

Twelfth Annual Swanton Pacific 75/100 Ride & Tie
(held in conjunction with the 24th Annual Swanton Pacific 75/100 Endurance Ride)
August 16, 2008

History: Logging, lumber and forest products have been a part of the industry of the Swanton area since well back into the 1800's and trains played an important part in that industry. In mapping out our endurance ride in its first year, 1983, we found we were passing through three areas with railroading history: the Pescadero Creek watershed, where Santa Cruz Lumber Company used locomotives to haul huge logs into their sawmill at Waterman Gap; the Little Creek watershed, where San Vicente Lumber Company's logging shay struggled up ten percent grades; and the Swanton valley, where the Ocean Shore Railroad terminated its track northbound from Santa Cruz. The name Swanton Pacific comes from a railroad built by our late neighbor Al Smith, using antique steam engines on a narrow-gauge track laid along part of the old Ocean Shore route. All but the Swanton Pacific have long since passed into history.

Facilities: Camp is located in a deep canyon so please bring warm clothing for horse and runners. Creek water is suitable for horses but runners should bring their own drinking water. A phone is available in camp for credit card or reverse charge calls only. It has become prohibitively expensive to have a farrier on standby, so please come prepared with a well-shod horse and Easyboots. Showers, portable toilets and trash receptacles are provided. NO OPEN FIRES PERMITTED; charcoal grills, propane or white gas stoves and camp lanterns are okay. Sorry, NO ATVs or Motorized Cycles. DOGS MUST BE CONFINED INSIDE TRAILERS OR CAMPERS DURING THE EVENT AND MAY BE WALKED ON LEASH ONLY. NO DOGS ALLOWED IN CAMP, IN THE VETTING AREA, IN STATE OR COUNTY PARKS, OR IN THE START-FINISH AREA. THERE IS A DESIGNATED CAMPING AREA FOR PEOPLE WITH DOGS ("DOGTOWN"). DUE TO SUMMERTIME HIGH FIRE DANGER, SMOKING IS NOT ALLOWED ON THE TRAIL OR IN GRASSY AREAS, ONLY AT VET CHECKS AND ON HARD GROUND.

Course: The trail is a single loop with the start and finish at camp. Vet checks are at 15 miles, 34 miles, 48 miles, 67 miles, 85 miles and 93 miles for the 100 miler; 15 miles, 22 miles, 36 miles, 55 miles and 73 miles for the 75-miler. All have easy crew access. We will also provide drop bag service to remote locations at 10-15 mile intervals in remote areas of the course. The trail will be well marked with pink and white flagging, signs, dolomite and chemical light sticks. The scenery is spectacular from meadows and grassy hilltops to deep wooded canyons, high shale ridges, the Pacific Ocean and magnificent redwood forests. Please be sure to bring a small flashlight or headlamp; light sticks will be available for purchase.

Schedule:

Pre-Ride Vetting: Upon vet arrival (about 3:00 PM) to 8:00 PM Friday

Pre-Ride Dinner: 6:30 PM, Friday. Please purchase tickets with entry. Extra dinners are usually available directly from the caterer but we cannot guarantee this.

Ride & Tie Specific Briefing: 7:00 PM, Friday

Pre-Ride Briefing: 8:00 PM, Friday (please plan on attending as all the vet criteria will be the same for both events)

Ride & Tie Start: 5:00 AM, Saturday (a half hour before the endurance ride)

Ride Finish: 5:30 AM, Sunday

Post-Ride Exam: Within one hour after each team finishes

Awards Breakfast: 8:00 AM, Sunday

Best Condition Judging: Approximately 7:00 AM, Sunday

Awards Presentation: Approximately 9:00 AM, Sunday. The completion award for Swanton Pacific R&T is a personalized vest, embroidered with your name and finishing time (your award will be sent to you after the event).

Ride & Tie Rules: The ride is sanctioned by The Ride and Tie Association and will comply with Ride and Tie Association rules. Ride management reserves the right to interpret rules as would be necessary to insure the continuity of the ride and to settle any questions that may arise from any incident that might occur during the ride. There have been some sensitive issues arise during past years regarding private property rights, so pre-riding is not allowed. We are fortunate to be able to obtain permission to route the ride through several areas of private property, so please do not jeopardize this privilege. The future of the ride depends on the goodwill of our neighbors. Please note that ride & tie participants will not be given preference at vet checks and are expected to wait their turn. We feel previous 100-mile ride experience is essential for the appropriate management of the participating horses so request that at least one team member has successfully completed a 100-mile endurance ride (successful completion of a multi-day endurance ride will be considered equivalent experience).

Amenities: We treat Swanton Pacific contestants as the special people (and horses) they are !!! In addition to drop bag service, we offer other treats at selected locations along the trail: carrots for horses; candy, fruit and soft drinks for people. There are hot showers for your enjoyment after the ride.

Entry Information: Entries will be limited to 10 teams at the request of the endurance ride management. To help us plan for a successful event, entries must be postmarked by Friday, August 8, 2008 and must be pre-paid. Checks are not deposited until after the event. Checks will be voided for cancellations requested on or before Monday, August 11, 2008, but cancellations are subject to deduction of the value of all meals ordered if requested after August 11, 2008. There will be no refunds for cancellations requested after the ride is over. No fee will be retained if the horse does not pass the vet check. Entry fee: \$200. ALL COMPETITORS MUST BE MEMBERS OF THE RIDE AND TIE ASSOCIATION. Membership fee: \$25 for individual/\$45 for family. \$3 mandatory drug testing fee. See entry blank on website for more information.

Directions: Camp is located 20 miles north of Santa Cruz and 60 miles south of San Francisco. From Santa Cruz, take Hwy 1 north towards Half Moon Bay. Go past Davenport (9 miles N of Santa Cruz) for 1.5 miles. Turn Right at Swanton Road sign. Go 4.5 miles to Old Seaside School, now a private residence. Turn right through a green pipe gate and follow this dirt road 1.5 miles to the main camp, a meadow with picnic tables set on it and a creek running through it. You may camp anywhere in the meadows on the near side of the creek beyond the cattle guard. From the San Francisco Bay area, take Hwy 1 or Hwy 92 to Half Moon Bay, then go south on Hwy 1 toward Santa Cruz approximately 30 miles, past Big Creek Lumber Company and turn **sharply** left onto Swanton Road 0.3 miles south of the sawmill. Proceed on Swanton Road 2.5 miles to Old Seaside School. Turn left through the green pipe gate. Watch for our pink signs. Camp will be open from Friday AM through Sunday noon. Contestants coming from great distances (7 hours driving time or more) may arrive as early as Thursday evening but please call in advance to make arrangements (the gate at Old Seaside School will be locked until Friday AM).

To Contact Ride & Tie Management: Ellen Rinde
206 Swanton View Road
Davenport, CA 95017
831-423-6089 (evenings)