



Midwestern 4 wheel er

Responsible use of Public Lands through Conservation, Education, and Safety

Winter 2010 Edition

Official publication of the Midwest 4 Wheel Drive Association



Note from the Editor:

Hello everyone!

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! I have been off work for almost 6 weeks I figured I better get this out before things get to crazy around here. I am looking for a little help! I need someone from each active state to write something for the Midwesterner 4 times a year! It doesn't need to be spectacular just something about what has been going on in your state. Generally about wheeling however Tim Krueger from WI has done an article for us on the Emerald Ash Borer. Things that effect wheeling, places to wheel in your state, things to look out for, invasive species, all of these things effect us in one way or another! **Please we need volunteers!!!** Don't forget Spring Convention dates were moved to April 23—25, 2010! See you all in the Spring!



Sincerely,
Dawn Krueger

In This issue

Editors Letter	1
MW4WDA Board	1
Presidents Corner & Tidbits from the Board	2
Meeting Minutes	3
National	5 & 6
ARRA News	7 & 8
Spring Convention	9
MW4WDA Merchandise	10

Wheel Drive Association Board

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1st Vice President
Butch Chapin
2nd Vice President
Matt McVicker
Secretary
Dawn Krueger
Treasurer
Kert Peterson
Newsletter Editor
Dawn Krueger
TKrueger5@new.rr.com
(920)420-2348
Webmaster
Tim Krueger

Presidents Corner & Tidbits from the Board

Fellow MW4WDA Members;

I would like to encourage all members of MW4WDA to attend a convention. Before I attended my first meeting, in 2006, I had no idea what these conventions were really about. Since that time I have taken on several positions in both MW4WDA. Volunteering for a position with

these organizations is not very difficult.

The majority of what the leaders of these organizations do is the weekend of the conventions and maybe a few hours between conventions.

As an example, I am the secretary, newsletter editor and forum administrator for MW4WDA. Other than the two weekends, one in April and one in October, I work on MW4WDA stuff maybe 20 hours a year. This includes the time I put in working on the newsletter, for which I often write articles. How about writing an article? It doesn't have to be anything major. A review of somewhere you wheeled, an article about a vehicle, or a person that does a lot for your club or other 4 wheel drive organization.

Designing flyers for convention, typing up my meeting minutes, and preparing agendas etc for the upcoming meeting. The forum pretty much runs itself and I check in on it at least two or three times a week and post things when I have something to say and add things to the calendar as they come up.

I am not asking anyone to take on more than they can handle. Just volunteer to do something.

This is **OUR** organization, get involved and help make it what you want it to be.

Sincerely,

Dawn Krueger
Secretary MW4WDA

What would it take?

By: Dawn Krueger

What would it take to get everyone in MW4WDA, with a computer, on the forums?

The MW4WDA forum is an excellent communication tool. With an organization this size and covering this many states a forum is perfect for staying up to date on

things!

Are you not sure how to sign up? Do you not know how to use forums? Do you need help getting signed up?

This type of medium can be used for important communications between meetings. The calendar contains many events from around the MW and beyond! Please go to www.mw4wda.org click on the forums link and join.

If you need help contact Tim or Dawn Krueger they will be happy to help you!!!!

Apple Valley Farms Off-Road Park

(hosted by Real Performance Machines)

Next events open to the public:

June 19-20, 2010

July 24-25, 2010

Just a reminder that the first event this year at Apple Valley Farms

Off-Road park is only a month away! Go ahead and sign up now to

save \$10

per wheeling vehicle. Campers and RV's are welcome, and if you'd

like to

get a hotel 6 miles away, click here: [http://](http://www.chetek.com/motels.htm)

www.chetek.com/motels.htm.

For more event information or to sign up, visit our website at

<http://www.rpm4x4.com>.

See you there!

Amanda Holder

Real Performance Machines

<http://www.rpm4x4.com>

Help Wanted!!!!

1 or more persons from Wisconsin, 1 or more persons from Minnesota, 1 or persons from Iowa, and 1 or more persons from Nebraska, to write articles pertaining to your state for the newsletter! Could also write articles on places you have wheeled in other states etc. Activities your clubs have been involved with etc....

Please we need help to build a worthwhile newsletter that promotes communication between the states of the MW4WDA! Contact Dawn Krueger if you are interested!

TKrueger5@new.rr.com or (920)420-2348

Thank you!!!!!!

Meeting Minutes Delegates Meeting October 18, 2009

President Mark White called the meeting to order at 9:10am.

Mark read the MW4WDA Statement.

A SEVEN STATE ORGANIZATION MOVING FORWARD IN THE INTERESTS OF RESPONSIBLE FOUR-WHEEL DRIVING... WITH THE PLEDGE TO SUPPORT THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE MW4WDA, IN THE PROTECTION...RESPECT... AND THE ENJOYMENT OF OUR PUBLIC DOMAIN LANDS AND TOWARDS THE BETTERMENT OF OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLE RECREATION....

There were 0 guests present at the meeting.
15 Clubs were present

Secretary's Report: Dawn handed out the secretary's report Orlin Clark made a motion to accept the secretary's report seconded by Randy Hays.

Treasurers Report: Kert handed out the 2nd & 3rd quarter treasurer's report for 2009. A motion was made by Orlin Clark to accept the treasurer's reports and was seconded by Mike Hannis, a vote was taken and the treasurer's report was accepted.

Iowa – www.IA4WDA.org

Not much happening, IA4WDA is still struggling with leadership issues. New Iowa DNR is more user friendly.

Minnesota- www.mn4wda.com

Orlin asked about improvements at Gilbert. He was wondering if new trails had opened on newly acquired land.

Nebraska- no one here.

Wisconsin- www.w4wda.org

Potential for sticker program is getting to be more of a reality. W4WDA and WOHVA have started working together by joining forces by becoming supporting organizations of each other. State is working on acquiring a large chunk of land for MSRA. 3rd seat on STC belongs to 4 Wheel drive. Luana is asking for the support of MW4WDA while we are working on these issues. Training program for motorized vehicles on developing trails. Looking for expert in developing trails that actually uses the trails!

MOD went well – raised \$17,000 for MOD. Luana has water proof first aid kits for \$15.00.

Membership – 538 members, up from 467 last year.

Safety (Matt) – Matt will digitize the rules camping / racing trails and will get it to Tim to put on website. Butch and Matt are working on a form for questions on insurance.

Insurance (Butch) – is calling Merwin to see about getting him here for next meeting. Orlin commented on money saved by using MW insurance for club events versus getting it on your own. CMA works with Merwin also and his club paid \$200.00 less by using MW.

Website – www.mw4wda.org – Making some changes.

Newsletter – Dawn had nothing to report.

Tread lightly- used to be members. Matt is going to reach out to them. Orlin Clark made a motion that we reinstate our membership in Tread Lightly Joe Heckman seconded that motion and the motion carried.

UFWDA – www.ufwda.org

Dues structure has again been changed. \$100.00 for club or organization then \$15.00 per member. Decision to join back in April has been put on hold pending issues that are hopefully being dealt with. Trying to build an Industry Council. Newsletter is on internet only. Membership person left and things are a mess. Trish Groom is trying to straighten things out.

Old Business

Nominations

Membership – Randy Hays

1st Vice President – Butch Chapin

Treasurer – Kert Peterson

Orlin Clark made a motion to close nominations and cast white ballot for all of the above motion was seconded by Arnold Miller. Motion carried.

New Business

Castana – Good Times is planning to start advertising for Castana 2010. July 3–5, 2010.

Spring 2010 – April 23-25, 2009 – Black River Falls – Best Western Arrowhead Lodge and Suites

Orlin Clark made a motion was made to adjourn the meeting and **Tim Krueger** seconded.

President Mark White adjourned the meeting at 10:25am.

Respectfully Submitted by: Dawn Krueger

Coming Soon!

Date and Time

Event

Location

Contact

Other Info

Highlighted events are not confirmed

March 27	TORC Races	Las Vegas Motor Speedway	Tom Delikat
April 17 –18	TORC Races	Perris Auto Speedway	Tom Delikat
April 16-18	WOHVA Annual Meeting and Workshops	Mole Lake	Chris Hannis
April 23 –25	MW4WDA Spring Convention	Black River Falls	Mark White
April 24	W4WDA Spring Meeting	Black River Falls	Chris Hannis
May 1—2	W4WDA Spring Fling	TBD	
May 15—16	TORC Races	Las Vegas Motor Speedway	Tom Delikat
May 29—30	TORC Races	Texas Motor Speedway	Tom Delikat
June 19—20	TORC Races	Crandon International Speedway	Tom Delikat
July 2—5	MW4WDA Annual 4th of July Event	Castana	
July 10	TORC Races	TBA	Tom Delikat
July 17—18	TORC Races	Bark River International Raceway	Tom Delikat
August 14 –15	TORC Races	Bark River International Raceway	Tom Delikat
September 4 –5	TORC Races	41st Annual Brushrun Crandon	Tom Delikat
October 1 –3	4 Wheelin with Feelin for the March of Dimes	TBD	Luana Schneider
October 15—17	MW4WDA Fall Convention	TBD	Mark White
October 16	W4WDA Fall Meeting	TBD	Chris Hannis

NATIONAL

AGAWA CANYON Trailride June 17-20, 2010

Location: Goulias River, Ontario

Itinerary: We will leave Traverse City, Michigan @ approx 10:00 am on Thursday, June 17th. Travel distance is 198 miles with a total time of 4 hours. However the REAL plan would include a stop off for gas in the U.S. first because gas in Canada is a bit more pricey than the U.S. We will then stop for groceries in Sault Saint Marie, Ontario at the Krogers which is on Hwy 17 as you head north out of town. Fresh fruit, meat and even dog food is NOT allowed to be brought over from the U.S. Only a moderate amount of beer or wine is also allowed. Note also that beer, wine, and liquor is ONLY able to be purchased at the 'Beer Store'. You will find a 'Beer Store' across the street from Kroger on the south side. The parking lot @ Kroger is also large enough to fit those towing vehicles. From there we will continue north along Hwy 17 to the campground. There will be some awe inspiring views on this road as you go north. You are headed into Algoma Country and Agawa Canyon. This stretch of road all the way up to Wawa past the Montreal River, 165 miles was one of the most difficult portions of the highway to be built and was only opened in 1960. The Trans-Continental Hwy 17 that runs from Halifax,

Nova Scotia to Vancouver, British Columbia, 4861 miles long with the approx halfway point located near Chippewa Falls. Once you weave in and out of the rock formations which the road was cut through only 30 or so years ago, you will come around a bend. You are now heading down an 11% grade hill known as 'Mile Long Hill'. Be careful as speeds at the bottom of the hill left unchecked can approach dangerous levels. You will now be on Moose Flats. Notice the numerous skid marks all along the hill. There are from Truck-Moose collisions. Be careful as these collisions can occur during the day as well as night time. The campground will be another 1/2 mile or so on the right side once you hit the flatlands of Moose Flats. Also be careful on this road as Canada's economy in this area depends on logging. Log truck will be numerous and DANGEROUS. Yield to them at all times, especially when on the back trails. They will also run the paved roads as if they are the only ones on them. Be careful as many can not stop, or don't care to at times.

Things to know before you go: Since June 1, 2009, either a Passport, Passport Card, or Enhanced Drivers License is required for cross border travel.

Cross Border Travel info: <www.cbp.gov> Near the bottom of the page is a 'Border Crossing Requirements'. Click that and it will give you all the info you need.

Camping and Hotel info: We will be camping @ Blueberry Hill Motel and Campground.

Website: <www.onblueberryhill.com>

This campground is situated 1/4 mile off Highway 17 (aka Great Northern Road) and is nestled in VERY mature tall pines. There are 80 campsites there with both 15A, 30A, and 50A service. Blueberry also has 10 motel rooms available. There is also an indoor pool and sauna. Restroom and shower facilities are very modern and up to date. (and ALWAYS clean!)

Great Lakes 4WD Assn has held it's Gitchee Gumee event here for a number of years and is the most outstanding campground facility anywhere in the area. Camping rates are currently \$28.00 Canadian for water and electricity (slightly higher for 30 and 50A sites) which is approx \$26.00 U.S. at this time.

Vehicle requirements: We will confine ourselves to trails that 31"-33" tall tired vehicles can navigate. Vehicles will be required to have appropriate recovery points front and rear.

Trail Riding in Canada: Canadian Bush is a different type of wheeling. More so than anyone understands unless you've been there. For one, cell phone service is nearly non-existent. CB's are as useless as they always are. Ham radio is literally the only means of communication

with the outside world. Once you leave the main road, there is no town or civilization that you are eventually going to reach. All trails into the Canadian Bush do just that, head back in. In 99 times out of 100, you will end up coming back out the way you went in.

Very few trails will make loops. For every hour trailriding into the bush, it will take 1 day to walk out. Therefore, breakdowns in the bush can be nearly life threatening. This is not meant to scare anyone but to make you appreciate the gravity of wheeling here. Those requiring

special medication should always carry additional days supply. Also, an extra change of clothes is required as is sufficient food and water for potentially additional nights spent out on the trail. This has been the case many times before with the most famous being in 1999 where a group left on a 'stock' run Saturday morning and didn't return for 3 days. This run affectionately became known as 'Three Days and Two nights in the Canadian Bush' and the trail is now infamously known as Trail 17. It now has the ability to swallow 42" tall tired vehicles without batting an eye.

Trailrides: Rides will leave approx 9:00 am each day from the campground and return home around 6:00 ish. Pack your own lunch for the trail each day. We will have rides on both Friday and Saturday with Sunday being an optional day depending on interest.

Trail Riding destinations: We will going to some of the following notable destinations on our ride.

Tribag Mine: The abandoned mine is a copper mine was productively run in the 1960's and closed down in the 70's. It contains a vertical mine shaft which is filled with water a hundred or so feet deep and is a spectacular color of cobalt blue from the copper. Numerous

core drills a scattered about the site which still contain copper.

This site is also the site of a Geocache for those of you so inclined to participate and sign the logbook.

Griffin Lake Peak Lookout (aka Batchawana Mountain): This mountain although only 2100 or so feet is the 3rd tallest in Ontario but is the tallest one you can drive to. The other two taller ones are in wilderness preserves and only hiking is allowed there. Griffin Lake has 270* of view from the mountain top overlooking Griffin Lake. In the fall the view is spectacular, but it's not all that bad in the summer either. We will pick the better of the two days to take this ride as the view is too awesome to miss if it's cloudy.

Havaland Bay overlook: This is a short ride overlooking Havaland Bay along Hwy 17. It has numerous locations along the route to test your rock climbing skills if so inclined.

Chippewa Falls/Batchawana Falls/Whitman Dam Falls: Most of these will not be an 'only destination' ride but rather we will stop along the way to take in the sites. Right now I'm only planning on one group unless the demand is greater and then I'll adjust accordingly. There are numerous more difficult trails there and an VERY challenging off road park called Tressle Trail that I will give directions to if there is enough interest.

UNITED REPORT For W4WDA & MW4WDA

January 16, 2010

By Luana Schneider

United member organization dues this year are \$100. Any individual joining through a member organization will pay \$15.00. If individual joining directly to United the dues will be \$20.00

Carla is still on board with United, but not on a retainer. United cannot currently afford this. Also Carla has had some significant personal issues in 2009 that has curtailed her involvement significantly. 2010 should hopefully be a much improved year for her!!

There have been several conference calls amongst the delegates that attended the Annual General (United) Meeting (AGM) in May. One of the objectives was to make for sure a legal issue got resolved and that has occurred. Another objective was to find volunteers to submit an application for the unfilled officer positions. This has resulted in Jim Mazzola applying for the Public Relations position and Bob DeVoe applying for the Treasurer position—both of these folks have been appointed until the elections at the June AGM meeting. However, since

then the Environmental Affairs officer submitted a resignation with an effective date of December 31, 2009 (as of January 18, the Vice President also resigned). There is a search going out looking for folks to apply for these positions for appointment until elections in June.

NATIONAL

The President, Wayne Groom, is currently forming a Nominating Committee for the elections in June—anyone interested in applying to be on that committee should contact Wayne Groom. Also, Wayne Groom will not be seeking another term. The 2010 AGM will be held in Traverse City, Michigan, June 15 & 16 with trailrides either before and/or after the meetings. Do not have any further details on this at this point in time. A good way to keep up with the most current info on this is to go to United's Forum under 2010 AGM.. United now has a liability/event insurance available with a major incentive to member organizations that have their entire membership a member of United. W4WDA has a membership effective date of April 1. Therefore, they should be receiving a billing probably in March. W4WDA has voted to join United and I encourage anyone who is not a member of United through their individual club, to join United through W4WDA and get those dues into Mary Hoerke ASAP so she can have records set up and ready before April 1! Mary will not only need your address, phone number/s, etc. but also your e-mail address. I have also reported to MW4WDA that the legal issues I was concerned with have been resolved so they should proceed and pay the organization dues to United.

Rumbling of Thunder

A Whole New Sound in the Off-road World

By Del & Stacie Albright, Blue Ribbon Coalition

The over-paid, seldom-right weather man spoke with such animation and excitement that you couldn't help but get taken in by his rambling analysis of the on-coming weather pattern (from outer space). But he had me from hello when he mentioned the "rumbling of thunder" and how we would be hearing it for some time to come. I realized at that moment he had just described the new sound I've been hearing in the off-road skies – **thunder!**

Thunder is the sound made by lightning, ranging from a sharp loud crack, to a long, low rumble. I don't think there is any one reason for this "storm," but rather a culmination of people getting fed up with unnecessary closures and restrictions. Can you see the lightning and hear the thunder?

Lightning causes changes in pressure and temperature of the air which results in a sonic shock wave we like to call the clap or peal of thunder.

I now can say I hear the rumbling of thunder in our off-road, OHV politics, and it's coming from us! Lightning is striking and about to strike more!

"Rumbling" is an interesting word, oft times used to describe the noise

your stomach makes when you're hungry or after a good Mexican food dinner. But for me, this weather man unraveled a riddle that's been bugging me. When he said the rumbling of thunder, he described the new surge in land use and access involvement by recreationists across the country – and we're bringing the lightning with us! Our "noise" level, while diminishing in our machines, is logarithmically increasing in our voices and outcries. We've had enough of special-interest, anti-access folks trying to shut us out of our lands and waterways. We're "mad as hell" at unnecessary closures and restrictions to our sports. We're done sitting by and letting someone else preserve our recreation. More of us are in the game than ever before. The rumble grows by the day. This new rumbling of thunder includes folks flying the American flag more; it includes recreationists with tea bags; it includes parents teaching kids the "right" way to do things in America and not necessarily some misshapen public schools concept of "pc." And it includes tons of new members joining organizations, clubs and groups fighting for our freedoms and access. The rumble grows. I say, let our RUMBLE be heard loud and clear, from every corner of America to every office building in Washington, D.C. Let our message be clear – coming with the rumble is the LIGHTNING. With pens, shovels, our voices and our votes, we are going to unleash the beast of sound – the rumble of our power as responsible recreationists who are tired of being ignored and put down. Some national websites to start with include: BlueRibbon Coalition: <http://www.sharetrails.org> The Access Army: <http://www.accessarmy.com> Americans for Responsible Recreational Access: <http://www.arraaccess.org> Off Road Business Association: <http://www.orba.biz> Save My Trails: <http://www.savemytrails.com> National OHV Conservation Council: <http://www.nohvcc.org> MuirNet: <http://www.muirnet.net> Tread Lightly! : <http://www.treadlightly.org> **Get in the game. Join, renew or extend your memberships in off-road/OHV friendly organizations. Donate to good off-road/OHV causes. And let your voice join in with the choir – the rumble of thunder.**

Ma & Pa Rocker's

Most dates are still available!
Call today to set up your weekend!

8241 S. Anderson Road
Nebagamon, WI 54849
1-715-374-3671
munchkinsis2001@yahoo.com



2nd Annual Pa Rocker Memorial
Labor Day Weekend
First weekend in September

ARRA News

ARRA News

In October 2009, the Consumer Product Safety Commission issued an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) to develop federally-

mandated rules for Recreational Off-Highway Vehicles (ROVs) or as they are often called, side-by-sides. The proposed mandatory standards would require **fundamental changes** to ROVs, putting **Washington, DC regulators at CPSC** in charge of future ROV designs

regardless of what you and other consumers want and need for the vehicles.

CPSC is pursuing these federal mandatory standards despite the fact that the industry trade association, the Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association, has nearly completed an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) process to develop an American National Standard (ANS) for ROVs. Components of the standard include protective

gear requirements, a certified roll-over protective structure, a minimum of three point seatbelts for each seating position, and multiple lateral stability criteria.

The ANS is being developed through an established standards development

process governed by ANSI. Under the ANSI procedures, a variety of interests including CPSC and other government representatives,

industry, consumers and others reach a consensus on an appropriate ANSI standard for ROV equipment, configuration and performance requirements. Much effort has been expended working with CPSC and others to develop this standard. Now is not the time to abort the process in favor of government-mandated standards that would fundamentally alter ROVs as we know them.

To provide comments encouraging CPSC to work with ROHVA to complete the voluntary standard and to promote the ROV Safety Rules. [https://secure3.convio.net/arra/site/Advocacy?](https://secure3.convio.net/arra/site/Advocacy?pagename=homepage&page=UserAction&id=203&autologin=true&JServSessionIdr004=b9d0mps4z1.app331a)

[pagename=homepage&page=UserAction&id=203&autologin=true&JServSessionIdr004=b9d0mps4z1.app331a](https://secure3.convio.net/arra/site/Advocacy?pagename=homepage&page=UserAction&id=203&autologin=true&JServSessionIdr004=b9d0mps4z1.app331a)

Have you or your club invested valuable time constructing trails and trailheads or has a local trail been improved? Do you know of a trail that provides outstanding accessibility for those with disabilities, or enhanced a trail experience through educational outreach like encouraging

safe and responsible practices? If so, and Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funding was utilized, you have the opportunity to nominate your trail for an annual award presented by the Coalition For Recreational Trails (CRT). http://www.arra-access.com/site/PageServer?pagename=arra_nominate_trail_2010

Washington Newsletter

March 2010

Monumental Problem!

A couple of weeks ago, word leaked out about a secret, internal study, ordered by U.S. Secretary of the Interior Salazar, on potential areas that could be declared National Monuments under the Antiquities Act. An Interior Department spokesperson described the list of 17 hot spots as something that came out of a brainstorming session held at the department.

What a session! Under the Antiquities Act, Mr. Obama could make such a declaration with the simple stroke of his Presidential pen. Negative reaction on the part of western members of Congress has been swift. Many remembered the creation of eight new National Monuments and the expansion of one existing Monument area, encompassing

more than 1.1 million acres, during the closing days of the Clinton Administration. These designations came much to the surprise of many local citizens living in or adjacent to the designated areas. Secretary Salazar has sought to reassure Governors and legislators from the 17 targeted areas that no decisions would be made by the Obama Administration without first seeking local input. This response is reassuring, but we also know from sources within the Department,

that once the list saw the light of day, sheer panic reigned in the Department as political appointees worked to come up with an explanation for the report. Damage control was priority number one because of the potential political fallout in the west.

4

Fortunately, the news of this plan became publicly known before the Secretary was able to send his recommendations to the President. Since this disclosure, legislation has been introduced in the Congress that would exempt certain states from the Antiquities Act: Utah, Montana,

Alaska, Colorado, Nevada and California. This exemption would not become effective until Congress passes the appropriate legislation, so the threat remains. Wyoming is currently the only western state to have this exempt status. For a few days in February, the Interior Department

had a monumental problem once they realized their secret document was public. In a democracy, a little sunlight has a way of cleansing the process as well as motivating those who care. The revelation of the Interior Department document has accomplished both.

The Department is now treading a bit more carefully and more Americans

are now aware that monument designations can happen with the simple application of some Presidential ink on a piece of paper. If you would like to read about the 17 areas identified in the now famous Interior Department brainstorming session, check it out here:

http://www.arra-access.com/site/DocServer/Prospective_National_Monument_Designations.pdf?docID=201

Forest Service Planning Rule

The Forest Service is planning to launch a series of roundtable discussions

in many parts of the country on a new planning rule it hopes to develop for the management of our national forests. This is an important

undertaking, especially since previous efforts over the last twentyfive years have not been all that successful, primarily due to litigation.

The Forest Service is hosting these sessions in order to "facilitate public participation, dialogue, and action collaboration." The ARRA website will provide you with detailed information on where and when these roundtable discussions will be held. To the degree that you and your friends can participate and share your views about how our national

forests should be managed, your efforts would be extremely helpful. This is especially true since the Notice of Intent announcing this undertaking barely mentioned the concept of recreation on Forest Service land. We find this a very serious oversight on the part of the agency. So, from a process standpoint, we are very pleased the agency is providing these roundtable sessions. This is something that ARRA specifically requested when we submitted our comments during the scoping process. But from a subject matter, recreation interests, and specifically motorized recreation interests, need to be very proactive throughout this process. One new issue that deserves your attention is that for the first time ever, the Forest Service is directing its land managers

to manage on the basis of climate change issues. This is a rather nebulous issue since the science surrounding the topic of global climate

change is very hotly debated. During the last few months, we have seen charges and countercharges over the validity of some of the so-called scientific studies about climate change. Until the controversy can be cleared up (the United Nations has formed a special committee to review the charges that some of the scientific studies weren't all that scientific), it seems premature to throw this requirement into the Forest Service management process. Over the next twenty months, this planning

process will be a topic we will be covering, so please keep referring to the ARRA website for the latest information: http://www.arraaccess.com/site/PageServer?pagename=arra_new_land_mgmt_rule

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ARRA

Enforcement Legislation

We readily admit that enforcement legislation is not a popular subject with some people, but ARRA has long believed that a key component to retaining access to public lands is greater law enforcement. That is why we have consistently supported a revision of our enforcement laws including stiffer fines and penalties for those who do not take good care of the lands owned by all Americans. We are very pleased that Rep. Salazar (D. Colo.) and Senator Mark Udall (D. Colo.) have introduced companion pieces of legislation in the House and the Senate,

H.R. 4589 and S. 2999, which would impose stiff penalties on those who are found guilty of damaging federal lands. We have worked closely with both of these offices on this issue and will continue

to work for its passage in the Congress. In previous years, this legislation passed the House of Representatives, but the Senate failed to take similar action.

The Bush Administration supported this legislation and we are hopeful that the Obama Administration will do the same. If you would like to learn more about this legislation, please see the Enforcement Legislation

Fact Sheet. Also, please contact your elected officials and encourage them to support H.R. 4589 and S. 2999. Our future access to public lands is dependent upon enhanced law enforcement.

Enforcement Legislation Fact Sheet

Save Access; Help Stop Illegal Riding
Support Fair Enforcement Legislation!

From consideration of proposed Wilderness Areas to House and Senate

hearings on OHV use, to the House National Parks, Forests and Public Lands Subcommittee Chairman's request for a Government Accountability Office study on OHV use on public lands, it is obvious that there is an ongoing push to have Congress address motorized recreation. Anti-access representatives are making the case daily that illegal/unauthorized riding is destroying public lands and that closures are the only answer. We know that the vast majority of riders are law abiding and stay on trail; however, the few who show disregard for public lands and for the future of responsible access are having undue influence on our opportunities to ride. Its time we took back our sport. Please support H.R. 4589 and S. 2999. These bills will make fines and penalties consistent across federal land management agencies

and provide substantial penalties for the most egregious offenders. Those who knowingly abuse our public lands are responsible for taking

away access from responsible riders and it is right that they face real consequences for their inappropriate actions. It is also important that the OHV community work to "control our own destiny," because if we don't act, it is only a matter of time before anti-access representatives

surely will. H.R. 4589 and S. 2999 give us an opportunity to be out front. The following are talking points on how the legislation is beneficial to OHVs. Please use them to let your friends and fellow riders know why it is important to support this legislation.

Talking Points:

Other potential bills (including specific measures that have been discussed

in the past) unfairly target OHVs. This legislation creates a level playing field for all who use public lands as anyone who harms our public lands, regardless of why they are there will face the same penalties. National motorized recreation groups support the legislation, including: ARRA, American Council of Snowmobile Associations, American Motorcyclist Association, Motorcycle Industry Council, National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council, Off-Road Business

Association, Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association, Specialty Vehicle Institute of America, Tread Lightly! and United Four Wheel Drive Associations. While we know that the overwhelming

majority of OHVs ride responsibly, there are innumerable examples of anti-access organizations flashing photos/videos/news accounts of the worst offenders on ATVs, dirt bikes and 4x4s as examples in efforts to close legal riding areas. Those same groups also lump responsible OHVs with the worst offenders and accuse us of talking tough but not following through. Without stiff penalties and the resultant

deterrent effect, the few "bad apples" will continue to help close additional riding areas by acting irresponsibly. Consistent penalties across public lands agencies ensure that all recreationists know the consequences of their actions. As it stands, the penalties are inconsistent

and ill-defined. In some areas, particularly in the west, it is easy to transition from Forest Service land to BLM land and not even know it. With consistent penalties, riders will always know what the penalties are regardless of which agency oversees the lands they are riding on. Those who face a Class A misdemeanor would be guaranteed

a jury trial, adding a layer of protection against overzealous judges, or other officials. It's the right thing to do. The worst penalties are reserved for those who "knowingly" harm our public lands (threatening our legitimate access in the process). Those who knowingly

go to illegal areas, and knowingly cause damage to sensitive areas should face stiff consequences. It is important to remember that those who currently ride illegally already face penalties under existing law. The penalties can be vastly different in different areas of the country. This bill would make it clear what penalties those who harm our public lands would face.

Other News

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) continues to be held hostage by the failure of Congress to resolve funding issues relating to federal transportation programs. The House and the Senate remain at loggerheads

in reaching a compromise, so the future of RTP remains up in the air. We will keep you posted as this issue continues to evolve, but we are hoping for a resolution in the very near future. In the meantime, be sure to use the ARRA website to nominate your favorite RTP project

for the 2010 Coalition for Recreational Trails award.

Many of you were probably amused when the Washington area received

upwards of 40 inches of snow in two successive snowstorms in February. We had real gridlock for a while, not the political kind but rather the kind only Mother Nature could deliver. This is a city that becomes paralyzed by the prediction of 2 inches of snow let alone the actual delivery of more than twenty times that amount. One amusing sight was seeing a snowmobile riding around Dupont Circle while a massive snowball fight by hundreds of Washingtonians was going on at the same time. To say the least, we are weary of winter and are looking forward to the arrival of spring later this month.



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Urbandale, IA 50322

515-710-5799

Central Iowa 4 Wheelers

If you have any questions, please call (515) 710-5799



MW4WDA
C/O Dawn Krueger, Editor
2329 Minerva St.
Oshkosh, WI 54901-1720
Winter 2010

NEWSLETTER STATS

The MW4WDA Newsletter is sent out quarterly to the nearly 600 members of the association. Deadlines for articles are as follows: **Feb 20th, May 20th, August 20th and November 20th**. E-mail newsletter submissions to TKrueger5@new.rr.com.