

**“Ride the Rails” on the Bizz Johnson National Historic Trail with a special  
visit to Ronald McDonald Camp at Eagle Lake  
July 21-25, 2010**



**The Bizz Johnson Trail** is in northeastern California, along the Susan River in Lassen County. The main trail head is at the old Railroad Depot in the City of Susanville, about 90 miles north of Reno and about 90 miles east of Red Bluff, California.

**Description:** Following the old Fernley and Lassen Branch Line of the Southern Pacific railroad, the trail winds 25.4 miles from Susanville to Mason Station. For the first 16 miles, the trail follows the Susan River. As it winds through the rugged Susan River Canyon, the trail crosses the river 12 times on bridges and trestles and passes through two tunnels. The landscape is a combination of semi-arid canyon and upland forests of pine and fir. The trail has four distinct seasons because of the high elevation location. The trail begins at 4200' on the east side of the Sierra and Cascade Ranges in Susanville, climbs 1300' to a high point of 5500' at Westwood Junction then drops 400' to its terminus in Westwood at elevation 5100'.

**Ronald McDonald Camp at Eagle Lake, July 22:** Ronald McDonald Camp is a fully accessible residential camp that serves children and other age groups who are at-risk, disadvantaged and/or living with emotional, physical and developmental disabilities. They staff qualified trained Program Specialists in the fields of Waterfront, Sports, Outdoor Recreation, Arts & Crafts and Drama. The programs are created to accommodate all of the campers regardless of mobility, cognitive or emotional issues to allow children with different types of abilities to experience the camp experience.

### **Trip Details**

**Wednesday, July 21 (late day):** Volunteers, guests, horses and carriages arrive at the Papoose Meadows Cow Camp near Eagle Lake. This is a “primitive” campground – no water, no stream, no toileting facilities, but we will bring our portable toilet. We will provide the first meal, a dinner that evening. We anticipate having the ACCESS ADVENTURE wheelchair accessible trolley, and possibly a second carriage.

**Thursday, July 22:** drive wagons from the campground over dirt timber county roads approximately 3 ½ miles to Camp Ronald McDonald at Eagle Lake. Provide rides to a group of seniors with mobility challenges. Return to Papoose Meadows Cow Camp and spend the night.

**Friday, July 23:** truck camping gear and supplies approximately 30 miles to U.S.F.S Goumaz Campground, set up camp and spend Friday and Saturday nights. This campground has wheelchair accessible pit toilets, drinking water, and a stream with water for the horses. We will do an out and back driving trip.

**Saturday, July 24: Still to be determined:** Lassen Life Skills riders may join us at Devils Corral and finish up in Susanville. ACCESS ADVENTURE group will return to Goumaz Campground for our final night.

**Sunday, July 25:** have breakfast, breakdown camp and head home.

**Additional resources for directions, description of the trail history and sights to see in the area:** <http://bizzjohnsontrail.com/index.htm> and of course, mapquest and googlemaps.

To view photos from the 2009 event: [http://challenginglimits.smugmug.com/Anywhere-Wild/2009/Bizz-JohnsonRonald-McDonald/8893269\\_keHXB#589855897\\_MdQoh](http://challenginglimits.smugmug.com/Anywhere-Wild/2009/Bizz-JohnsonRonald-McDonald/8893269_keHXB#589855897_MdQoh)