



# **WILDERNESS RIDERS**

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Educational Program for  
**Leave No Trace / Gentle Use**  
Outdoor Skills and Ethics

## **WILDERNESS RIDER PROGRAM**

The Wilderness Rider Program is a partnership between the Backcountry Horsemen of California, the National Park Service, the USDA Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management.

Wilderness Riders are trained stock users who have made a commitment to educating others about the value of wild lands and the importance of LNT/Gentle Use Skills.

## **WILDERNESS RIDER JOB DESCRIPTION**

Wilderness Riders represent the Backcountry Horsemen of California, the Park Service, Forest Service, and Bureau of Land Management.

Their duties are weighted equally between work in the field and workshop presentations.

Wilderness Riders are mounted volunteers who ride high use areas educating stock users and others about the value of wilderness and the importance of LNT/ Gentle Use skills.

They may also be called upon to monitor trail maintenance needs, maintain trails, conduct on site restoration, trailhead education, field based LNT/Gentle Use instruction and other duties as requested by the agency contact.

Wilderness Riders schedule and deliver educational sessions on how to practice LNT/Gentle Use skills in or out of doors, and could involve hands on demonstrations, skits, slides, videos, and other multi media presentation tools.

The Wilderness Rider must be able to maintain relationships with the agency partners and community members, schedule their own trips and educational sessions.

## **WILDERNESS RIDER REQUIREMENTS**

Must be committed to practicing and teaching LNT/Gentle Use techniques

Must possess demonstrated skills in public speaking; including the ability to interact with individuals, groups, and diverse audiences.

Possess demonstrated skills in riding stock management and within two years of completing course, demonstrate packing abilities.

Must be 18 years of age or older.

Must provide own riding and pack stock.

Must be accepted in to and successfully complete a six-day Wilderness Rider training course.

Must annually submit electronic project report forms.

Must perform two mounted field sessions, trailhead education, or backcountry LNT/Gentle Use training.

Must fulfill two LNT/Gentle Use speaking/ teaching workshops per year.

Must be able to schedule and deliver workshops on LNT/ Gentle Use skills.

Must be able to establish and maintain a working relationship with contacts from the agency partners.

## **SELECTION PROCEDURE**

Submit Wilderness Rider application at the BCHC Rendezvous which is held every March.

You must be interviewed by the selection committee at the Rendezvous.

Selection committee reviews applications and calls references.

Wilderness Rider selection committee chooses successful applicants.

Successful applicants are notified by the selection committee.

If selected must join Backcountry Horsemen of California.

Must complete Wilderness Rider Training.

Must be accepted into the Wilderness Rider Program by the training course instructors.

# Wilderness Rider Application Form

Name:

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Address: 

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Phone: 

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e-mail: 

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Please describe your riding experience, packing and stock management skills. 

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Why do you want to be a Wilderness Rider?

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Please describe your experience in public speaking with individuals and groups:

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Please list three references:

Name: 

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phone: 

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Name: 

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phone: 

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Name: 

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phone: 

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Becoming a Wilderness Rider is an honor and a commitment. If selected, are you willing to accept the commitments described? 

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(initials)

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Our Partners

#### National Park Service



#### U.S. Forest Service



#### Bureau of Land Management



The symbolism of the horseshoe is our commitment to leave only hoof prints of our passing.

The acorn and oak leaves symbolize planting seeds of knowledge and awareness to grow strong in our outdoor skills and ethics.

For more information about the Wilderness Rider Program or the application process contact the Wilderness Rider Steering Committee Chair person listed on our website:

#### Backcountry Horsemen of California

<http://bchcalifornia.org>

#### Wilderness Riders

<http://bchcalifornia.org/wr.htm>

The content of this written material has been officially approved for distribution by Backcountry Horsemen of California

<http://bchcalifornia.org>