

HIGH DESERT



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

Well we didn't waste any time riding now that the weather has finally warmed up. Well, almost warm, as the last couple of days of April were very windy (60 mile an hour gusts), dark and wet.

Starting in the middle of March the HDBCH assisted the Long Valley chapter of the Future Farmers of America in rehabilitating the corrals at "The Barracks". A long used staging area for local ranchers, the corals had fallen into disrepair. It took two long days, a lot of young muscle, some old muscle and a Bobcat to tear down and rebuild the stock holding area. The HDBCH supported the effort with guidance, strong backs and most importantly ... food. Plans are underway to construct two horse corrals.

Please note that the regular monthly meeting location has changed.... The May 13th meeting will now be at the BLM Visitor Center, located across the street from Wendy's. Enter on the south side.

From Patti Owen, ride coordinator:

Moquith WSA: On the north end of the Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park, there is a triangle shaped wilderness study area, no motorized traffic and the boundaries are clearly delineated. Many high soft coral pink dunes wash ahead with soft landings for those on rompy horses. The parking area is just East of the Ponderosa Grove Campground (BLM) which is located on Hancock Road. Roomy parking and space to turn around trailers at the wsa map, it is right on the edge of the WSA. If you use the ponderosa pines as your guide, you travel from small shady pocket, to another small shady pocket in an arc that brings you right back to your parking spot. This year, the snow was still melting in a few north slopes, and often in one end of these pine pockets, there was a small pond of water. It was fabulous, 2 hours of great leg work for the horse, and a great workout for the rider. We will definitely do this ride again.

Bunting Canyon (private) went West through the locked gate at Hales (with permission) rode two and a half miles in though red sandstone and sage, examined an old granary (Anasazi) and checked a guzzler placed at a spring for deer and cattle. Sandy, flat, delightful blue skies that day. I ride this one often to keep an eye on the guzzler, sometimes the animals "love" the guzzler enough that it has to be returned to its original spot. A labor of love in a small slot canyon.

Hales along the West side of Kanab Creek. Beginning at the North end of Cedar Heights. Lovely ride that goes close to petro glyphs and pictographs along the red ledges. Shady in the evenings, always an enjoyable 1 to 2 hour ride right from town. I will do this one again.

Petrified Hollow: Driving to the East main entrance to the GWT (Great western trail) going in 5.3 miles to a large parking area and heading Southeast along the PH wash, winds through the cedars and ledges that are paved with petrified trees, it's an ancient dead forest now covered by P&J sage and sand. Delightful ride, protected from wind, will do this one again.

Snake Gulch, hosted by Ronnie and Anita Black began on East side of Kanab Wilderness Area. fabulous views, paintings, artwork done in the natives own hands, ancient and powerful in the memory of those who once lived along the gulch. 12 people, 11 horses, 1 3 legged dog that huffed and puffed and made the entire length .

Upcoming events:

May 13: Regular Meeting: BLM Visitor Center (across the street from Wendy's). 7pm

May 21: Ground breaking ceremony and work group: Tom's Canyon. 10am*. 6 hours

May 22: Ride: Cottonwood Trail. 9am*. 4-5 hours

June 5: Work group: Tom's Canyon. 7am*. 5-6 hours

June 10: Regular Meeting: Location to be determined. 7pm

June 18: Ride (in conjunction with Jacob Hamblin Days): Crocodile. 8am*. 3-5 hours

And don't forget the 4th of July parade!

Check out our facebook page for up to date information, pictures and rides.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Kanab/High-Desert-Back-County-Horsemen/362842657380?ref=ts>



The barracks before work



began

Working on the

barracks



Viewing wall, Snake Gulch ride



1000 year old petro glyphs!