



UNITED FOUR WHEEL DRIVE ASSOCIATIONS INC.
AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION
www.ufwda.org

UFWDA e-News October 2009

UFWDA is continually working to improve the benefits that go with membership. Earlier this year we reduced the annual membership rate down to \$15 for those members who joined through an affiliated organization or \$20 for individual membership, either by mail or through our 'online' process.

We have been working with B F Goodrich (BFG) for several years now, where UFWDA identifies candidates for the successful Outstanding Trails program, that provides cash grants and recognition to groups who help maintain those iconic trails.
www.bfgoodrichtires.com/bfgapp/news/press_release/08112009.jsp

Work behind the scenes has been going on for quite a while on another valuable benefit... an insurance scheme for UFWDA affiliated organizations in the USA.. The basis is a 'public liability' policy for covering 4x4 activities run by clubs and associations.

The proposed insurance will involve filing paperwork identifying the activity and its risks, which will then be assessed by the insurers and a price for the cover advised.

In some countries like Australia and New Zealand, an annual fee is negotiated by the national organization and divided up among the members, typically about \$8 per member. Events are still notified, but only if risks are seen as unusual, will an additional fee be required. UFWDA would be interested to know its members preference ... an overall levy or each event paying?
Use the UFWDA forum to tell us
www.ufwda.org/smf/index.php

Peter Vahry
international vice-president

Headlines

- **Mt. Hood National Forest OHV TMP**
- **Keep Congress from closing more than 9 million acres in Utah**
- **Australian News**
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- **Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest MVUM**
- **EXPERIENCE AFRICA Newsletter**
- **Does FSR371 exist?**
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Mt. Hood National Forest OHV Travel Management Plan

The Forest Service (FS) is asking for your input during a 60-day public review and comment period, which will end on **October 28, 2009**. Located in northwest Oregon, the Mt. Hood National Forest is proposing to designate a system of roads, trails, and areas for off-highway vehicle by class of OHV

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and time of year. By designating a system for OHV use, the Forest would comply with 36 CFR Parts 212, 251, 261, and 295 -Travel Management; Designated Routes and Areas for Motor Vehicle Use; Final Rule [Federal Register Vol. 70, No. 216 (2005)]. After the Record of Decision is signed for this project, the Final Travel Management Rule would require all OHVs to remain on these designated routes and area, and no OHV cross-county travel would be pennitted. Four alternatives are considered: No Action Alternative, Proposed Action, and two action alternatives (Alternatives 3 and 4).

As directed by the National Environmental Policy Act (1969), the Forest Service is now seeking comments from individuals, organizations, local and state governments, and other federal agencies that may be interested in or affected by this project. Mt. Hood National Forest is providing a 60~day public comment period for this DEIS, commencing on the date that legal notice is published in the Federal Register on approximately August 28,2009. Written comments must be received by October 28, 2009. Comments will be accepted via mail, fax and einail at the following address.

The public may review the DEIS, along with associated maps and appendices, by going to the Forest's website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood/projects/>. Limited hard copies of the document are available by contacting Jennie O'Connor Card.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment will be considered part of the public record on the proposed action and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments may not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Part 215.

Send written comments to:

Jennie O'Connor Card, Off-highway Vehicle EIS
Hood River Ranger District
6780 Highway 35
Mount Hood-Parkdale, OR 97041

You may also hand-deliver your comments to the above address during normal business hours from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays. Phone: (541) 352-6002 ext 634

Email comments to:

comments-pacificnorthwest-mthood@fs.fed.us

Please put "**Mt. Hood Travel Management DEIS**" in the subject line of e-mail comments. Acceptable formats are email message, MS Word (.doc), plain text (.txt), or rich text format (.rtf). Comments should include your name and address.

Fax comments to: (541) 352-7365

Keep Congress from closing more than 9 million acres in Utah

The Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands of the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources held a [hearing](#) on October 1 to consider [H.R. 1925](#), America's Red Rock Wilderness Act of 2009. To read AMA's press release on the hearing, click [here](#). **This legislation -- which will ban off-highway vehicle (OHV) access to public lands to those who live and recreate in Utah -- was introduced by New York Representative Maurice Hinchey.** To read his press release on H.R. 1925, click [here](#).

[Please contact your Representative right away and urge them to oppose H.R. 1925.](#)

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Australian News

Delegates from all state & territories met in Darwin on 11th & 12th September for subcommittee, general and annual general meetings.

The meetings covered:

- a. Vehicle modification issues with all state governments
- b. National data collection regarding modified vehicles, by website survey
- c. Insurance subcommittee recommendations were approved for contract tenders and national magazine advertising.
- d. Driver Training unit to be broadened to a wider competency based training unit.
- e. Victorian Track Classification scheme is to be adapted to provide a pilot scheme in the ACT.
- f. State reports were made by delegates and activities noted in the minutes.
- g. Casual vacancy for Vice President was filled.
- h. Website upgrade completed.
- i. All ANFWDC operations to be undertaken using our trademark "Four Wheel Drive Australia", now that all associations have adopted the logo and titles.
- j. Approved financial and auditor reports to the AGM.
- k. To commence our marketing policy using national TV outlets, both free and Foxtel.

*Rob Kelly
ANFWDC president*

Colorado's Aspen Daily reports...

Comments in the Aspen Daily by Scott Fitzwilliams, new White River Forest Supervisor.
Go here to read more.

<http://www.aspentimes.com/article/20091004/ASPENWEEKLY/910029983/1078/NONE&parentprofile=1078>

In the White River National Forest, he sees some of the same old battles being fought. For example, conservationists are making a big effort in the Hidden Gems Wilderness Campaign to add 400,000 acres of specially protected lands in Colorado. The majority of those lands, but not all of them, are on the White River. Fitzwilliams would like to redirect that effort into on-the-ground projects, like watershed restoration.

"Making everything Wilderness, or 400,000 acres of Wilderness, I just don't think that's a priority right now,"he said. "The forest is in pretty darn good shape.

"To me, the conservation challenge of the next century is not should we make it Wilderness or not, or should we lease it (for natural gas development) or not, or should this little area be open to ATVs," he said. "The battle is how are we going to collaboratively grow and prosper."

He wants the White River staff and the people in the communities surrounded by the national forest to set their sights on bigger issues, like the health of the national forest and the private lands it borders.

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ONE TANK OF FUEL

Help UFWDA protect your 4x4 access!
Donate the money equivalent of ONE TANK OF FUEL.
FILL OUT THE FORM BELOW AND SEND IN YOUR CONTRIBUTION TODAY!

ONE TANK OF FUEL CAMPAIGN

Name _____

Club/Organization Name _____

Your Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

E-mail address _____

Amount I would like to contribute:

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ other \$ _____

Method of Payment: ☐ Check Enclosed (payable to UFWDA)

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover Card

Credit Card # _____ Exp. _____

Please send contributions to United Four Wheel Drive Associations
 14525 SW Millikan Way #22622, Beaverton, OR 97005-2343
 or call 1-800-44UFWDA (448-3932) for credit card contributions.

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**ENDANGERED
 SPECIES**

Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest MVUM... a WOHVA report

<http://www.ufwda.org/smf/index.php?topic=3045.0>

The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest is currently working on their first revision of the MVUM. The MVUM displays those roads and trails that are available for public motor vehicle use. The MVUM is available on their website at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/cnnf/MVUM>. Hard copies are also available at no charge at Forest Service offices.

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The MVUM is updated annually, with the next update to be available in March of 2010. The Forest Service is currently accepting requests for changes (both additional trails and possible closures) to the MVUM. The comment deadline is November 30th, 2009. Requests need to be extremely specific.

General requests for more or additional trails are of no value. Forest Service Route Numbers and specific map locations must be included along with your requests. Both the Forest Service and WOHVA are available to assist users in obtaining this information.

Currently, the Forest Service has received only a small handful of MVUM change requests. It's disappointing that more Forest users have not come forward with requests for additional roads, trails and routes. Remember, for your favorite routes to be included on the MVUM you have to ask. The world is run by those who get involved.

To be added to the mailing list to receive updates on this Travel Management Project, mail your request to: Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, Travel Management Project Mailing List, 1170 4th Avenue South, Park Falls, WI, 54552.

If you're a current WOHVA member you need do nothing. WOHVA has supplied your information to the Forest Service and requested they add you to both the SOPA and Travel Management Project mailing lists.

Representatives from the U.S. Forest Service will be available at the 6th Annual Wisconsin Off-Highway Vehicle Association OHV Enthusiasts Workshops on April 16th, 17th & 18th, 2010 (<http://www.wohva.com/convention2.html>) to debut the latest version on the MVUM and answer questions about the MVUM process, the Travel Management Rule and others issues of concern to OHV enthusiasts. Be sure to take advantage of this outstanding opportunity.

EXPERIENCE AFRICA Newsletter - OCT 2009

http://ss6.chennells.com//new/en_send_preview_iframe2.aspx?SID=0&SiteID=9324&NewsletterID=484204&EmailID=17067584



Photos by Loftus Viljoen (c) 2009

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The process is simple ... go to www.ufwda.org and look for the 'subscribe' button as in the picture below. Your email information is not shared with any other organizations, it is exclusive to UFWDA.



Does FSR371 exist?

"I submitted a FOIA and the FS reply was "no records." I appealed that in DC and got a letter back from the Deputy Director of the FS. In his writing he confirmed that NEPA needs to be followed in closing this road. But he claims that it's not a Forest Service Road and includes a map (this is FSR371, Emerald Valley). And guess what, the map identifies this road as FSR 371. How is it that people with such lack of attention to detail can hold down a job?"

Dan Wagman

www.ufwda.org/smf/index.php?topic=2716.0

[The FOIA letter](#)

Four Rivers RMP - Preliminary Alternatives Released For Public Comment

The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Four Rivers Field Office, located in southwestern Idaho, is holding a series of public meetings during the month of October. The purpose of these meetings is to introduce the public to the preliminary alternatives for its new Resource Management Plan (RMP) and to solicit comments.

Meeting Schedule

Tuesday, October 20, 2009	6:30-8:00 pm	District Court Room, Payette
Thursday, October 22, 2009	6:30-8:00 pm	Ray Robison Community Hall, Idaho City
Monday, October 26, 2009	6:30-8:00 pm	County Courthouse, Emmett
Thursday, October 29, 2009	6:30-8:00 pm	BLM District Office, Boise

Some of the preliminary alternatives...

Alternative A: No-Action

Required as a baseline against which to compare the effects of the other alternatives

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Alternative B: Emphasize Resource Conservation

Emphasizes protecting natural resource values on BLM land from the potential negative impacts of population growth and increased growth

⇒ Protective measures, for plants and wildlife, to address increasing use of public lands

Alternative C: Accommodate Growing Demand for Public Land Uses

Recognizes population growth as the leading factor for land management decisions in the Four Rivers Planning Area

⇒ Management actions, focused in "core areas" that accommodate population growth (recreation, community expansion, etc.)

Alternative D: Maximize BLM Management Efficiency

Proposes focused, multiple use of "core areas" for efficient and effective management

⇒ Efforts would concentrate on blocks of BLM land where resources could be more effectively managed

For more information, contact Jon Beck, Planning Team Lead, at (208) 384-3305 or by email to jonathan_m_beck@blm.gov.

Hollister Clear Creek Management Area

The BLM is getting ready to release their DEIS for Clear Creek Management area in CA. This area was shut down early last year after the EPA released their finding about Asbestos in the area. We expect the DEIS from the BLM to not be good for 4x4 access. I will keep everyone informed of what is going on with this area, through the UFWDA forum. www.ufwda.org/smf/index.php

www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/hollister.html

Todd Ockert
UFWDA environmental director

The deadline for contributions to UFWDA e-News, is the 10th of each month. Please send materials to

e-news@ufwda.org

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