

OVCBCHW

Trail Boss Report

October, 2012

Dave Sunde

Things wound down somewhat in October after a very event filled spring and summer. October also means hunting season so many of our trail workers spent some non BCHW time in woods chasing the elusive elk and deer. The scheduled joint ride with the Ferry County chapter on the 13th at 13 Mile was cancelled due to many downed trees caused by the high winds that passed through the area.

On the October 15th 3 of us attended the Okanogan County Council meeting. At that meeting the commissioners were presented with 2 bids to do the dirt work associated with the new Whistler Canyon Trailhead and the US 97 apron/entrance. One bid was over the County estimate and the other was just over \$50,000. Strider Construction was declared the winner and contracts were awarded and signed.

The NEPA for the sweat creek reroute is almost complete. The SKY/PNTA youth group is scheduled to install the reroutes next summer.

Our last scheduled ride of the year was our annual *Chiliwist Fall Color Ride*. We met at Kvistad's and rode out about 10:15 with 13 riders. We stopped for lunch for about 15 minutes because only a few people had brought anything to eat. My horse and I shared an apple and she seemed happy to have that. We worked our way SE from Stan's using cow paths, old skid roads and some Jeremiah Johnson bushwhacking and arrived at the mouth of Cougar Canyon. We rode up the canyon past the monument to the 12 year old boy who was killed by a cougar in 1925. In the 1980s the local Boy Scout troop erected the monument. We did see some color but we were about a week late for the brilliant colors. We got back to the house about 3:30 and had a very good meal of Chili, BBQ chicken, assorted salads, and of course, several pies. We did not use a GPS but calculated the route to be about 15 miles total.