgent needs include medical supplies and monetary donations, though they also accept cans, bottles, and tack. Members are encouraged to bring contributions to future meetings or contact the West Valley Chapter for details.

WVOET's future is busy. From trail-clearing at Sheep Springs to coastal work at Nehalem Bay and more! The upcoming weeks are packed with opportunities to get involved, get your hands dirty, and enjoy time on the trail.

Between meaningful volunteer work, exciting events, and the chance to support an incredible rescue, this season is shaping up to be one you won't want to miss. See you at the next meeting!

Classified Ads

Circle Y Trail Saddle. Flex 2, Wide. 16" Padded seat. 3 years old - Used 1 year



My daughter and I shared it for lessons but she no longer rides much and it is a little bit too big for me.

Located in Mulino (may deliver depending on your location)

Due to "like new" condition, we are asking $2000

Patti Brady.
pattibrady1@gmail.com
503-887-2134



2001 Thurobilt 3-Horse Stock Trailer (Ltd Ed.)
Durable steel trailer. Stored inside, good tire tread.

Capacity: 3-horse slant load

Spacious Interior: Plenty of airflow, sturdy walls, padded dividers

Step-Up Loading: Mats & floorboards in great shape

Tack Storage: Front tack room for saddles & gear

Condition: Well-maintained; screen door needs new latch

$8,000 OBO **Location:** Central Oregon.

Contact Mimi Graves or Katy Yoder **541-420-6408**





MULE SKINNERS PRIZE RIDE

Saturday, May 30th 2026

Sign-up Starts @ 8:30 am | Last Rider Out by 11:30 am

REBERS RIVERSIDE
23100 NW FLYING M RD
YAMHILL, OR 97148

Tickets:
$5 per ticket, or
$20 for 5 tickets

Riders MUST Purchase a Raffle Ticket to Participate.

Day Parking Available @ Rebers Riverside & Flying M Ranch.
Vehicles will be directed where to park depending on capacity.
Parking Fees: $5/Vehicle + $5 per horse/mule.

"Scenic Views, Raffles, Prizes, and More!"

Trot on over to **Rebers Riverside Ranch** on **Saturday, May 30th** to join the **Mule Skinner's Club** on a **9 mile trail** filled with scenic water-crossings, thick forest terrain, quick elevation changes as well as natural and man-made obstacles. Make sure to giddy-up back to the barn in time for **raffle prize giveaways that begin at 3:30pm**--you won't want to miss out!

Territorial Riders Backcountry Horsemen of Oregon

'The Hunt for Big Foot!'

Horseback Scavenger Hunt

July 12, 2026

Three Ways to Win!

Sponsored by:
Territorial Riders Oregon City Chapter
Of Backcountry Horsemen of Oregon

"Better Than a Family Day at the Ballpark! Food, Fun, Prizes and Your Horse!"

Where: Horning Seed Orchard
27004 S Sheckly Rd., Colton, OR 97017 (From Unger Road, off of Hwy. 211)



What: Bring your digital camera Or Smart Phone and Find BIG FOOT! From horseback, compete as an Individual OR Teams of 2 – 3!

Riders out 9 am to 11 am. Riders will ride an **extended trail** and leave in intervals, Ride Route is 2 – 2 1/2 Hours long. Finish by 2 pm. Intervals intended to control congestion on the trail and prevent a disclosure of a "Big Foot" find, remember, you are competing with those in front of you and behind you! *Hunting Course will only be a portion of the trail.* Three Ways to Win! You will be given a raffle ticket at registration AND you will receive one Poker Chip Draw Card included with your registration. You may purchase up to 3 more hands for $5 each.

Riders must return no later than 2 pm to turn in their results, Prizes awarded *after* 2 pm.

Shoes for horses recommended, Children are encouraged to wear helmets and dogs must be on a leash. (One player per horse.)

For Lunch, Enjoy a Taco Bar with all the necessary condiments as well as Street Corn and Refried Beans. Ice water and treats provided, too! Lunch only, $10.

Entry Fees: $30 per Rider; Children 12 Years and Under, $20; Cash or Check. Extra Poker Chip hands (maximum 3 extra), $5 each.

Prizes Awarded: Prizes awarded for Individuals or Teams with the most points in the Hunt, for First, Second and Third Place. Judges decisions are final. We will also have Poker Chip draws for other wonderful prizes as well as raffle ticket prizes for the 3rd chance drawings if you don't win in the first two categories, you may still win a prize! He's out there, I swear!

Questions? Contact:
Rebecca Duren
503-688-8179 e-mail:
Rebecca-d@msn.com

Trail Questions? Contact:
Tim Lagasse
503-314-7712

Driving Directions: From Molalla, head east on Hwy. 211, go thru Colton, turn left on Unger Rd., turn right on Sheckly. From Estacada, head southwest on Hwy. 211, turn right onto Unger Rd., turn right onto Sheckly.

Proceeds to benefit maintenance of trail systems on Federal & State Lands
For more info:
https://TerritorialRidersBCHO.org/HuntforBigfoot.pdf
Visit us at: Facebook.com/TerritorialRidersBCHO



CLACKAMAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S POSSE

RAFFLE RIDE

SATURDAY, JULY 11

LOCATED AT THE LAZY XS RANCH
26250 S LAZY EXCESS LN
BEAVERCREEK OR 97004

INFO:

RIDE TIME: *9:00 AM FIRST RIDER OUT*
11:00 AM LAST RIDER OUT

GRAND PRIZE: $200
ADDITIONAL PRIZES AVAILABLE (MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN)

COST: $30 PER RIDER
KIDS UNDER 10 YRS $10
(INCLUDES RIDE, ONE RAFFLE TICKET, AND LUNCH)

NO SMOKING - NO ALCOHOL - NO STALLIONS - NO FOALS - NO DOGS

HORSE SHOES HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

GORGEOUS & DIVERSE 3+ HOUR TRAIL RIDE OFFERING HILLS, WATER CROSSINGS, SCENERY, AND THE BEAUTY OF THE FOREST.

20 MINUTES FROM OREGON CITY, CANBY, COLTON, MOLALLA, ESTACADA, AND REDLAND.

EASY ACCESS, LARGE PARKING AREA, AND WATER FOR YOUR HORSES.

RSVP APPRECIATED
503-780-4622
h2orse@yahoo.com



Sisters Rodeo Grounds, 67637 Highway 20, Sisters, Oregon

Schedule

Saturday, May 16

10:30 a.m. – Registration opens

12:30 p.m. – Endurance seminar
- a. Boot Camp Graduates' Perspectives
- b. Metabolism
- c. Conditioning
- d. Hoof Protection
- e. Tack
- f. Camp & Ride Gear
- g. Tech (Ride apps, heart monitors, etc.)
- h. Vet Check Protocol/Demonstration

4:00 p.m. – Vet check for all participating equines + safe mount/dismount check

5:30 p.m. – Group catered pizza dinner

6:30 p.m. – Ride meeting to review instructions for Sunday's mock ride + pair-up with mentors

Sunday, May 17

9:00 a.m. – Mock endurance ride with mentors

Noon – Ride recap

1:00 p.m. – Boot camp ends

For more information & registration contact Jeff Tryens @ jeff.tryens@gmail.com



Join The Adventure!

Free Horse Camping Clinic!
Willamette Mission State Park
Saturday June 6th, 9am-4pm
Free State Park Day!



Want to camp with your horse, but unsure how to get started? Our free clinic will help you be set up for success! Come and learn about:

- **Types of Rigs**: from SUV "car" camping to truck campers and bumper-pull trailers to larger Living Quarter (LQ) trailers.
- **What to feed your horse in camp**: certified weed free hay and alternatives, including where to find them
- **Trip Planning**: deciding where to go, reserving your spot, getting permits if needed, and more
- **Securing your horse** at camp and on the trail
- **Weather Considerations**: Temporary shelters, tarps, blankets, and more
- **Finding your way** around on the trails: maps, GPS apps, etc
- **Saddlebags**: Types and what to carry in them
- **Overnight on the trail**?!? Learn about ultralight packing and how to camp away from camp

Presented by North Valley Chapter, Oregon Equestrian Trails
https://www.oregonequestriantrails.org
A 501(c)3 non-profit dedicated to advocating for and maintaining equestrian trails and campgrounds

Donate

POKER RIDE

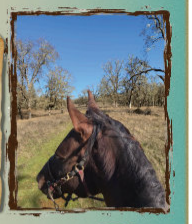
Saturday June 27, 2026

Mildred Kanipe Park

16513 Elkhead Road • Oakland



Fun for the family!!!
First Rider out: 9:00 AM
Last Rider out: 11:00 AM
$5.00/Hand or 5 Hands for $20.00
Prize Drawings and Silent Auction
Cash Awarded to Winning Hands
Concessions Available



Hosted by the Roseburg Chapter of Oregon Equestrian Trails
Need more info? Contact Rhonda Hjort: 541-430-3453

Directions
North on I-5: Take Exit 138. Merge onto Sterns Lane. Drive 1.4 miles and turn left at S Front St. Drive 2 miles, turn right on Locust St. **South on I-5:** Take Exit 140, Cross bridge into town of Oakland and turn left on Locust St. **Everyone:** Locust St becomes Driver Valley Road. Drive 4 Miles and turn left on Elkhead Rd. Drive 2.7 miles to Equestrian entrance on the left.

Youths under the age of 18 must have a parent/legal guardian on site. Helmets are recommended. It is preferred that a responsible adult accompany youths on the trails.

SORRY NO DOGS PLEASE!!!!

Reserve Camping Sites With Corrals at:
https://properties.camping.com/Mildred-Kanipe-Campground/Reservations

Oregon Equestrian Trails Mid-Valley Chapter

26th Annual
Jokers Wild Poker Ride

Sunday June 28, 2026



TE Ranch, Philomath, OR
North on 9th St. go 1 mile, Left on Heritage Hills Road, then follow the signs.

$10 per hand or 3 for $20
(Minimum one hand per rider)
Less than 13 yrs. ride free
Minors (under 18 yrs. old) need a parent or guardian signature.

First Rider out 9AM * Last Rider Out 12 PM * Awards at 2:30 PM
No Dogs, PLEASE!

Great Prizes! Top hands pick first, drawing for the rest!
50/50 Raffle too!

Food Available for Purchase from

J&C BBQ and Catering

For more information email PokerRideInfo@gmail.com Or call Meg 541-609-1075

Facebook.com/OregonEquestrianTrailsOETMidValleyChapter

Special Thanks to our 2025 Corporate Sponsors

- Cascadia Equine Veterinary Clinic
- Equine Harmony Connections
- Hiatt Farms
- J & C BBQ and Grill
- Les Schwab - Philomath
- Out West Farm & Ranch
- Philomath Rental
- Gathering Together Farm
- Beggs Tires - Albany
- The Tack Box
- Lillian Wenham's Farrier Service
- Meetin Place
- Vinwood Tap Houe
- Meetin Place

10117 SE Sunnyside Rd. Ste. F
PMB 101
Clackamas, OR 97015

May 2026 - Riders' Roundup

A monthly publication from Oregon Equestrian Trails, a non-profit trail and horse camp organization

Join a chapter near you!

Mt. Hood Chapter & Sandy River Delta

Mt. Hood Chapter of OET is currently responsible for helping keep the Sandy River Delta (also known as The Thousand Acres) accessible and safe for horseback riding. It is located at the Confluence of the Sandy and Columbia Rivers in the Columbia River Gorge, near Troutdale. The Delta offers flat terrain, trails through the woods and along the river, and can be used year-round. Shoes are not necessary for most horses. The trails are also open to hikers and non-electric bikes. There is a $5 parking fee (or NW Forest Pass) and there are six long-slot trailer spaces. The park is very popular with dog owners and there are off-leash areas, so horseback riding is recommended mainly for weekdays. Horses should be as “dog-proof”as possible. There is a mounting block built by our Chapter. We ride there on the third Wednesday of the month during the summer, weather permitting. For more information: mthood@oregonequestriantrails.org.



Northwest Chapter & 3 Great Camps

Our Northwest Chapter regularly helps maintain 3 horse camps. LL Stub Stewart Hare's Canyon Horse Camp which is the only full hook-ups horse camp in the state of Oregon. Lots of trails and a beautiful camp! Reehers Horse Camp located in Timber, Oregon is deep in timberland and has pump water. Stagecoach Horse Camp is down a long gravel road. It is beautiful, water is iffy but there is usually a stream. Best to go when fire season is higher to avoid motorized vehicles and dirt bikes. Please email us if you have questions or want more information: northwest@myoet.org

South Coast & Wild Mare Campground

The South Coast Chapter reactivated after a decade of dormancy when trail closures occurred during an Army Corps of Engineers project at the North Spit located North of North Bend. Since then, the Chapter continues to work with BLM and the Siuslaw District of the USFS for volunteer trail work and maintenance at Wild Mare Horse Camp at the North Spit. A 2025 grant from PNWER provided funding for new corrals at Wild Mare HC for Space #1, the planned camp host site.

The South Coast Chapter coordinates with the Coos County Sheriff's Posse trail rides at the North Spit for offering refreshments and raffle prizes. The most recent volunteering at Wild Mare HC included adding gravel to 6 corrals that had become "pits." Wood chips covering the rock is planned.

The South Coast Chapter also volunteers to maintain trails and the horse camp at Bullards Beach State Park near Bandon.

Last year, a few South Coast members volunteered at Cape Blanco State Park to map a loop trail adjacent to the horse camp. The currently unmarked route was shared with Park staff.

The South Coast Chapter plans fun trail rides and camp outs too. We invite OET members to make their Wild Mare HC reservations with Reservations.gov for joining the local OETers riding the trails during August 7 - 8.

