

The Shoshone Rider

May 2026

Shoshone Back Country Horsemen

Email

shoshonebch@gmail.com

Web

<https://shoshonebch.org>

Officers

President:

Kathi Gimmeson

Vice President:

Rob McCray

Secretary:

Shannon Pils

Treasurer:

Cindy Geissler

Committees

Watch Dog:

Barry Reiswig

Activities:

Kandy Christian

Service:

Howard Sanders

Education:

Cathy Ringler

Publicity/Newsletter/Web:

Kathi Gimmeson

Social Media/Photo Gallery:

Randi Slaughter

Recruitment & Retention:

Connie Jack

WY-BCHA Delegates

Barry Reiswig

Kathi Gimmeson

Alternates

Rob McCray

Shannon Pils



From the President, Kathi Gimmeson...

April was a busy month for SBCH members and a good start to our season of service. Thanks to all who participated!

Members gathered to rebuild, restore and improve the corrals, gates and grounds at the Sunlight Ranger Station, April 9-11.

Two spring clinics were provided by Ron Ostrom to get us in tune with our horses and do some equine and human socializing during the obstacle challenges.

On April 15, some SBCH riders teamed up with the FS to clear the Blackwater Monument Trail and get a start on the West Blackwater trail. There will be an opportunity for others to help complete the work on West Blackwater as trail conditions allow.

SBCH has been blessed to welcome several new members in April and early May! We look forward to getting to know you and teaming up with you in our service activities.

As we look ahead, please be sure we have your current contact info if anything has changed, so you don't miss out on news and activities!

You will find in the newsletter that it's time for members to be current on their 1st Aid/CPR/AED certification. We've found a very easy, flexible and affordable source of training and certification online. If you haven't signed up, there is no deadline to do so, nor is there a deadline or expiration to complete the course. Contact me anytime at shoshonebch@gmail.com to enroll and become certified!

If you plan to use crosscut or chainsaws, contact Howard for certification schedules and sign-up. You must be 1st Aid/CPR certified to qualify.

I hope to see you at the May meeting and on the trails!

Kathi Gimmeson
SBCH President

The May 21 monthly SBCH meeting will be the last scheduled meeting at the Park Co. Weed & Pest until fall. Watch for an email announcement for a summer meeting!



Secretary's report by Shannon Pils ...

Shoshone Back Country Horsemen Monthly Meeting, April 19, 2026

Kathi Gimmeson called meeting to order at 6:00 pm for a prayer and potluck dinner. The formal meeting was called to order at 6:36. There was no guest speaker. New member Lucas Holloway was welcomed, as were guests, Mercadies Zaffarano and her daughter, who became new members.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the March 2026 meeting were published in the April 2026 newsletter. A motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Mike Blymyer and seconded by Anna Paris. MSP

Treasurer's Report: The March 2026 Treasurer's report was published in the April 2026 newsletter. Howard Sanders made a motion to accept as printed. MSP

New Bills: Cindy Geissler presented new bills from Howard Sanders (\$104.34 for Sackcrete for the Sunlight project) and Kathi Gimmeson (\$22.11 for printing and supplies). Randi Slaughter made a motion to pay the new bills and Connie Jack seconded. MSP

Watch Dog Committee:

Barry Reiswig is still trying to get a meeting with Congresswoman Hageman. He met with her Chief of Staff Trinity Lewis last year and is working with her to schedule the meeting.

Barry highlighted a new article in the Cody Enterprise which details Zach Lynch's new PAC to protect public land in Wyoming. "Protect Wyoming" seeks to understand which elected leaders and candidates will stand up for public lands. The group produced "grades" on politicians using various criteria.

Tim French, John Winters, Dalton Banks scored 3 Fs. Paul Hoeft, Dan Laursen, Rachel Williams & Nina Webber did better, but not much with 2 Fs. Zach's summary was that leaders in Wyoming are turning deaf ears to the public's wishes and others are not stepping up.

Barry noted the newly released information on the Forest Service reorganization. The effort is actually an attempt to disorganize the agency, being led and lobbied by Mike Lee of Utah, whose platform is to sell off public land. The 9 Regional offices would be abolished, most research stations closed, and the headquarters moved from DC to Utah. Barry surmised if there is a new administration, things would reorganize back towards the way things are now.

RJ Kost has filed to run against Dan Laursen (RJ is pro public lands).

The Cody Enterprise has a new editor (Victoria) who seems to care about public lands, and we may be able to get more articles published to highlight our activities. Heather Cole suggested we invite the new editor to activities to introduce the group to her. Judi Blymyer offered to contact Zach Lynch with "Protect Public Lands" PAC to see if he would speak to our group. A show of hands indicated "yes" from the members. A suggestion from the floor was to invite candidates and media to Rendezvous and other service activities.

Activities: Kandy Christian was not present, but sent an email to the membership to sign up for Rendezvous and register for space. There are plenty of opportunities to come up & help. On Tuesday before the event, help will be needed to load panels at Jake Clark's. We will need pies for the Social and food servers, folks to clean up, etc. So please come & help. There is a link on the homepage for registration, liability waivers, etc. Also available is a list of facilities available for other camping in the area separate from the Ranger Station.

Service: Howard Sanders said the corral project is finished at Sunlight Ranger Station. The corrals were split and the face lift turned out really nice. The entry gate to the pasture is now 16' and the wire gate was replaced with a 16' steel gate plus a 4' pedestrian gate. Frank & Rob McCray filled holes. The Forest Service contact, Cory Skates, should remove the sagebrush for the parking area using a masticator.

On April 15th, the Blackwater trails were cleaned by a split crew of SBCH and Forest service. The Monument Trail clearing is completed. On the West Fork, two miles are done; forty trees were down and removed before the crew hit ice. Thanks to everybody who helped. Lots of trees are down because of the recent winds. There will be much more work to be done this summer.

Education: Nothing new, the youth clinic will be later in summer.

Publicity Committee:

Newsletter: Kathi Gimmeson's call for pictures of projects for the newsletter included photos from the clinic last week at Ron Ostrom's. Frank Fagan has photos from Sunlight project. Randi Slaughter will compile the pictures.

Secretary's report by Shannon Pils, con't...

Social media: Randi will get some pictures posted on our webpage photo gallery. Randi asked if we have a Rendezvous flyer for handouts. We don't advertise the Rendezvous gathering to the public, as it's for State and other chapter members of Back Country Horsemen.

Frank reported that Del & Cindy Ouimet (longtime Forest Service volunteers) will do one more year at Sunlight Ranger Station to cover the end of summer, although they were supposed to retire.

Recruitment & Retention: Connie Jack said there is nothing new.

State WY-BCHA Report: Barry Reiswig will go to the WYBCH State meeting in Rawlins on May 2-3. Rob McCray & Shannon Pils will serve as alternates this year. The National board meeting was last week in Kansas City, a report from that will come later.

OLD BUSINESS:

Howard Sanders said regarding saw certification, that Drew Phillips (FS) says folks will need First Aid & CPR certification before they can take the saw training. These can be obtained cheaply online. Saw training will be scheduled in May or June around Anaka's crew needs.

Cottonwood trails – Rick Tryder (BLM) says they will be doing some expansion near the campground, but there will be no motorized traffic past the "V" gate up the canyon. The BLM will look at the trail farther up (rocky/hazardous section) this year and there will be more conversation later.

NEW BUSINESS:

Frank Fagan will be the lead on all trails north of Dead Indian and will make sure they are done before the Rendezvous. He will stay at Sunlight RS over the 4th of July to do work on the Windy Mountain loop. Help would be appreciated.

Vicki Snider let us know that the Boot & Bottle tack sale is on May 2nd. Tables are \$15 at the door, but call her ahead to make sure there is room at (307) 250-8603.

Howard said raffle tickets are still available for the painted cross-cut saw. Profits will go to Dano Camp. Also, we were under budget for Sunlight corrals due to Joe Childers donating posts.

News from the Forest Service. Anaka's help was much appreciated. – A'naka is working on a new agreement to provide the club \$9,000 in Great American Outdoors Act funding. Howard will ask Jason Brengle (FS) to see if stock-program funds are available to help with the corral project.

The next monthly SBCH meeting will be May 21 at Park County Weed & Pest.

Frank Fagan made a motion to adjourn, Howard Sanders seconded. MSP. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

MSP = Motion Seconded & Passed

Service by Howard Sanders

SBCH MAY 2026 SERVICE REPORT

We finished the Sunlight Ranger Station Corral project under budget. There were 11 volunteers the first 2 days and 6 on the last day to finish up the concrete work. It is a definite improvement in looks and functionality.

The Blackwater Monument Trail has been cleared by 2 USFS personnel and 2 SBCH members, although one of the USFS is also SBCH. On the same day 3 of us cleared 2 miles (40 trees) of West Blackwater/ Natural Trail. We were turned around by ice and snow, and will have to go back to finish after the snow melts off. If weather permits, we plan to clear the Pagoda/Grace Trails this week.

We are getting set up to get our First Aid/CPR Re-certifications this month, on line. We are setting it up as a group which will get us up to a 25% discount in price. USFS personnel are getting their re-certifications on line also. Watch for emails for alerts to training and project scheduling.

Anyone wishing to get the initial crosscut or crosscut/chainsaw certification can respond to me at: shoshonebch@gmail.com to sign up. The initial training will be May 26th in Cody. You will need to have your First Aid/CPR certification prior to this.

See you on the trail.

Respectfully,

Howard Sanders, Service

April Sunlight Ranger Station Corral Project - A good crew turned out each day for a much needed makeover of the corrals and gate replacements. Thanks to all who helped! Photos by A'Naka S. & Judi B



RENDEZVOUS REMINDER!

It's May already! So just a friendly reminder, Shoshone BCH is the one putting on Wyoming's 2026 Rendezvous.

It's just around the corner so don't forget to get registered so you have a guaranteed spot. The registration deadline is June 15, don't miss out!

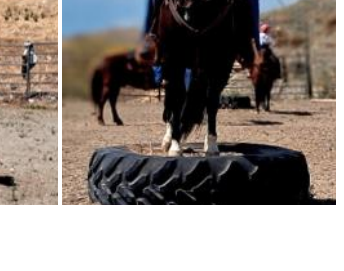
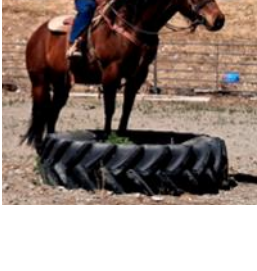
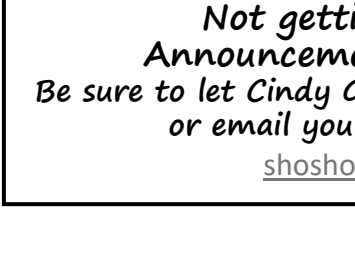
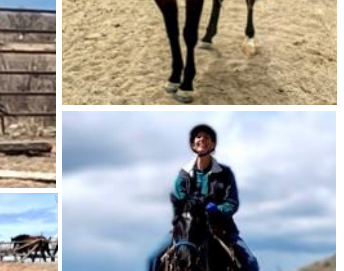
Events start July 16th and run thru July 19th. We will have an obstacle course, saw competition, packing clinic, horseshoes to find, trail rides, games, a pie social, excellent dinner and breakfast, so don't miss out!

Registration information is on the SBCH website on the home page. Click the link to get your registration forms & info.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, Kandy at shoshonebch@gmail.com.

The Sunlight Ranger Station is the beautiful location for the 2026 WYBCH Rendezvous!

April 11-12 Spring Clinic with Ron Ostrom



"Before you ask your horse to do something, have a clear picture in your mind of what you want him to do." ~ Unknown

Not getting SBCH emails, Announcements or Newsletters?
Be sure to let Cindy Geissler (SBCH Treasurer) know or email your contact updates to shoshonebch@gmail.com

1st Aid/CPR/AED Certification is necessary for SBCH Members

to meet Forest Service insurance requirements for
SBCH service activities within the Forests.

It is also required for certification of Crosscut & Chainsaw use.

Our last group 1st Aid/CPR/AED certification was in 2024, so we all need recertification or certification, unless you're current by other means. The FS is no longer offering certification training, so we'll be using the National CPR Foundation's Standard 1st Aid/CPR/AED online course. The group rate is 25% off, with individual rates at \$11.21.

The coursework and tests are very flexible for easy scheduling, and there are no deadlines or expiration dates for members to complete the course and receive certification.

If you haven't yet signed up, but want to get certified, you can contact Kathi Gimmeson any time to do so and be enrolled.

Email Kathi Gimmeson at shoshonebch@gmail.com to sign up and get details to get started!

Thank You to all who have paid your dues!

*If you haven't yet renewed, please don't let your membership lapse
and miss out on all our activities and news!*

Remember to update your contact info if you have any changes.



Back Country Horsemen Commandments

1. The horseman shall not keep horses longer than it takes to unpack or pack them in any campsite normally used by hikers.
2. The horseman shall not tie his stock, for more than a short period of time, directly to a tree.
3. The horseman shall not cut switchbacks.
4. The horseman shall not leave a campfire unattended.
5. The horseman shall properly dispose of all manure, baling twine, wire and waste hay in camp areas, trailheads or loading areas.
6. The horseman shall abide by the administrative rules and regulations affecting the area he/she is in.
7. The horseman shall recognize the fragility of the back country environment and practice minimum impact techniques at all times.

Coming Events

May - Sign up for online 1st Aid/CPR/AED training & certification! Certification is necessary for saw certification and FS insurance coverage. Email Kathi at shoshonebch@gmail.com.

May - June 15 - Registration open for Rendezvous. Registration information is on the SBCH website on the home page. *Click the link* to get your registration forms & info. *Don't miss out!*

May 21 - SBCH Monthly Meeting at the Park Co. Weed & Pest Bldg, off Hwy 14A at 1067 Road 13, Powell, WY. Potluck dinner at 6:00, with meeting to follow.

May 26 - Crosscut training on Tuesday, May 26th at 0800 at the district FS office. Classroom training first, then in the field for bucking certification. Text Howard @ 307-202-1564 to sign up.

July 16 -19 - SBCH is host to the WY State Rendezvous at the Sunlight Ranger Station
Plan to attend, get registered, volunteer and have fun!

July 31 - August 2 - Big Creek Trail Project

MISSION & PURPOSE OF BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN of AMERICA

- ¨ TO PERPETUATE the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness lands.
- ¨ TO WORK to insure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use.
- ¨ TO ASSIST the various government and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.
- ¨ TO EDUCATE, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise and sustaining use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage and Leave No Trace" principles.
- ¨ TO FOSTER and encourage the formation of new state Back Country Horsemen organizations.

Shoshone Back Country Horsemen Membership

Membership is \$40 per year

Name (print) _____

Mailing address _____

e-mail address _____

Phone number(s) _____

How would you like to receive the newsletter? by mail _____ -or- by e-mail _____

Mail completed form with your check to: SBCH, P.O. Box 465, Powell WY 82435

When your dues are paid, it is noted on your newsletter mailing label after your name (PD 2025 or 2026). *If you receive the newsletter via email, you can write to:*
shoshonebch@gmail.com *to check if your membership is current.*



PO Box 465
Powell, WY 82435
shoshonebch@gmail.com

"The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention."
~ Oscar Wilde



NEXT SBCH MEETING:
May 21, 2026
at the Park Co Weed & Pest Bldg,
Hwy 14A at 1067 Road 13, Powell, WY
Potluck Dinner at 6:00 with the
Meeting to follow.