National Pony Express Association - Wyoming

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Pony Express Annual Re-Ride Gallops Through Wyoming June 16 - 18

Pollock Pines, CA – May 20, 2025 — The thunder of hooves and the spirit of the Old West return once again as the National Pony Express Association (NPEA) commemorates the legendary mail service with its **Annual Re-Ride** across eight states. This year's thrilling cross-country relay begins in California and culminates in Missouri, tracing the original Pony Express route.

The **Wyoming Division** proudly continues this historic tradition, with the **handoff from the Utah Division scheduled for Monday, June 16, 2025, at Barker Ranch**, near the Wyoming/Utah border. From there, riders will travel day and night to carry the mochila across Wyoming's vast and varied terrain, offering the public a unique opportunity to witness living history in motion.

Wyoming Route Highlights:

 Barker Ranch (Handoff From Utah Division) Monday, June 16 | Approx. 6:30 AM MDT Utah riders ceremonially pass the mochila to the Wyoming Division, continuing the journey toward St. Joseph, Missouri.

• Fort Bridger

Monday, June 16 | Approx. 11:30 PM MDT

The mochila arrives at this iconic frontier outpost, once a crucial stop for pioneers and Pony Express riders alike. Visitors are welcome to watch the exchange and explore the fort's historic grounds.

Farson @ Hwy 191 & 28
Monday, June 16 | Approx. 7:00 PM MDT
A high desert stop where the beauty of the Wyoming Range frames the modern trail ride.

• Atlantic City

Tuesday, June 17 | *Approx. 12:30 AM MDT* This former mining town offers a window into the rugged life of early settlers and Pony Express riders.

• Martin's Cove Road & West Oregon Trail

Tuesday, June 17 | *Approx. 11:20 AM MDT* A sacred site for many, this area played a pivotal role in pioneer history. Riders pause briefly here before continuing their journey.

• Fort Casper

Tuesday, June 17 | *Approx. 6:45 PM MDT* A public gathering is planned as the mochila passes through this historic military post. Fort tours and educational events will be available.

• National Historic Trails Interpretive Center (Casper) *Tuesday, June 17* | *Approx. 7:10 PM MDT* The center will host demonstrations, exhibits, and family-friendly programming to coincide with the mochila's arrival.

• Register Cliff

Wednesday, June 18 | *Approx. 8:00 AM MDT* Another emigrant landmark carved with thousands of names — a tangible connection to America's pioneer heritage.

• Fort Laramie

Wednesday, June 18 | Approx. 9:45 AM MDT

The mochila reaches this well-preserved military fort, a hub of 19th-century frontier life. A public ceremony will mark this key transition point.

Lyman, Nebraska

Wednesday, June 18 | Approx. 2:30 PM MDT

The Wyoming Division proudly hands the mochila to the **Nebraska Division** at Lyman on **June 19**, continuing the journey eastward toward St. Joseph, Missouri.

Ride Details and Public Participation

The 2025 Pony Express Re-Ride spans nearly 2,000 miles in 10 days, with riders traveling 24 hours a day in 1- to 2-mile segments. Each rider carries the mochila — filled with approx 1299 commemorative letters — and follows many of the original trail's ruts and relics.

About the National Pony Express Association (NPEA):

The **NPEA** is a nonprofit, volunteer-led organization dedicated to preserving the history and legacy of the Pony Express. Through education, reenactments, and community events, the NPEA keeps the spirit of the Old West alive for generations to come.

About the Pony Express Annual Re-Ride

The **Annual Re-Ride** is a living history event that celebrates the legacy of the **Pony Express**, which operated from **April 1860 to October 1861**. Though short-lived, the service became legendary for its daring riders, rugged terrain, and commitment to fast mail delivery across a developing nation. Spanning over **1,800 miles** across **eight states**, the **Pony Express Re-Ride** is a 24/7 non-stop relay involving hundreds of riders and horses. Commemorative letters are carried in a mochila, just as they were over 160 years ago. The re-ride is both a living history experience and a logistical achievement, preserving the spirit of the original Pony Express.

"This event bridges generations and geography," said Petra Keller, Corresponding Secretary, National Pony Express Association. "We ride to honor those fearless messengers of the past and to keep their memory alive for future generations."

Public Welcome!

Spectators are encouraged to attend the mochila exchanges, meet the riders, take photos, and engage with local Pony Express volunteers at each major stop. Forts and interpretive centers along the route will offer special programs and trail information.

Follow the ride live via GPS tracking at <u>https://nationalponyexpress.org/re-ride/follow-the-ride/</u>. Spectators are welcome at various handoff points and historical landmarks.

MEDIA CONTACT:

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