

BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN  
OF AMERICA  
MIDDLE RIO GRANDE CHAPTER

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<http://www.bchnm.org> takes you to the State Chapter home page



**August 2011**

We're finally getting some relief on the drought, although not enough to have the Forests totally open. If you saw Rodney's update from the State Board meeting, you know that the Rendezvous has been canceled because of all the uncertainty associated with the drought and the fragile state of the Forests. But there are still some opportunities to ride those ponies and help on the trails. Next meeting is back at Fat Sat's on 18 August. See you there.

CALENDAR		
Sat, 6 August	San Lorenzo Loop John Young – 505-363-4943	8:30 AM
Thur, 18 August	August Business Meeting Fat Sat's Grill in Belen – Dinner at 6 PM	7:00 PM
Aug 26-28, 2011	Rendezvous CANCELED	
Aug 26-28, 2011	CDT Work Project Pelona Mountain	

**August Meeting**

The next meeting will be back at Fat Sat's Grill. Come early for dinner, and the meeting starts about 7:00 PM after we're done eating.

**San Lorenzo Loop Ride**

John Young of the Socorro Chapter is hosting a ride Saturday, 6 August on the New Loop Trail south of San Lorenzo Canyon. Be there at 8:30 just across the cattle guard at the end of the pavement on the road to San Lorenzo. Rodney did this trail with Diane Wiltshire and others, and really enjoyed the 2 hour ride. Call John to let him know if you are coming. 505-363-4943.

## August Work Project

We re-scheduled the project until August because of the lack of rain, and also as an alternative to the Rendezvous that was canceled. We'll be working with the Socorro BLM for a work project on the Continental Divide Trail for the BLM the weekend of 26-28 August east of the Pelona Mountain area. It's about a 3 hour pull from Los Lunas for this one, so it's going to be an overnigher. The plan is to ride and maintain about 5 miles of trail from West Canyon to Coyote peak. The trail has been worked before, but will need some maintenance on posts and cairns marking the trail and parts that go through the trees will need some brush whacking. If you come early on Friday, there will be time for a ride up to Cottonwood Canyon. The area includes wide open plains and canyon trails with tall pines. It's primitive camping without water or facilities. There is a metal stock tank nearby, but I wouldn't count on water for the horses, so come prepared. More details at the August meeting.

**Date:** Friday-Sunday, 26-28 August 2011

**Directions:** The basic route is I-25 to Socorro, west on Rt 60 to Datil, southwest on Rt 12 to Forest Road 28 (just past mile marker 40 and the Via Tio Vences turn off) and then about 23 miles to a two track that takes you to West Canyon – about two miles to where we'll be camping. The two track is a ranch road that takes you to a wire gate just off the road. Just stay on the two track to the entrance to West Canyon.

## Country Supply Connection

BCHA gets a "commission" if you order from Country Supply ([www.horse.com](http://www.horse.com)) through their site. Go to the BCHA home page (<http://www.backcountryhorse.com>) and link to horse.com (or the other affiliated websites) and raise some funds for the cause.



The Middle Rio Grande Chapter of the BCHA is a Non-profit partner with the Leave No Trace (LNT) Foundation and supports the seven principals of LNT.