

THE CHIEF'S CORNER

Black Butte Ranch Police

12/3/2015

BICYCLE ACCIDENTS – A 6 yr review.

Prior to the summer season in 2010 the Black Butte Ranch Police Department established a policy of writing reports on injury bicycle accidents on the Ranch. This report is a result of the information we obtained over a five year period of these investigations.

We provided this policy to the Deschutes County 911 Dispatch Center and requested that we be dispatched to bicycle accidents anytime the Fire Department was sent.

Department was sent. During a recent review of bicycle accidents that the Fire Department was dispatched to indicated that the BBRPD was not always advised. Additionally, the Fire Department had a number of “walk ins” to their office which the Police Department was not aware of.

With this in mind the below information still provides us with information of value

Demographics

We took reports on a total of 50 reports over the last six years. Reports taken in 2010, 2011 and 2012, the sex of the victim was not recorded.

Of the 50 accidents the injuries were significant enough that the victim was transported to a medical facility 54% of the time. Additionally, 54% of those injured were wearing helmets. BBR Rules and Oregon Law require individuals under 16 are required to wear helmets. 38% of the accidents involved victims under 16 years old.

The age of those involved in injury accidents is not evenly balanced across age groups. Individuals between the ages of 21 and 50 represent only 16% of those injured while ages 0 to 20 represent 50% of all bicycle accident injuries! The 50+ age group reflects 32%. Males represent 60% of those involved.

Helmet use

We found that 30% of the riders injured were not wearing helmets. Accidents involving those under the age of 16 we found that only 3 of the 19 (16%) were not wearing helmets. Only one of them was transported. On the other hand 13 of 19 (68%) of all of those under 16 years old were transported to a medical facility for treatment.



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CHIEF KELLEY

**BLACK BUTTE RANCH
POLICE**



Bicycle Accidents December 3, 2015

Table 1

Year	Total Rpts	<u>Helmet Use</u>			<u>Transported</u>			<u>Under 16</u>	<u>Sex</u>	
		Yes	No	Unk	Yes	No	Unk		M	F
2010	5	3	1	1	2	2	1	1		
2011	8	0	5	3	5	3				
2012	7	2	3	2	6		1	3		
2013	16	12	2	2	6	10		9	7	9
2014	1	1	0	0	1				1	
2015	13	9	4	0	7	6		6	10	3
Total	50	27	15	8	27	21	2	19	18	12
%		54%	30%	16%	54%	42%	4%	38%	60%	40%

Locations

Approximately half of the injury bicycle accidents occurred at four areas. While the area of Hawksbeard and Red Clover, where the steep hill with the retaining wall is located, has been identified as a dangerous location yet we have not taken an accident report associated with this location.

The highest number of injury accidents we have recorded (9) is the area by the Fire Station, Hawksbeard between Pinedrop and Stickleaf. Significant injuries have occurred on the hill just north of Bitterroot adjacent to Hawksbeard.

The general area around GMRC is the second highest accident area. This is a high use area and the number of riders are assumable a contributing factor.

The area by the Ball Field (5) and the path between Partridge Foot and Pasqueflower on Ponderosa

(5) are the other two locations of high accident occurrences. Only two bicycle accidents involved a vehicles, one of which was parked. The bicyclist was at fault in the other.

Injuries

No accidents, 2010 through 2015 resulted in a fatality. Three of the accidents were serious in nature and two of these victims were transported by Air Ambulance. Although 17 of the 50 victims (34%) involved sustained head injuries not all of them were transported to medical care. Only seven of the seventeen involving head injuries were wearing helmets.

Causal Factors

The primary cause of most accidents fell into three main categories; loss of control, speed and inattention. Several bicycle accidents were a combination of these. Very few accidents involved debris or poor visibility

on the pathways. Alcohol was rarely a contributing factor.

Summary

The Department will continue to investigate bicycle accidents and look to identify causal factors that can be addressed. We also are working with 911 and the Fire Department to ensure we are being notified of all injury bicycle accidents that occur at Black Butte Ranch.