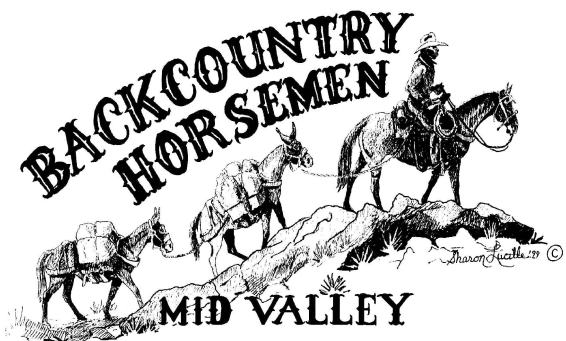


## Mid Valley Unit Trail Safety Guidelines

This document is for your information. Please read it through, and be aware that all participants in Mid Valley Unit rides and work projects are expected to follow these guidelines. The purpose of this document is to inform members of the many factors that one should consider while riding out on the trail in an effort to keep us all a little safer.

	<b><u>Mid Valley Unit Trail Safety Guidelines</u></b>
1.	The Trail Boss is in charge!
2.	Have control of your mount at all times.
3.	Always ride at a walk! (An encounter with bees is the exception.)
4.	On organized unit events, riding alone is discouraged.
5.	Be sure that your animals are in adequate shape for a trail ride in the high country.
6.	Allow one horse's length between you and the stock in front of you.
7.	Your animal should be comfortable on the trail whether in front or in back of the group.
8.	Children should be mounted on safe, reliable stock.
9.	It is highly recommended that children wear safety helmets.
10.	Children under 12 years of age are allowed on work projects at parents' discretion.
11.	Carry appropriate first aid supplies for you and your horse.
12.	When crossing water, the first animals are allowed to drink and then riders should move up the trail just far enough to allow the next few animals space to safely water. The lead rider should ensure that all animals are given an opportunity to drink.
13.	The group should not proceed until everyone is mounted.
14.	Learn, practice and promote the seven principles of <i>Leave No Trace!</i>
	Please refer to Backcountry Horsemen of California's "A Common Sense Guide For A Safe and Enjoyable Trail Ride" for additional information. This document may be found online at: <a href="http://bchcalifornia.org/docs/Safe&amp;EnjoyableTrailRide.pdf">http://bchcalifornia.org/docs/Safe&amp;EnjoyableTrailRide.pdf</a>



**BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF CALIFORNIA**

**Mid Valley Unit**

Approved by Mid Valley Unit Board of Directors January 13, 2015