



Front Range Back Country Horsemen (est. 1996)
P.O. Box 150521 Lakewood, CO 80215

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Working to keep trails open to saddle and pack stock today and for future generations through education, service and voice.

Without trails, where would we ride?

August 2023 Newsletter



August '23

President Report:

- Looking for a leather tooler to create scabbards for the 2 new SILKY saws.
- Bill Klink reported they are effective to use for logs up to 18-24"
- Discussed Cub Creek trail clearing and possibility to continue work on that trail August 29th.
- John brought up adding more trail clearing dates and suggested September 3, 11 and 28.
- John has been discussing a camping trip back to Julie Errand's property. Details TBD
- The recreational ride will be on Sept. 17 at Staunton State Park.

Next Membership Meeting: Tuesday September 19 at the South Metro Fire Rescue, 9195 E Mineral Ave, Centennial, CO 80112. October 24, Q's Pub and Grille, 10133 W. Chatfield Ave., Littleton, CO 80127

We need to have leaders and coordinators identified for all the remaining events, so don't be bashful - step up to leading an event with a great trail riding crew!
The online calendar is current, and we continue to update the activities as things change. See you all [on the trails!](#) --John

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**Deadline for articles
10th of each month!**



Cub Creek Trail Clearing Ride -- August 16, 2024

On August 16th a group of six FRBCH members saddled up and rode out to clear a remote section of the Cub Creek trail in the Mount Evans wilderness. This section of trail had been previously surveyed and was known to have fifteen downed trees along various parts of the trail. Our group consisted of John Case, PJ Dyon, Donna Fleischer, Joan and Jack Wealing, and Bill Klink.

To reach this section of the Cub Creek trail we rode out of the Ground Hog Flats trailhead in the State Wildlife Area adjacent to the Mount Evans Wilderness. Knowing we had several 18" - 24" trees to attack, we packed in every type of saw that we had in our kit, including the two new Katanaboy Silkies and our 42" 2-person cross cut saw.

Our team rode a mix of three mules and 3 horses, and they all performed to perfection delivering us safely to our work areas, then resting quietly while the humans did their work, and finally transporting us comfortably back down the mountain to our trailers.

We rode a total of 10 miles on this outing and cut and removed fifteen trees along the way. Our biggest challenge along the route was a 5-tree jackstraw including some lumber in the 18"-24" category (see photo). But with six experienced sawyers, expertly sharpened saws and the new Silkies, we move through that obstacle quickly and safely.

Mother nature smiled on us that day too, keeping us dry and giving us moderate temperatures to work in.

In all it was a very pleasant day of riding some of the most magnificent terrain in Mount Evans, while enjoying the company of friends knowing we did something very good for the outdoor community of Colorado, and the land we hold so precious.

Bill Klink



Water Delivery Rides to Support the Friends of Mount Evans and Lost Creek Wilderness Noxious Weed Eradication Program

This year, as in year's past, the Front Range chapter of Back Country Horsemen was instrumental in supporting our sister organization, Friends of Mount Evans and Lost Creek Wilderness (FOMELC), in their Noxious Weed eradication program. Our chapter supports FOMELC by delivering water caches to staging areas in the Mount Evans Wilderness for use by their weed spraying crews.

Many of the weed treatment areas are miles from the nearest trailhead making it impractical for the weed spraying teams to transport the many gallons of water needed to do their job. In all, FRBCH conducted four separate excursions in support of FOMELC. Three trips involved delivering water to staging areas on the Captain Mountain and Beartracks lake Trails in the Mount Evans Wilderness, and the fourth trip involved the infiltration and exfiltration of camping equipment used by FOMELC during a multi day treatment event.

Three of our packing events were managed by John Case with his saddle horse and his pack horse. Bill Klink rode along in support on three of those missions. On the longest of the missions, a 14 mile trek along Captain Mountain to deliver water and camping equipment, Linda Mackety joined us and provided much needed assistance.

The fourth trip was handled by Debbie Black and Bill Klink whose horses had the job of not only carrying us riders, but several gallons of water as well.

As usual, our noble equine partners worked willingly and professionally and performed their tasks flawlessly.

The weed management team of FOMELC were grateful for the assistance we provided as we worked together to maintain the purity of these unique wilderness lands.

Bill Klink

Horses Can See Emotions in Our Face and Voice—and Have a Preference, Reveals New Study By [Andy Corbley](#)



Horses have incredible sensitivity to not only outward human emotions such as joy and anger, but also inward, low arousal emotions like sadness, a new study shows.

This emotional sensitivity isn't limited simply to facial expressions, but extends to the sounds coming from the individual whom the horse is observing as well.

Perhaps even more than other domestic animals like dogs, horses are incredibly tuned in to their environment. They've not only been selected for close cooperation with humans, but are herd animals of prey. As such, changes in the emotional contours of their surroundings are about the most important thing for a horse to be able to detect.

A Finnish-French study wanted to investigate whether horses were able to discern sadness in human faces, and also whether the animals were able to detect emotional content by sounds.

"Sadness is an intriguing emotion, as it is not only negatively charged but also represents a low arousal state. Previous studies have demonstrated that horses respond to high arousal emotions, like anger or joy," explained Plotine Jardat, lead author of the study and doctoral researcher at the University of Tours.

"However, can they also detect cues of low arousal emotions, like sadness? We wanted to investigate whether horses can associate human expressions of sadness with the corresponding sounds, as they do with joy and anger."

In the study they showed a horse an image of a joyful face and a sad face along with sounds and tones associated with human joy or human sadness.

When sad tones were accompanied by a sad face, or joy with joy, the horses could quickly change their focus, but when a joyful face was matched with sorrowful sounds or vice versa, the horses were deemed to be confused, because their attention remained fixed on the images for much longer.

"This is intriguing because it would mean that when horses observe our faces and hear our voices, they do not perceive them as separate stimuli, but can integrate them across different sensory modalities," Océane Liehrmann, a doctoral researcher from the University of Turku, [told the Finnish Times](#).

The horses tended to remain fixated on the joyful human expression during which time their heart rate also rose, and the researchers believe this could be because the joyful imagery tended to have more colors and movement, or because it was associated joyful expressions with those observed in their lives and related it to pleasant memories.

The researchers want to continue investigating horses' abilities to detect sadness, particularly whether they can detect sadness amongst other negative emotions.

2023 Equine Economic Impact Study



As a member of the equine industry,
the American Horse Council needs your input!

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD AND YOUR IMPACT COUNTED. WE INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2023 EQUINE ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY, WHICH RUNS UNTIL SEPTEMBER 29, 2023.

Horse Owner Study

Industry Supplier Study

Data collected will inform public and private investments in equine-related businesses, equine health care, education, land use decisions, tax policy, tourism, employment incentives and more.

Read more about the study and the new incentives being offered with participation. New this year are sponsored incentives for individuals and groups who participate in the survey, including the chance to win a John Deere Z545R ZTrak Mower valued at \$7,500, one year of Nutrena feed for one horse (a \$2,000 value); one year of Purina feed for one horse (a \$500 value/horse); gift certificates from Trafalgar Square Books (total value \$180); enrollment in Texas A&M AgriLife Equine Reproductive Management Online Course valued at \$300/enrollment; plus more.

BCH National Newsletter

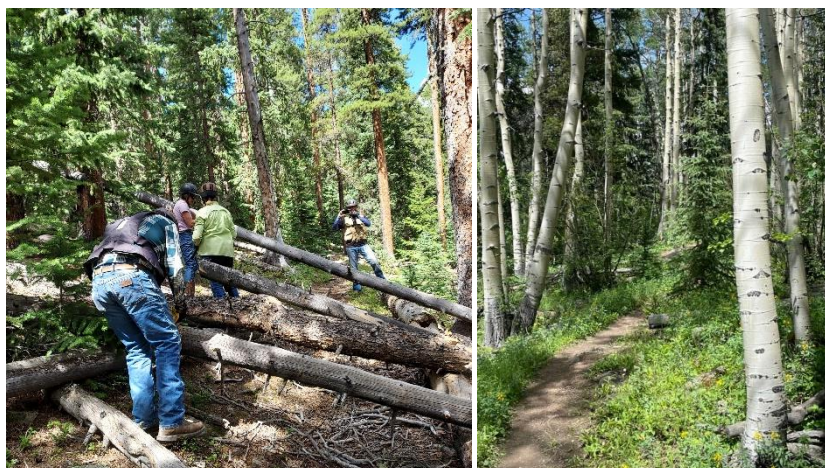
As a member of the FRBCH, you should have or will be receiving your copy of the BCH Newsletter. If for some reason you do not, please follow the link below: To catch up on historical newsletters or to read the current newsletters please go to <https://www.bcha.org/blog/newsletter/> There's great info here!




Upcoming FRBCH Chapter Events

Date	Task	Needed	Time	Filled	Open
Tue., Aug 29, 2023	Trail Clearing Ride	10	9:30 am – 4:00 pm	1	9
Fri., Sep 8, 9, 10 2023	3-Day Camping Trip in Fairplay	open	8:00am – 5:00pm	3	
Sun., Sep 17, 2023	Staunton Rec Ride	open	9:00am – 4:00pm	4	
Tue., Sep 19, 2023	Monthly Meeting				

Use this link to view the complete detailed list and for sign-up. <https://signup.com/go/seVyPnj>



Special Thanks to our Sponsoring Members!



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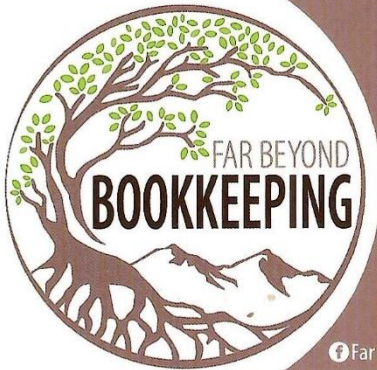
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Far Beyond Bookkeeping Tools and Tips

Thank you for your patience and persistence for reading all the way to the end of this newsletter.

Have you heard the one about the runaway horse?

It's a terrible tale of WHOA!

Your feedback is appreciated. Paulette PJ Dyon