

## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

COMPLETE AND MAIL TO:  
BCHC Membership  
1280 State Rt 208, Yerington, NV 89477

Backcountry Horsemen of California  
[BCHC\\_Membership@bchcalifornia.org](mailto:BCHC_Membership@bchcalifornia.org)

**Primary Unit Affiliation:**  
(Circle ONE)

Antelope Valley  
Eastern Sierra  
High Country  
High Sierra  
Kern River Valley  
Kern Sierra  
Lake-Mendo  
Los Padres  
Manzanita Riders  
Mid Valley  
Mother Lode  
North Bay  
Pacific Crest  
Redshank Riders  
Redwood  
San Joaquin Sierra  
Santa Ana River  
Sequoia  
Shasta Trinity  
Sierra Freepackers  
Sutter Buttes  
Top of the State

**Membership Class:**  
(Circle ONE)

Individual \$50.00  
Family \$60.00  
Benefactor \$100.00  
Patron \$250.00  
Mt. Whitney \$500.00  
Youth 12- 17 \$15.00  
Youth 18-24 \$15.00

Associate Member  
of Unit(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\$15.00/unit

*PRINT CLEARLY*  
If RENEWING, DCTR# \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Primary Membership Name;)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

*We are a family and  
youth oriented  
organization*

## PHILOSOPHY AND PURPOSE OF BCHC

1. To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness.
2. To work to insure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use.
3. To assist the various government and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.
4. To educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage.
5. To foster and encourage the formation of new units of the organization.

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership in BCHC is open to any individual or family sharing the concerns of the organization. There are numerous units throughout the state of California. Our organizational structure starts with BCHC, Inc., holding the non-profit status. Each of the local units is a subsidiary of the parent organization. Each unit has its own governing board and conducts activities of its choice, while operating under broad guidelines established by the state BCHC Board of Directors.

Members in a region not presently represented by a local unit are encouraged to form a new unit. If you are interested, please contact BCHC for a New Unit Organization Packet.

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

[bchcalifornia.org](http://bchcalifornia.org)

Rev. 3/09/2024

# Backcountry Horsemen of California



BCHC is a nonprofit organization  
dedicated to

**KEEPING PUBLIC LANDS  
OPEN TO PACK AND  
SADDLE STOCK USE**

We accomplish this goal through  
education and volunteer service.

**PRESERVE - MAINTAIN - PROTECT**

Through education we encourage  
members and the public to  
improve and promote the use,  
care and development of trails,  
campsites, streams and meadows,  
and to advocate good trail  
manners.

## **BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA**

Backcountry Horsemen of California (BCHC) is a group of dedicated men and women actively participating as caretakers of the wilderness. They are involved in preserving stock users' historic use of wilderness trails, they perform public service activities for the managing federal agencies and they are continually working to educate their members on how to be "Gentle Users" by practicing Leave No Trace methods and by treating other users with courtesy and consideration.

California and the western states have a long tradition of using pack and saddle stock in the backcountry. Backcountry Horsemen carry on this tradition in modern times. With this use comes the responsibility and obligation to care for these wild lands and to ensure their use for future generations.

### **HISTORY**

A group of private and commercial packers met in 1981 to form the High Sierra Stock Users Association (HSSUA) with the purpose of representing horsemen in dealings with the administrators of public lands.

Five years later, HSSUA joined with Montana, Idaho and Washington to form Back Country Horsemen of America. Currently organized in 34 states, BCHA coordinates activities of member states and oversees national involvement in public lands issues.

HSSUA adopted the name Backcountry Horsemen of California in order to conform to the national name and to better reflect its growing statewide membership. Membership in BCHC now approaches 2,000.

### **VOLUNTEER SERVICE**

BCHC encourages all members to participate in volunteer projects that contribute to the betterment of the resource and the facilities available to all recreational users. Such projects should be above and beyond the work normally covered by the operations budget of the agency involved.

## **EDUCATION**

The future of public lands depends on how users conduct themselves. With ever-increasing demand on resources, it is imperative that stock users be respectful of their environment while working with stock. With the partnership of Leave No Trace and Backcountry Horseman we have the ability to teach LNT stock use techniques to leave the smallest footprint possible while enjoying our public lands, back country streams, trails, campsites, and meadows; in our contacts with other users and wildlife, and in livestock management.

### **PUBLIC LANDS**

BCHC works to ensure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use and provides units and the general membership current information regarding new legislation or agency management plans related to government regulation of public lands. In addition, we work to support or oppose new proposals, plans or restrictions as related to the interests of horsemen and those interested in packing, riding and enjoying our public lands. BCHC promotes mutually beneficial working relationships with public lands agencies through collaborative efforts, while at the same time keeping the work and literature of BCHC before public lands administrators.

### **SUPPORT THE CAUSE**

Partner with the Backcountry Horsemen and our hard-working members by donating today. BCHC is an all-volunteer organization that relies on charitable donations to accomplish its goals. Please help us by donating today.

