

Back Country Horsemen of California Emergency Evacuation Plan Cover Sheet

Need:

Despite the inherent dangers and risks associated with equestrian recreation, equestrians are often complacent in matters of emergency evacuation management.

Emergency Action Plan (EAP) checklist and a **Trailhead Communication Plan (TCP)** must be compiled and completed to avoid liability assessment in an injury accident case during an equestrian recreational event conducted by Back Country Horsemen of California (BCHC).

Objective:

Implementation of an **Emergency Evacuation Plan (EEP)** is not only a requirement of most land management agencies but is also essential for BCHC plus personal liability protection during an equestrian recreational event.

An **EEP** is critical for proper managing an injury or life threatening situation involving equestrian recreational events.

Trail Ride Leader(s) are responsible for developing field **EEP** for procedures in the event a person(s) becomes seriously ill or injured during an equestrian recreational event.

Implementation:

- 1) Prior to an equestrian recreational event conduct a briefing to insure that an EEP is in place before embarking and/or leaving trailhead.
- 2) Follow existing land manager procedures for a Trailhead Communication Plan (TCP). Do not rely on cell phone coverage.
- 4) Participants in equestrian recreational events must complete a liability release form required by hosting BCHC (See Liability Release form)
- 5) Participants in equestrian recreational events must complete a **BCHC Personal Emergency Information Form**.
- 6) Participants in equestrian recreational events under the age of eighteen not accompanied by a parent or guardian **must be required** to have a "Permission to Treat" form before the minor is allowed to participate in BCHC equestrian recreational events.
- 7) Required actions for Trail Ride Leader(s).
 - a. Carry an updated first aid kit.
 - b. Stay current on first aid and CPR training
 - c. Be aware of any allergies, medical conditions or other physical limitations of members in the equestrian recreational event.
 - d. Carry maps and a GPS, plus be competent with their usage.

- e. Have a second person knowledgeable about the area and who knows the way back to trailhead.
- 8) Be prepared to provide the following information when reporting a health or injury incident.
 - a. Nature of the injury or illness.
 - b. Type of assistance needed.
 - c. Location of emergency with best access route – road and trail numbers.
 - d. Radio frequency and/or phone numbers.
 - e. Contact person – land management agency and/or personal.
 - f. Local hazards – ground vehicles or aviation.
 - g. Weather conditions.
 - h. Topography – especially in wilderness situations.
 - i. Number of persons to be transported.
 - j. Estimated weight of passengers for air evacuation.
- 9) Be prepared at the first opportunity to immediately provide the following information when reporting a health/injury emergency to the patient's personal contact.
 - a. Nature of injury or illness.
 - b. Type of assistance needed and/or provided.
 - c. Location where a family member can meet the injured person.
 - d. Location of emergency or professional medical assistance and contact information.
 - e. Estimated time of arrival at meeting location.
 - f. Disposition of trail stock and equipment that require care and transportation.

The items listed above serve only as guidelines

All forms available on the BCHC Web Site. <http://www.bchcalifornia.org/>