



ffbch.org

**Florida Forever Back Country Horsemen, Inc.**  
*Preserving our equine cultural heritage on public lands for today and tomorrow.*

# FFBCH NEWS

February 2020

**The February 2020 meeting is scheduled for  
Monday, February 24 at  
Seafood Seller  
300 SE US 19, Crystal River, 34429 352-228-4936  
Dinner 5:30-6:30 business meeting at 6:30 p.m.**

**PLEASE!!! RSVP QUICKLY!!**

**SPEAKER: Citrus County Sheriff Community Crimes Detective**  
**I have asked that they talk to us about: Horse Slaughter; How to post our properties to ensure that any trespasser that may be caught can be prosecuted; How to secure our properties; Trespass sign requirements—this varies based on acreage; How we can be proactive protecting our property, horses and ourselves. If I've missed anything, please let me know!**

Clay Cooper has graciously agreed to speak to us at the March picnic.

The **March** meeting will be a picnic at Tillis Hill on Saturday, March 21. Registration and social hour beginning at 11:00 am with lunch as close to noon as possible. This is a pot luck with the club furnishing all paper products and silverware.

**Entrees in addition to side dishes will be furnished by attendees.**

Clay Cooper will speak on "An Integrated Approach to Weed Control and Pasture Management" - bring your FRESH weed samples for ID!

Note: Hunting Dates are in this newsletter and will continue through spring.

***Non-Members are WELCOME!***  
***Please come and join us!***

FFBCH Website: [www.ffbch.org](http://www.ffbch.org)

## Special THANKS to all who volunteer!!

### Trash Pick Up 2020

Trash pick up was another awesome success. We had 42 volunteers work 173 hours and drove 386 miles. As usual, Janet Day did a great job of organizing the event working with the group leaders.

#### All eight horse trails have been adopted by:

Eagle Ridge	Jerry Hardy
Turkey Oak	Charlie & Chris Moore
Thunder Road	Gary & Cindy Cyphers
Deer Haven	Ray & Faye Durrett
Middle Earth East & South	Fred & Becky Fulcher
Dixie Land	Cal & Sally McDavid
Pine Valley	Gary & Janice Reynolds
El Dorado	Janet Day

#### Volunteers to paint the field trial trails are:

Orange Trail	Andy & Sue Michel with
Purple Trail	David Logan & Darlene Creasman
Red Trail	Gary & Cindy Cyphers
Yellow & Gray Trail	Gary Reynolds
Pink Trail	Fred & Becky Fulcher
Green Trail	Steve & Karen Rossman

#### Six of the eight rest stops have been adopted by:

Perryman's Place	Cal & Sally McDavid
Mansfield Pond	Charlie & Chris Moore
Pine Valley	Gary & Janice Reynolds
South Cowpen	Gary & Cindy Cyphers
Twisted Oaks	Janet Day
Holder Mine	Janet Day
Palmetto Haven	<b>Needs a volunteer</b>
Five Mile Pond	<b>Needs a volunteer</b>

#### Two of the ten neighborhood access trails have been adopted by:

Scotch Lane	Steve & Karen Rossman
Tillis Hill Access Trails	Andy & Sue Michel
Heatherwood to Tillis	<b>Needs a volunteer</b>
581 (FR10A) to Holder Mine	<b>Needs a volunteer</b>
Haven Street to FR9	<b>Needs a volunteer</b>
FR10A to SW to Middle Earth	<b>Needs a volunteer</b>
FR10A from FR9 to NW Middle Earth	<b>Needs a volunteer</b>
Bull Sink	<b>Needs a volunteer</b>
Trash Trail	<b>Dave Van</b>
Middle Trail	<b>Betty Lewis &amp; Jolynn Walker</b>

## Withlacoochee & Seminole State Forests Volunteers

You are cordially invited to attend the 2020 Volunteer  
Appreciation Celebration & Luncheon held in your honor.

Saturday, February 29, 2020  
9:00 am to 1:30 pm

Location:  
WITHLACOOCHEE TRAINING CENTER  
24059 Childs Road  
Brooksville, FL 34601

Please RSVP via phone at (352)797-4140 by  
February 7, 2020.

You may also RSVP via email to either  
Mark.Lewis@FDACS.gov or Melissa.Stokes@FDACS.gov

Meat, salad, drinks, and dessert will be provided.  
Please bring side dishes and desserts with serving utensils.



If you want quick up to date information about news and or sightings regarding people taking pictures of, trying to steal or the growing horse slaughter issue, you might be interested in the following Facebook pages:

Florida Horse Watch Group  
Florida Horse Watch Group Discussion Page  
Keeping Florida Horses Safe

Each page has specific rules so you need to make yourself aware prior to posting and/or commenting.

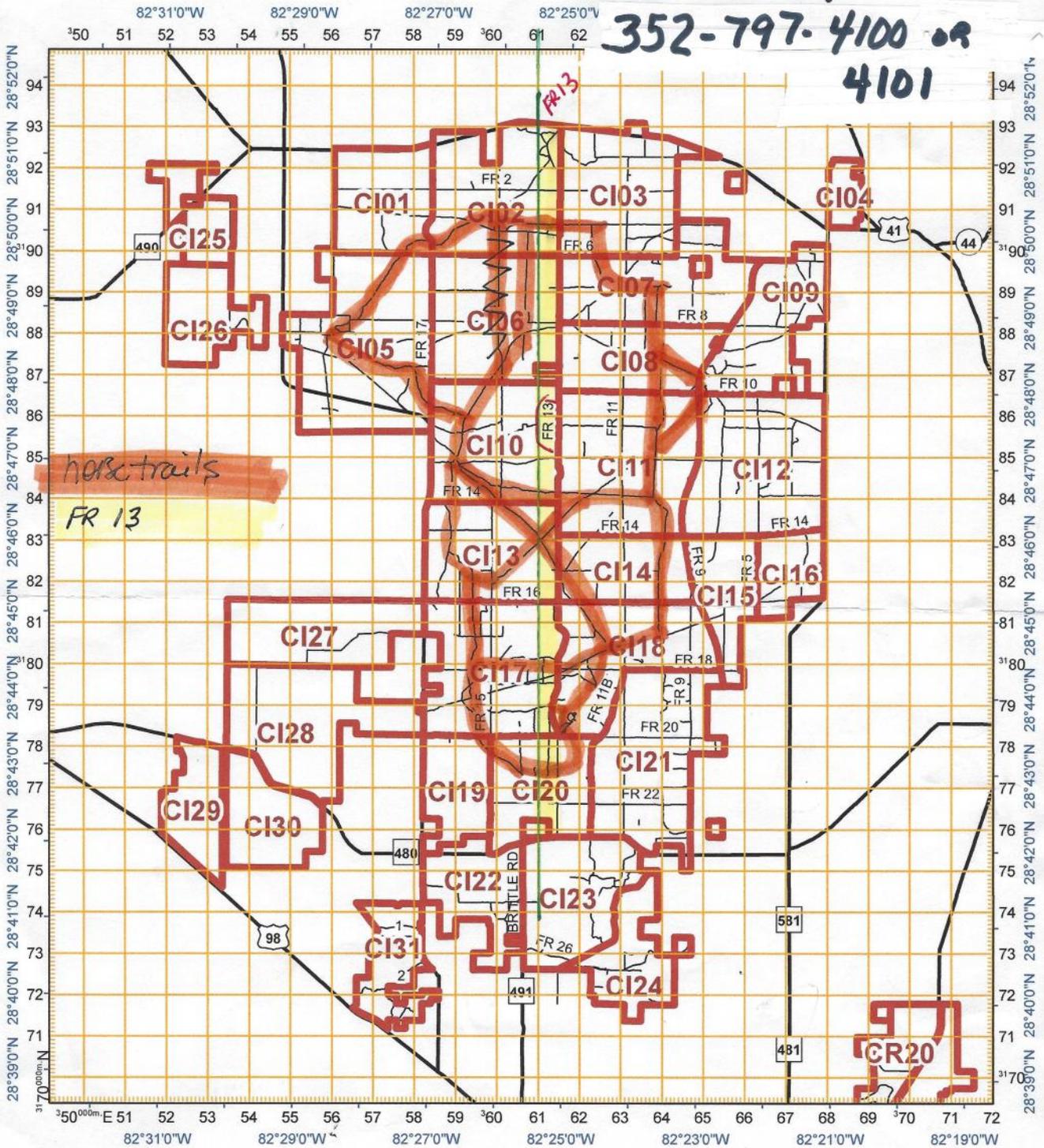
There was a very serious instance on Wednesday, January 22 where two riders out of Renab were caught up in a prescribed burn. It was scary, but they are safe and unharmed. Turns out, that FFS did not close the trails off by survey ribbon & a sign, nor did they attempt to clear the trail of any users prior to starting the burn. There were also two riders who went out Scotch Lane and finding it plowed, called dispatch to be given FR13 & FR16 as location markers for a burn. On their way back from Mutual Mine they ran into forestry lighting fires at FR18 and FR7. Please be aware and prudent. Hopefully, FFS will begin to use four corners as general locations.

Both of these issues were discussed with the Keith Mousel, Center Manager who has assured me that trails will be marked and cleared. **I need to know if anyone runs into problems during a burn with specifics as to where and when.** Remember, they can and will burn any day at any time. Burns are predicated on personnel and equipment availability, wind direction and speed, dew point, etc.

On the following page is a map that shows the "compartments" that are usually burned by FFS. It will reflect the road numbers within each compartment. Fire Dispatch phone numbers are written in the upper right hand corner. I have also asked that dispatch use the four most prevalent corners when advising people where a fire is. I don't know if that will happen, but it would narrow the possibilities down from 2600 acres down to 640 +/-.

# Citrus Fire Dispatch

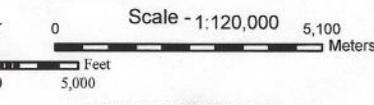
352-797-4100 or  
4101



US National Grid  
100,000-m Square ID  
**LM**  
Grid Zone Designation  
**17R**

Mag. Declination  
4°51'W  
Changing by  
5'W per yr  
Date 2009  
To Convert a  
Magnetic Azimuth  
to a Grid Azimuth  
SUBTRACT G-M Angle

G-M Angle  
4°10'  
Grid Convergence  
41'  
To Convert a  
Grid Azimuth  
to a Magnetic Azimuth  
ADD G-M Angle



Created by Denise Wilde, Ecology  
Forester, February 29, 2016.  
This map is a product of the Florida Forest  
Service.  
No warranties are provided for data therein,  
its use,  
or its interpretation.

# FFBCH Newsletter January 2020

January 2020 FFBCH  
General Meeting  
1/21/2020  
Buffet City

Call to order by Sally McDavid at 6:34 PM

Introduction of guests: Stephanie Mellis, Jan Opper, Robin Pennington, Sue Roberts, Dave Roberts, Mary Ann Keppler, Sharon Lyons, Norma Carnahan, Sharon Day, Tom Nay, Bonnie Carrig, Richard Carrig, Dave Leone, Bob Dellinger, Tuppy Dellinger

Topics this evening: Charities for donation, meeting places and speakers

A motion to approve the November minutes was made by Steve Rossman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jean Damron and group approved.

Treasurer's report by Gary Reynolds: Gary also reported that some of the other Florida chapters are not going as smoothly as ours.

Janet Day reported on our January Trash pickup days and thanked everyone that participated by reading their names. 42 people volunteered 173 hours and covered 386 miles. Sally presented Janet with a golden bling covered trash grabber for her efforts in coordinating the whole thing.

Fred Fulcher reported that we are having elections in March and positions available are President, Treasurer and 2 Board Members. If you have someone you would like to nominate for any of these positions, please let Sally or one of the other board members know.

Chain Saw classes will be held February 12 and 13. Anyone interested in taking the chain saw class, please let Sally know as soon as possible. You will need to bring your own lunch for the classes.

Sally asked the group if there would be any problem in using everyone's e-mail address vs blind copy when sending out information and news letters.

Forestry has agreed to spend \$500 to investigate the viability of the old well by the cement tank out in the forest. We will see what they have to say and possibly we can spend what it takes to get water at that site with maybe a grant from BCHA.

We have reserved the Sea Food Seller for February 24. Our speaker will be Clay Cooper on Pasture Management.

March 21 – Picnic at Tillis Hill.

Forestry Volunteer Appreciation Day is Feb 29. Please RSVP with Forestry.

Stumpknocker's on the River is our official December meeting place and November is a picnic at Tillis Hill.

Sally passed out ballots with Charities, Meeting places and speaker topics and asked everyone to rank their preferences. She will report on the results at the next meeting.

Someone asked if the Sheriff's department might speak on the horse stealing and slaughter that has been going on. Janet reported on an incident with her horses. A person on the firebreak taking pictures of her horses. Sally mentioned a FB group (Keeping Florida Horses Safe) that was a good resource of information.

Arlene said they got caught in the middle of a burn and called forestry to find out where they were burning and received misinformation from forestry.

50/50 \$110.50 won by Bob Dillinger.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM

## **Citrus Hunting Dates 2019 - 2010**

### **Archery Season:**

November **2-10**, **11-17** and **18-24**.

### **Muzzleloading Gun Season:**

November **29** through December **1**  
and December **13-15**.

### **General Gun Season:**

December **6-8** and **27-29**.

### **Small Game Season:**

December **30** through February **23**.

### **Spring Turkey Season:**

Youth Turkey: March **14-15**.

Spring Turkey: March **24-27**, April **7-10** and **21-**



**For other management areas go to:**

<https://myfwc.com/hunting/wma-brochures/>

Look for the region then the management area you are interested in.

# Please Respect Other User's Trails

## Stay OFF Hiking Trails





Want to help? Can't find the time to work on the trails? Can't always make the meetings? That doesn't matter! You can show your support by joining Florida Forever Back Country Horsemen (FFBCH). Individual memberships = \$25 and Family memberships = \$30. Or, make a donation!

Every member of a local chapter is automatically a member of the Back Country Horsemen of Florida AND Back Country Horsemen of America. Not in the Citrus County area? Then join Back Country Horsemen of Florida as an at-large member until a local chapter is developed in your area.

There are many issues facing equestrians today. Help us to preserve the trails we have. Add your voice to those of more than 15,000 of your fellow American horsemen and women. **You only have to look at the Croom and the Citrus Tract of the Withlacoochee Forest as an example of what can be accomplished when we work together and with our land managers!**



**Current Officers and Directors**

**President—Sally McDavid**  
**Vice President—Fred Fulcher**  
**Secretary—Becky Fulcher**  
**Treasurer—Gary Reynolds**  
**Janet Day - Director**  
**Tom Allen—Director**  
**Barb Porch—Director**  
**Cal McDavid—Director**

**Florida Forest Service**  
**Emergency Phone:**  
**352-797-4100**

**FFBCH Website: [www.ffbch.org](http://www.ffbch.org)**  
**email: [ffbch.org@gmail.com](mailto:ffbch.org@gmail.com)**