



Snoflyer

*The official publication of the
Washington State Snowmobile Association*

*July 2021
Volume 43*

***Wishing for Winter?
You aren't alone!***

***Inside:**
Latest on the Van Epps huts issue
News from the International
Snowmobile Congress
ISHOF 2021 Inductees*

*Cover photo: Mid-April ride on
White Pass. Pic by Matt Mead*



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CLIMB TO NEW HEIGHTS

Photo Credit - Craig Hill

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WSSA MEMBERSHIP

Membership valid until August 31, 2022

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Annual Dues (circle one): Individual/Family or Club - \$25 Associate - \$50

FAMILY/INDIVIDUAL: (\$25)

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Mailing _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

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of Registered Sleds: _____ Number of Riders: _____

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Phone: _____ Email: _____ Website: _____

WSSA MEETINGS AND IMPORTANT EVENTS 2021/2022

WSSA Summer Meeting & Campout Blu-Shastin RV Park, Peshastin (Blewett Pass) August 13th-15th, 2021

A fun family campout with meals provided Friday night through Sunday morning (for \$20 per person). Meeting starts at 9am on Saturday.

D.C. Fly-In

Fall - Date TBD

A trip to Washington D.C. to educate our Federal Legislators. Contact the WSSA President for details.

WSSA Meeting

October 4th, Zoom or October 2nd, 2021 at ??

WSSA Snowmobile & Power Sports

Expo & Swap Meet

Puyallup Fairgrounds

October 16th-17th, 2021

The kick-off to the 21/22 snowmobile season! Don't miss out on great deals on snowmobiles, snowbikes, side-by-sides, ATVs, related parts, accessories, trailers, sled decks vacation destinations much more!

WSSA Meeting

November 8th, Zoom or November 6th, 2021 at ??

WSSA Meeting

January 10th, Zoom or January 8th, 2021 at ??

Winter Rendezvous & WSSA Meeting

February 18th—21st, 2022

March Budget Meeting

March 14th, Zoom or March 12th, 2021 at ??

International Snowmobile Congress

Dubuque, Iowa

June 8th-11th, 2022

Visit with snowmobilers from across the U.S. and Canada. Find out what goes on at the state, national and international level of organized snowmobiling. Details at <http://www.snowmobilers.org/isc>

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Leadership

Dean Meakin, President
dean.meakin@wssa.us • (509) 220-1001



As I write this in early July, I got to ride my sled today! It was great! It was for about 60 feet and it was over. I had to steal my trailer to haul a bunch of food to camp, so I had to fire up the sled and drive it out and across the grass. This is the first time I rode my sled in 95 degrees above zero weather. Hopefully that will hold me until the real stuff comes down.

Thanks to the Governor, WSSA's Snowmobile and Power Sports Expo and Swap Meet 2021 should be a great event. As we move forward towards the new normal, I will let you know what changes are going to be necessary to be compliant with the rules mandated by the state, county and fairgrounds.

International Snowmobile Congress (ISC) 2021: ISC came and went in Omaha, Nebraska, this June without a hitch or masks. We had just over 200 in attendance. Because of COVID 19 and the restrictions still in place, our Canadian bunch was unable to attend as the border was still closed. They have a re-view coming up on July 21st to determine if they stay closed or open up. The International Association of Snowmobile Administrators (IASA) decided to do a Zoom session instead of face-to-face. All in all, to get a turnout of over 200 was a great thing. We were unable to have our Saturday afternoon International Snowmobile Council meeting as the CCSO (Canadian Council of Snowmobile Organizations) did not want to join in with Zoom. Hopefully this will not happen in 2022. Some reports from the International Snowmobile Council's committees were distributed. **If you are interested in a copy of that, please let me know.** Greg Sorenson, a past president in Minnesota's state snowmobile association, gave us a report on their annual charity fundraising for ALS/Lou Gehrig's disease to the tune of about 1 million dollars. Way to go!

ACSA (American Council of Snowmobile Associations) at ISC: Both ACSA meetings were well attended as most of delegates were present. It was great to see Scott and Mary Herzog there as their health is still not the best it could be. As you may recall, the Herzog family lost a father and a brother. Better days ahead.

We had a great turnout at the VIP Reception and raised lots of monies for the ACSA Legal Defense Fund. Following the VIP reception, we went to the Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium for our dinner. The best part was the aquarium as most of the animals were tucked in for the night.

During the first day of meetings, we were updated on some legislation that was in play. Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funds could be greatly increased, however the jury is still out on whether it will actually help. Money for electric charging stations at the trailheads is something they were talking about. More to follow on that subject.

All the ACSA committees gave their reports. If you are interested, I can send you copies of their reports to include planned giving, charity, trespassing and marketing.

Steve Cowing of BRP (Bombardier Recreational Products) reported on the Ski-Doo grant program they are developing. More to follow on this.

The 'Clean Snowmobile Challenge' is going through a re-organization as Michigan Tech University will no longer be hosting that event. More to follow on this as well.

Several of the delegates reported on what was happening in their states. Trespassing seems to be a **growing problem with few solutions.** **President Biden's 30x30 Program may affect more snowmobile trails** than first thought; mainly trails that follow alongside rivers. More to follow as things develop.

All the ACSA officers gave their annual reports and then we had elections. Our new President is Dan Long from Illinois, Vice President is Bert Miller from Wyoming, Secretary/Treasurer is Len Neisler from Indiana, Delegate at Large 1 is Brian Erickson from South Dakota and Delegate at Large 2 is Chris Willey from Iowa. I completed my six years of service as Secretary/Treasurer for ACSA. I will continue to work with

(Continued on page 6)



2021 WASHINGTON SNOWMOBILE & POWER SPORTS EXPO AND SWAP MEET

WWW.WSSAEXPO.COM



Saturday 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. Sunday 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Washington State Fair Events Center, Puyallup, Washington

Admission \$10.00 • Children 12 and Under Free

Safe Rider Snowmobile Seminar for 12-16 year olds to earn a Snowmobile Safety Certificate
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Free Seminars on Saturday Noon to 5 P.M.

Expo: 1-888-498-5055 Swap Meet: 1-888-457-SWAP (7927)



Leadership

(Continued from page 4) the new Executive Committee and help in any way I can. Hopefully I can run for ACSA vice president in 2023.

Mountain Region and Trail Region Riding Areas sponsored by ACSA: Both super committees had separate open forum meetings to discuss anything happening in those areas and possible solutions to fix the problems. One thing both moderators agreed upon was there were things common to both groups and they should meet together at first then break apart for those things specific to the their riding areas. Things are moving forward as we fine tune these committees.

Western Chapter at ISC: Western Chapter held their annual meeting at ISC 2021. The meeting went well as a Zoom session was available for our Canadian delegates to join in. I reported on the Western Chapter 2021 Scholarship winner, Jessica Uhling, from Lewiston, Idaho. Hannah Peacock of Spokane was our second-place winner in case Jessica was unable to use the scholarship. I also presented the 2022 scholarship essay challenge for Western Chapter. You can go to www.sledwest.org and download it now if you wish. Western Chapter is working hard to find and focus on what they can do to contribute to the cause of the snowmobiler collectively. Safety and environmental responsibility have always been on the top of the list. Elections were conducted at this meeting. Jason Howell from Montana is the new Chair; Dennis Jordan from Oregon is the new Co-Chair and Connie Walter from Montana is the new Secretary/Treasurer. Western Chapter is planning to have their February Summit meeting in West Yellowstone again in 2022.

I can't wait for ISC 2022 to take place in Dubuque, Iowa. It should be a great turnout. Hoping for 400 plus.

In closing, I will see you all at the Summer Meeting held at the Blu-Shastin RV Park on August 14th. If you haven't already done so, call Dee Alred to get your campsite reserved.

Please continue to keep safe and practice social distancing. The 2021-2022 challenge is still to keep 'building bridges and not walls'!

Greeting fellow snowmobilers! I hope every-one is enjoying their summer.

In June, my husband Ron and I went to Omaha, Nebraska, for the International Snowmobile Congress (ISC). Also attending from Washington were Wayne and Florence Mohler, and Dean and Karlene Meakin. They had several seminars people could attend. I went to one concerning keeping your funds from fraud. This information is available in a Power Point presentation. However, I am currently in Georgia on vacation and that information is in Yakima! I will have it at summer meeting to share.

WSSA's Summer Meeting and Campout is scheduled for the weekend of August 13th-15th. It will be at the Blu-Shastin RV Park in Peshastin near the base of Blewett Pass. WSSA has reserved 15 camping sites. The meeting on Saturday is held in the great outdoors. It is a time for all the WSSA families to get together on a more social level. The RV Park has a swimming pool, hiking paths, horseshoe pits, volleyball net, and a small clubhouse with ping pong tables. There is a creek that runs along the back of the park for wading. WSSA furnishes breakfast, lunch, and steaks for Saturday at a cost of \$5 per meal. People are asked to bring side dishes on Saturday night. I will be in charge of camping sites to ensure our group stays together. Please contact me at (509) 654-2242 or rdalred1971@gmail.com if you are interested in camping for the weekend.

I am looking forward to spending time with our newest board members. (Hans Brubaker in Dist. 1N, Jason Holmes in Dist. 5N, Ron Lind in Dist. 5S, Tanner Hamlyn in Dist. 4N, and Christina Markovits, our new recording secretary.) I know they will have ideas and suggestions that will make our organization stronger. It seems new people always inspire us to do a better job.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone in August.

Delia Alred, Vice President
delia.alred@wssa.us • (509) 965-8305



Membership

Membership Matters

By Wayne and Florence Mohler, Membership co-chairs

It won't be long until the membership reminders will be going out for the 2021-22 membership year. We will be getting the electronic reminders out in August with the U.S. Postal Service reminders going out shortly thereafter.

Last season we introduced a feature in Club Express that allows the family/individual members to print their own membership card from the WSSA website. For those without e-mail, we will continue to mail the membership cards as in the past.

We are also going to continue with our 'Affinity Program' that was introduced last year. The Associate members will decide what they want to offer WSSA members (discount, special purchase items, etc.) and we will highlight their offer in the Snoflyer.

We are looking forward to the manufacturers' special program this fall (October) to celebrate snowmobiling. Hopefully all the dealers in Washington will participate and the celebration will generate a lot of enthusiasm for the coming season. Stay tuned – more to come on this!

The International Snowmobile Council Congress (ISCC), held in June in Omaha, Nebraska, was well attended, given the fact there were so many unknowns in planning this event. While the event was smaller than previous versions, due largely to the absence of the Administrators and our Canadian counterparts, there was a lot of enthusiasm and a wealth of information shared. Kudos to the Nebraska Snowmobile Association for their hospitality and hosting a great event. It's not too soon to start planning to attend the 2022 event which will be held in Iowa.

In closing, remember to renew your membership in the next few months, and ask a friend to join too. There is strength in numbers and we will be having many challenges to keep our riding areas open.

Remember - Your membership matters!

WSSA's Associate Partnership Program

Tracy's Quality Painting, Gig Harbor, is offering a 10% discount on a painting job. Their primary service area is Gig Harbor, Tacoma, and University Place. Check them out at www.tracysqualitypainting.com.



Luft Trailer Sales in Ellensburg is offering a 10% discount on parts.



Are you next? Add your business name here!

With all the challenges facing everyone during this past year, we're starting a program with our Associate members to try to bring our snowmobile members together with our Associate members through an affinity or loyalty program. It's very simple and straightforward – As an Associate, just let us know how you would like to participate. WSSA will publicize the Associate members and what they are offering in the Snoflyer and on social media. Just contact membership@wssa.us to get signed up!

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Tharin on Safety

Start planning now for a safe snowmobile season

By Tharin Huisman
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(360) 460-6222



Hello all! I hope your summer is going well and everyone is staying safe. The heat spell we had at the end of June sure made me miss the snow. It was HOT!

As you enjoy your summer, I encourage you to take a little time and look over all your gear. Specifically check out your safety gear. Many of our communication devices as well as our avalanche beacons have specific storage recommendations. Look up your specific device and store the electronic devices as recommended. I have been guilty of not storing properly and have paid the price of corroded battery connections and in one case had to replace the device.

As we all know, 'avalanche education' has been at the forefront regarding snowmobile safety over the past several years. Now is a great time to start planning your 2021-2022 avalanche education.

There are many other safety items that are equally important. Toward the top of your safety priority list should be first aid and

CPR. Many of us have some type of first aid training but few of us have training to deal with significant, life threatening trauma or medical emergencies in the backcountry where professional help can be four, six or 10 hours away and possibly overnight. A simple web search brings up many types of first aid training. A wilderness or backcountry first aid class could save a life and I highly recommend getting the training.



As I start preparing for the upcoming season, I have a request. I'm looking for five to seven snowmobilers who would be willing to serve on the WSSA safety committee. If interested, please give me a call and we can talk. Call (360) 460-6222 or shoot me an e-mail at tharin.huisman@wssa.us.

Stay safe, enjoy your summer, and take a little time to look over your gear and plan out your snowmobile safety training for the upcoming season.



KNOW BEFORE YOU GO! - Avalanche Forecasts

Cascades (Canadian border to Mt. Hood) - www.nwac.us
Idaho Panhandle - www.idahopanhandleavalanche.org
WA/OR Blues - www.wallowaavalanchecenter.org/forecast/blues

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District Reports



District 1 North

By Hans Brubaker
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(360) 922-8296

District 1 North has become involved in the expanded use issues that seem to be increasingly affecting motorized trail users in Washington. By way of background, I think most readers are aware non-motorized trails and sno-parks are open for winter recreational activities except motorized vehicle use. Likewise most are aware motorized trails and sno-parks are open to winter recreation involving vehicles with motors, i.e. snowmobiles, snowbikes, and tracked vehicles. While the latter statement is true, motorized trails are also open to non-motorized users.

Recent developments in District 1 North surround the fact there is a significant amount of desirable wilderness ski area that is reachable via the motorized trails in Whatcom and Skagit Counties. These wilderness areas can support hundreds of skiers on a daily basis, provided they have a way to reach these areas. Several businesses have proposed to further develop backcountry skiing by providing motorized transportation and lodging near the desirable ski zones. These services would utilize existing motorized trails to shuttle clients, and also to service camps located in high elevation summer parking areas.

The proponents of these businesses hope to iron out the details this winter with test operations and then expand their services to the extent of customer demand and Forest Service permit conditions. What this means to the traditional users of these area is basically increased competition for parking, wear and tear on trails, and aesthetic issues involving multiple semi-permanent overnight camps located in what many thought was the backcountry. These trails have motorized vehicle right-of-way, but the safety issues surrounding large numbers of non-motorized and motorized users sharing narrow trails in the core winter season has not been studied. Once again our WSSA motto to 'Protect and Preserve Access' is being called upon and tested.



District 1 South

By Glenn Markovits
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(253) 297-1774

Hello everyone! I hope you're enjoying the summer. Although with all of these hot and dry temperatures, I'm

ready for the snow to return!

The Cascade Drift Skippers held their annual board of director elections for the 2021/2022 season and I'm happy to announce the official board members are as follows: President – Darren King; Vice President – Alex Cropley; Treasurer – Eydthe Ferrian; Secretary – Bill Sehmel. Congratulations to all of these hard working volunteers who devote their time and energy to the Cascade Drift Skippers and their members.

(Continued on page 11)

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District Reports

(Continued from page 10)

On Saturday, May 22nd, the Cascade Drift Skippers hosted a sno-park litter cleanup at the Kachess/Gold Creek Sno-Park and around the Salmon La Sac Sno-Park area. A huge 'thank you' to all of those who volunteered their time and resources to clean up all these sno-parks.

It is officially summer time now and the snow is gone, however the good news is the days are getting shorter and we are on the downhill countdown to next year's snowmobile season. Summer is a good time to spend time exercising and getting in shape for the winter months ahead of us. Even a daily brisk walk or short run will keep your cardio healthy. Hiking is a great outdoor activity to help stay in shape and to see some amazing backcountry.

You want to keep your sled healthy too, by using fuel stabilizer in your gas tank, and fogging your engines. Also, don't forget to remove the batteries from you avalanche beacons, order those snowmobile parts needed for your sleds now so you are not fighting the rush next winter. Take advantage of the downtime to change your carbides and hi-faxes and do any other maintenance on your sleds and trailers so you will be all ready to go next winter.

With Washington State fully opened for business now and COVID-19 behind us, the Cascades Drift Skippers will be seeking a new venue to physically host the monthly club meetings beginning in September. Monthly meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month starting this September and everyone is welcome to attend.

Stay safe and get outdoors! I hope to see you on trail soon.



District 2 South

By Matt Kensrud
matt.kensrud@wssa.us
(509) 433-2100

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer, but its time to start thinking about the upcoming season!

Not much happening yet in the district. The Lake Wenatchee Rec Club had their dual-sport ride which was a big hit!

As for the other clubs, there is not much

going on.

I will be attending the WSSA Summer Meeting to be held at the Blu-Shastin RV Park on Blewett Pass.

If you have any questions, feel free to call me.



District 4 North

By Tanner Hamlyn
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(253) 376-2739

Greetings all! If you are like me, this heat hasn't been sitting all to well. I miss the cold temperatures, powder snow, and endless riding possibilities.

During these hard times, our local clubs are still planning some get togethers. The Juncos are planning several work parties to restore a structure to help protect us during our favorite cold weather.

The Sno-Jammers are planning several events including the annual road clean up; picking up trash from Hwy 410, all the way to the cabin at Government Meadows; and

(Continued on page 12)

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(509) 996-2411

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Drinks until closing

District Reports

(Continued from page 11)

some trails maintenance. If you would like to help either club, get in touch with them and they will gladly welcome some extra hands!

The Juncos first meeting of the year will be October 4th, at the Godfathers Pizza in Spanaway.

The Sno-Jammers will hold their first meeting September 1st at the Round Table pizza in Puyallup

Until the snow starts falling again, keep cool! And remember SUMMER SUCKS!



District 5 North

By Jason Holmes
jason.holmes@wssa.us
(253) 226-4939

March 23rd, 2021. This is the date WSSA's attorney filed a FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) request to the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) regarding the permit(s) being issued for multiple yurts and backcountry guiding in the Van Epps motorized use area. Upon filing a FOIA request, per U.S. Department of Justice guidelines, the recipient has 20 days to respond with a one time 10 day extension. WSSA is currently at 104 days and waiting for a response to our FOIA request.

How did we get to where we are? Upon finding out about a commercial business that focuses strictly on non-motorized winter rec users being given a permit by the USFS to allow 4,500+ user days in a heavily used (spanning the past 25+ years) motorized area, there was a consortium of people that communicated our legitimate concerns to the USFS and the commercial business owner over two separate Zoom meetings. The USFS Manager dismissed any concerns and refused to consider any concessions brought to the table during the initial Zoom meetings.

What are our concerns? There are many. Everything from the logistical concept of the commercial operations, safety to all users, understated potential of environmental impacts by the commercial entity, impact to all user groups, (this will disrupt many user groups other than just winter motorized users), and the inconsistent treatment of existing commercial entities in the Salmon La Sac Valley by the Forest Service.

WSSA has consistently reached out asking the USFS for communication working towards a resolution that works for everyone. The USFS has been provided with multiple solu-

tions that provide a safer solution for all users, provide the commercial entity's business model more credibility and minimize impact to the environmental surroundings. At this juncture, the USFS mentions they are 'reviewing' these options, but communication has been very limited at this point.

WSSA has reached out to our State Representative's Office (Kim Schrier) for assistance regarding the response to the FOIA. WSSA has reached out to the area Land Commissioner's office for assistance. (As I write this, there is a meeting in Cle Elum on July 16th that I will be in attendance.)

Where does WSSA currently stand? Once we officially receive the response to the FOIA, WSSA will prepare to file an injunction based on the information provided by the response. An injunction is a legal process by definition; it is a legal and equitable remedy in the form of a special court order that compels a party to do or refrain from specific acts. In short, it gets WSSA a 'seat at the table' with the USFS.

What can you do? Send e-mails to the following: robert.f.allen@usda.gov, erick.walker@usda.gov, and kristin.bail@usda.gov. These are e-mails of the representatives from the USFS.

There are numerous people and organizations outside of WSSA I've had many phone calls and e-mails with since February regarding this issue. It's encouraging to see many user groups come together working towards a resolution that works for all parties. (Maybe the USFS should take note). My personal gratitude is extended to everyone who has reached out, provided feedback and donated their own personal time. When a proper resolution that works for all parties is achieved, I look forward to tipping back a few pints at a local establishment with all concerned.



District 5 North

By Ron Lind
ron.lind@wssa.us
(509) 607-0039

Hello District 5 South! I hope everyone is enjoying their summer so far and putting up with this extreme heat; makes you wish for snow; oh the memories...

There are a few things going on in our district with clubs and WSSA. I have been in contact with the Ski-Benders, Drift-A-Way and Chinook Pass clubs.

I want to thank the Ski-Benders for their clean up at the Little Naches Sno-Park. They did an outstanding job! Thanks to all who showed up to clean up Jim Sprick Park as well.

The Drift-A-Way club did a clean up at the Cold Creek and Pinegrass Sno-Parks, and a couple of miles of Tieton Reservoir Road heading back towards the Airstrip. Lets all thank those people who take the time to help and participate.

Some things coming up this summer and fall: The Ski-Benders next event is a clean

Want to Volunteer?

WSSA can use your help on land use, legislative, not to mention other committees. Contact President Dean Meakin and share your expertise!

up in the Ahtanum Sno-Park. Bring your gloves; we will have pick up sticks for a few and some bags. Lots of people make short work of it if. If you can make it, contact Ron Alred at (509) 961-2806.

The Ski-Benders will be back at Chinook Fest this year; should be fun.

They also hope to be working on the warming huts, and a couple work parties to get the trails in better shape for the groomer.

The Drift-A-Way club might be having another campout and clean up this summer; contact Jim Kingman or Matt Mead for info.

The Chinook Pass Snowmobile Club will be doing some work on the Little Bald warming hut this summer. I know they put in for a WSSA grant to do some painting, concrete work, and a few other things. If you would like to help, give Doug Mason a call at (509) 658-1636. Lets all not forget the Chinook Pass club is the group who refurbished that cabin; without them it would be gone. Please help take care of it, and again thank all those guys who worked on it. Thank the guys that packed all the leftover trash and brought it down; remember, if you pack it in pack it out please.

We will be putting together a combined work party to open up a new snowmobile trail out of the Naches to better access the Manastash Ridge area; stay tuned for more details.

WSSA will be having our summer meeting at Blu-Shastin again this year, August 13th, 14th and 15th. If you are interested in going, contact Dee Alred at (509) 654-2242.

Looks like the Winter

(Continued on page 13)

District Reports

(Continued from page 12)

Rendezvous will be in Yakima next February. I will be asking clubs to help with hosting the trail rides during the weekend. More info to come including dates and place to make reservations.

Thank you and have a great summer.



District 6

By Chris Shires
chris.shires@wssa.us
 (509) 521-5511

The Dayton club had their summer warming shack clean up and wood cutting on June 26th. Their first club meeting will be in October.

Otherwise, everyone is sweating it out in this heat and waiting on snow.

Snowmobile Program Funding 101

Register your snowmobile and receive a **FREE** Sno-Park permit. Relax and enjoy this winter season without risk of a citation for not being registered or for not having a Sno-Park permit.

Your \$50 registration fee and money collected from a gas tax refund are put into a dedicated fund account for the Snowmobile Program.

The gas tax refund is computed using the following formula: 135 gallons (average yearly fuel usage per snowmobile) x .349 cents per gallon of gas x the annual number of registered snowmobiles and snowbikes.



The gas tax refund and registration fees collected each year add up to approximately \$94.20 per snowmobile or snowbike to fund the program. Fees collected this year are put towards next year's snowmobile season to pay for trail grooming, snow removal, sanitation, administration, education and enforcement.

For more information, visit www.parks.state.wa.us/winter, e-mail winter@parks.wa.gov or call (360) 902-8684.

This information brought to you in partnership with Washington State Parks and the Washington State Snowmobile Association.



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www.instagram.com/WASStatePks

Share your stories and photos: AdventureAwaits.com

#RecreateResponsibly *Winter Edition*

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Some areas can become dangerous with winter conditions. Research your destination, as roads and facilities may be closed in winter.

PRACTICE PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Be prepared to cover your nose and mouth. When possible, opt to eat and rest outside. If you feel sick, stay home.

PLAN AHEAD

Check local conditions and prepare for the elements, packing extra layers, waterproof clothing, and avalanche safety gear for the backcountry.

PLAY IT SAFE

Know your limits and your gear. Slow down and choose lower-risk activities to reduce your risk of injury.

EXPLORE LOCALLY

Consider exploring locally, as driving and parking may be more challenging in winter. If you travel, be mindful of your impact on Native and local communities.

LEAVE NO TRACE

Did you know that the snow is our water supply? Keep our winter playgrounds clean. Pack out any human or pet waste. Be respectful of the land.

BUILD AN INCLUSIVE OUTDOORS

Everyone deserves to experience a winter wonderland. Be an active part of making the outdoors safe, accessible, and welcoming for all identities and abilities.

KEEP RIGHT
 RIDE SINGLE FILE.
 ANTICIPATE
 ON-COMING
 TRAFFIC.

This message brought to you by the American Council of Snowmobile Associations
www.snowmobilers.org



So, you're a mountain rider and don't need trails? RIGHT...



Facts Are:

- Groomed trails provide quick access to higher elevation & better snow.
- When you have sled issues, trails provide safest return to your vehicle.
- Injured? Yep, it's the trail they drag you out on.

SUPPORT GROOMERS, TRAILS & SNOWMOBILING BY JOINING A CLUB WHERE YOU RIDE.

Supporting Businesses

Washington State Supporting Businesses

Cycle Barn Smokey Point	P.O. Box 3338	Arlington	WA	98223	www.cyclebarn.com	360-530-7800
Mt Baker Moto-Sports LLC	2111 Iowa St	Bellingham	WA	98229	www.mtbakermoto.com	360-676-4096
LLUMIN8 Lighting	18715 95 th St E	Bonney Lake	WA	98391	www.llumin8.com	253-233-7547
Jay's Snowmobile Service	1325 Hanson Loop	Burbank	WA	99323		509-845-2089
Evans Marine	1058 E Woodin Ave	Chelan	WA	98816	www.evansmarine.com	509-682-4402
Mountain Addiction	362 Porcupine Ln	Chelan	WA	98816	www.mountainaddiction.com	509-881-8016
High Country Outfitters & Camp Wahoo!	1780 Nelson Siding Rd	Cle Elum	WA	98922	www.campwahoo.com	509-674-8331
MotorToys Snowmobile Sales, Svc, Rentals	1313 Spansky Way	Cle Elum	WA	98922		509-674-6807
Sportland Yamaha Inc	4402 Bullfrog Rd	Cle Elum	WA	98922	www.sportlandyamaha.com	508-649-2259
The Cottage Cafe	911 East First St	Cle Elum	WA	98922	www.cottagecafecleelum.com	509-674-2922
Twisted Tunnel	82 Osprey Dr.	Cle Elum	WA	98922	www.twistedtunnelparts.com	425-652-9622
Bennys Colville Inn	915 S Main St	Colville	WA	99114	www.colvilleinn.com	509-684-2517
Clark's Marine & Powersports	192 DeGrief Rd	Colville	WA	99114	www.clarkspowersports.com	509-684-4581
Colville Motor Sports	165 W Birch Ave	Colville	WA	99114	www.colvillemotorsports.com	509-684-5540
Gibsons North Fork Lodge	100 West Boone	Conconully	WA	98819	www.gibsonsnorthforklodge	509-826-1475
Kozy Kabins & RV Park	111 East Broadway	Conconully	WA	98819		509-826-6780
Shady Pines Resort	125 West Fork Rd	Conconully	WA	98819	www.shadypinesresort.com	509-826-2287
Sit'N'Bull Bar & Grill	PO Box 322	Conconully	WA	98819		509-826-2947
Bob Feil Boats & Motors	2131 Sunset Hwy	E Wenatchee	WA	98802	www.bobfeil.com	509-884-3558
The Fab Shop	10315 16th St E	Edgewood	WA	98372	www.thefabshop.com	253-568-9124
Central Powersports	2310 W. Dolarway Rd	Ellensburg	WA	98926	www.centralpowersports.com	509-933-1737
Ellensburg Powersports	309 S. Main St	Ellensburg	WA	98926		509-925-9330
Ellensburg Tire Center	400 W. University Way	Ellensburg	WA	98926		509-925-1044
Luft Trailer Sales	907 N Hibbs Rd	Ellensburg	WA	98926	www.lufttrailers.com	509-962-5445
Clem's Enumclaw Powersports	408 Roosevelt Ave	Enumclaw	WA	98022	www.enumclawsuzuki.com	360-825-4502
Jet Chevrolet - RV Inc.	35700 Enchanted Pkwy S	Federal Way	WA	98063	www.jetchevrolet.com	877-538-2438
Soundview Consultants LLC	2907 Harborview Dr	Gig Harbor	WA	98335	www.soundviewconsultants.com	253-514-8952
Tracy's Quality Painting Inc.	3008 14th Ave NW	Gig Harbor	WA	98335		253-858-8242
Pacific Logging LLC	9823 163 rd Ave NE	Ganite Falls	WA	98252		425-508-9150
I-90 Motorsports	200 NE Gilman Blvd	Issaquah	WA	98027	www.I-90motorsports.com	425-391-4490
Pierre's Polaris	7504 NE 175th St Ste 8	Kenmore	WA	98028	www.pierrespolaris.com	425-488-8600
Ridenow Powersports Tri-Cities	3305 W 19th Ave	Kennewick	WA	99338	www.ridenowtricity.com	509-735-1117
Bob's Lift Trucks & Equipment	426 Naden Ave S	Kent	WA	98032		253-872-0401
Greg's Motorsports	5817 184 th Ave Ct E	Lake Tapps	WA	98391		253-380-0558
59er Diner and Cabins	15361 US Hwy 2	Leavenworth	WA	98826	www.59erdiner.com	509-763-2267
Dan's Food Market	1329 US Hwy 2	Leavenworth	WA	98826	www.dansfoodmarket.com	509-548-5611
Leavenworth Snowmobile Rentals	15361 US Hwy 2	Leavenworth	WA	98826	www.leavenworthsnowmobilerentals.com	509-763-0333
Mountain Springs Lodge	19115 Chiwawa Loop Rd	Leavenworth	WA	98826	www.mtsprings.com	509-763-2713
Pacific Mountain Services	22745 Brown Rd	Leavenworth	WA	98826		509-670-6665
Loon Lake Marina	41080 Marina Rd	Loon Lake	WA	99148		509-233-2303
Premier Polaris	122 Charles St	Monroe	WA	98272	www.premierpolaris.com	360-794-8669

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Supporting Businesses

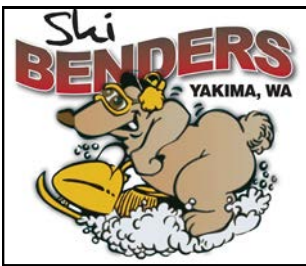
Levi's Auto Parts	500 E 3rd Ave	Moses Lake	WA	98837		509-765-4567
Moses Lake Collision Repair Inc	1006 W Marina Dr	Moses Lake	WA	98837		509-764-8001
Lifestyles Honda Skidoo	3302 Cedardale Rd Ste E100	Mount Vernon	WA	98274	www.lifestyleshonda.com	360-416-3950
Elk Ridge Campground	13880 SR 410	Naches	WA	98397	www.elkridgecampground.com	509-658-2093
Gold Creek Station	18431 SR 410	Naches	WA	98937		509-658-2583
Pape Machinery/Washington Tractor	1 Patrol St	Okanogan	WA	98840	www.papemachinery.com	877-422-3030
Xtreme Powersports	1930 2 nd Ave N	Okanogan	WA	98840	www.shopxtremepowersports.net	509-826-5771
WA State Parks Winter Rec Program	1111 Israel Rd SW	Olympia	WA	98504	www.state.parks.wa.us	360-902-8595
Backcountry Plowing & Grooming	23616 154 th St E	Orting	WA	98360		253-722-4123
Blu-Shastin RV Park	3300 US Hwy 97	Peshastin	WA	98847	www.blushastin.com	509-548-4184
Chet's Honda/Polaris	17 H Street SW	Quincy	WA	98848	www.chetshonda.com	509-787-3617
Sundance Landscaping	11609 172nd Ave NE	Redmond	WA	98052		425-533-6008
Anderson's Grocery	711 S Clark Ave	Republic	WA	99166		509-775-3378
Earthworks, Inc	PO Box 111	Ronald	WA	98940		
Roadhouse @ The Last Resort	14254 Salmon LaSac Rd	Ronald	WA	98940		509-649-3125
The Last Resort Operations	14254 Salmon LaSac Rd	Ronald	WA	98940	www.thelastresort.us	509-649-2222
J & B Enterprises	PO Box 440	Roslyn	WA	98941		206-484-0204
Repin Construction LLC	PO Box 541	Roslyn	WA	98941		509-649-3323
Life Support	808 Lincoln St	S. Cle Elum	WA	98943	www.lifesupport.com	509-674-2968
Dianes Tank Removal Services LLC	PO Box 77738	Seattle	WA	98177	www.dianestankremoval.com	206-510-9497
Empire Cycle & Powersports	7807 E Sprague Ave	Spokane Valley	WA	98212	www.empire-cycle.com	509-892-6368
Kart-O-Rama Inc	13701 24 th St E Unit A4	Sumner	WA	98390	www.kartoramainc.com	253-891-3490
Old Cannery Furniture	13608 Old Cannery Way	Sumner	WA	98390	www.oldcanneryfurniture.com	253-863-0422
Hank's Harvest Foods	412 E Methow Hwy	Twisp	WA	98856		509-997-7711
Twisp NAPA Auto Parts	214 S Methow Valley Hwy	Twisp	WA	98856	www.napaonline.com	509-997-2461
Independent Trailer & Equip Co	1602 Rudkin Rd	Union Gap	WA	98903	www.itec-inc.com	509-452-3672
Premier Power Sports	2615 Main St	Union Gap	WA	98903	www.premierpowersportswa.com	509-965-9889
G & G Automotive Machine	34 S Palouse	Walla Walla	WA	99362		509-525-2890
Wenatchee Power Sports	3031 G.S. Center Rd	Wenatchee	WA	98801	www.wenpow.com	509-665-6686
Radcomp Technologies	136 N Main St	White Salmon	WA	98672	www.gorad.com	509-493-2221
Three Fingered Jacks	176 Riverside Ave	Winthrop	WA	98862	www.3fingeredjacks.com	509-996-2411
Nob Hill Auto Wrecking	2609 West Birchfield Rd	Yakima	WA	98901	www.nobhillautowrecking.com	509-452-2803
Owen's Yamaha-Suzuki Polaris	1707 N 1st St	Yakima	WA	98901		509-575-1916
VanAmburg Enterprises Inc	2920 River Rd Ste 1	Yakima	WA	98902	www.vanamburgent.com	509-225-6681

Out of State Supporting Businesses

Kastle West Dist	55 Matmor Rd	Woodland	CA	95776	www.kastlewest.com	530-662-8879
Elkins on Priest Lake	404 Elkins Rd	Nordman	ID	83848	www.elkinsresort.com	208-443-2432
Hill's Resort	4777 W Lakeshore Rd	Priest Lake	ID	83856	www.hillsresort.com	208-443-2551
Mountain Village Resort	Jct Hwy 21 & 75	Stanley	ID	83278	www.mountainvillage.com	800-843-5475
Trakmaps	9045 Chemin de la Cote-de-Liesse	Dorval	QC	H9P 2M9	www.trakmaps.com	514-500-1191
Prinoth	1001 J.A. Bombardier	Granby	QC	J2J 1E9	www.prinoth.com	450-776-3000

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Club News



Yakima Ski-Benders

**By Liz Van Amburg,
President**

Well, who misses snowy days? As I write this, the high today is supposed to be 111 and tomorrow 115, yuck!

The Yakima Ski-Benders are having their annual fundraiser the second weekend of September. The Chinook Fest Beverage Garden. If you want to volunteer, please give me a call at (509) 225-6681. If you want to attend, go to <http://www.chinookfest.com>. **This event has been the club's largest fundraiser** and it helps fund our events like the Snowfest Poker Ride, the Kids Ride and prizes for our annual Crab Feed!

Behind the scenes we are getting our warming shelters started. We purchased a forty-foot container to cut in half, so we will make two from one. We will have more to come on this project by this fall. Thank you, Ron Lind, for hauling it to Yakima.

We had a clean up in the Little Naches Sno-Park in April. I was actually surprised it wasn't too bad. However, this spring I picked up trash several different weekends on random adventures and the mountains are a mess. How do we get people to pack it out? I am open to ideas that we can implement.

I would like to thank everyone in the club who came to the Jim Sprick Park clean-up. We raked, spent hours with the leaf blower, pulled out stumps, moved benches and are ready for summer events in the park. This is where Chinook Fest takes place, so it is well worth our efforts to help. Remember if you are volunteering, report your hours to Ron Alred.

I love that on my Facebook page, I still see people finding the snow and snowmobiling in June. We did play in the snow on our side-by-sides several weekends. It was a beautiful spring!

Everyone have a safe summer and talk to

**Clubs:
Show us your
LOGOs!**



your friends about joining a club!

Pacific Northwest Vintage Snowmobile Club

**By Kevin Hancock,
Webmaster**

Now that the governor has re-opened the state, our club is moving ahead planning summer show events. To start we are gathering at one of our member's property along



**A pic from last year's Entiat gathering.
Great food, great people and great fun!**

the Entiat River between Wenatchee and Chelan. He is planning a day to meet and hang out with a barbeque, which gives us a chance to catch up with the news, and plan upcoming events. There is also room for us to bring our trailers and tents to camp out for the weekend.

Next, during the weekend of August 21st, we are having a vintage sled show at the Yakima Central Washington Agricultural Mu-

seum in Union Gap near Yakima. We are participating in their 2021 Pioneer Power Show this August 21st and 22nd. This is a new show for us. We've got plenty of shady area to show sleds and the museum has provided a trailer parking and dry camping location as well.

We were contacted by the West Richland City Council and they are planning to have their Cool Deserts Nights this coming October. We are still in the process of negotiating a space. Cool Desert Nights features car cruises, a party in the park, show and shine, **Kiwanis' pancake breakfast, a kid's zone,** judging and awards, vendors, food trucks and more!

Our final show before the snow flies will be at the Washington State Snowmobile Association's (WSSA) annual WSSA Snowmobile and Power Sports Expo and Swap Meet. It is scheduled this coming October 16th and 17th in Puyallup. It is the kick-off to the 2021-2022 snowmobile season in the Pacific Northwest! We really enjoy this event. Besides our display, there are vendors displaying and selling, trailers, gear and destinations. This is a must go-to annual event!

Let us know if you would like to join in the fun! Our e-mail is pnwvsc@gmail.com. We are also on Facebook and have a website:

www.pnwvsc.org.



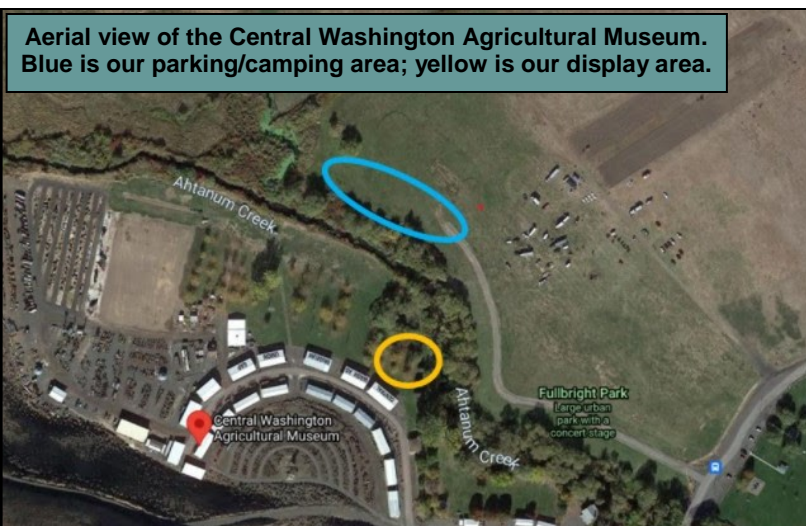
Sno-Jammers Snowmobile Club

**By
Christina Markovits**

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer and stayed safe during those extremely hot days we experienced in June. After those 100+ temperatures, I know I am ready for winter to make its appearance already; is anyone else with me?

The Sno-Jammers have been staying busy planning some fun adult and family activities this summer. I encourage you all to follow us on Facebook page and check out our website at www.snojammers.org to stay up to date on all our events.

(Continued on page 17)



**Aerial view of the Central Washington Agricultural Museum.
Blue is our parking/camping area; yellow is our display area.**

Club News

(Continued from page 16) For the first time in several years, we have planned an adult-only event on where we will be racing Go-Karts at The Ridge Motorsports Park in Shelton. While the event will be concluded when this Snoflyer reaches you, we'll have pics

Glen Markovits & grandson Aiden taking down Sno-Jammer-maintained trail signs in the spring.



and event results in a future Snoflyer.

Our annual club rafting trip is scheduled for August 14th in Ellensburg. This is a family-friendly event and a great opportunity to enjoy a weekend campout, make some awesome memories, and stay cool during those hot August days! Please do not forget your rafts, swimsuits, and life jackets. If you are interested in joining us and would like to camp, we are staying at the KOA in Ellensburg and campsites are filling up fast, so book soon!

The club's first general meeting of the 2021/2022 snowmobile season will be held

in person on September 1st at the Round Table Pizza in Puyallup. Yes, you read that right! We finally get to go back to in person meetings without any restrictions.

As a friendly reminder, the Sno-Jammers hold general club meetings the first Wednesday of every month from September through May. Social hour begins at 6pm and the meeting starts at 7pm. This first meeting is an important one as we will be finalizing plans for our fall work parties, preparing for the WSSA Snow Show in October, and start discussing some rides this winter. If you have been interested in joining our club, then this is a great opportunity to see what we are all about and get involved this season. We are always welcoming new members and families! Club memberships are \$20 a year for individuals or families and can be purchased or renewed online at our website.

With plenty of summer days left, do not forget to stay safe and stay hydrated. Wear your life jacket on the water and re-apply your sunscreen often. We look forward to seeing you all at our club events this summer and hope to see you at our meetings this upcoming season!



Tri-Rivers Snowmobile Club

By Kurt Hensley, President

The Tri-Rivers Snowmobile Club got our hut down from Shrew Creek Camp Ground and we were happy to have it in good condition after the winter of snowmobiling.

We have been designing and working on the steps and still have to do some work on putting hinges on the benches for extra storage.

We are all hoping for no wildfires and sad to see everything in such a drought. Rain and snow will be a great thing to see. Hop-

Make New Friends, Join a Snowmobile Club



You'll Never Ride Alone

ing for a great snow year this winter!



Junco Snowmobile Club

By Chris Sutton

We hope you all are having a fun and safe summer outside with friends and family!

The Junco Snowmobile Club manages both the Orr Creek and Wakepish Sno-Parks in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest! You may have met a few of us over the years at the WSSA Snow Show collecting donations for the Legal Fund in the Blue Lot; we proudly volunteer to manage the parking lot and swap meet, and we all look forward to seeing you all again this year since it looks like we are going back to public gatherings!

The Juncos would like to thank everyone again who has donated their time and/or money for the protection of our sport over the years. We have been seeing more and more threats to our riding areas as the population and popularity of our beautiful state grows and your support is needed more than ever!

The Junco Snowmobile Club meets monthly at Godfather's Pizza near Spanaway at 15709 Pacific Ave S. in Tacoma. We meet on the first Monday of each month at 7pm, October through April, with a social hour beginning at 6pm. We are a small, informal club that is family-oriented and always looking for new friends to ride with. Membership is only \$20 a year per family and we welcome you to come join us! You can follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Junco-Snowmobile-Club-693699857309032 for updates and information about our events!

This last year our club decided to 'adopt-a-shelter' in our area called the Midway Garage. This garage is located outside of Orr Creek Sno-Park, by Four-Corners if you are familiar with the area. In

(Continued on page 18)



Midway Garage near the Orr Creek Sno-Park.

Club News

(Continued from page 17)

doing so, we prevented this building from being torn down by the U.S. Forest Service due to 'deferred maintenance'. Our club

als, or if you wish to volunteer your time to help us out with this exciting project... Watch our Facebook for updates as well!

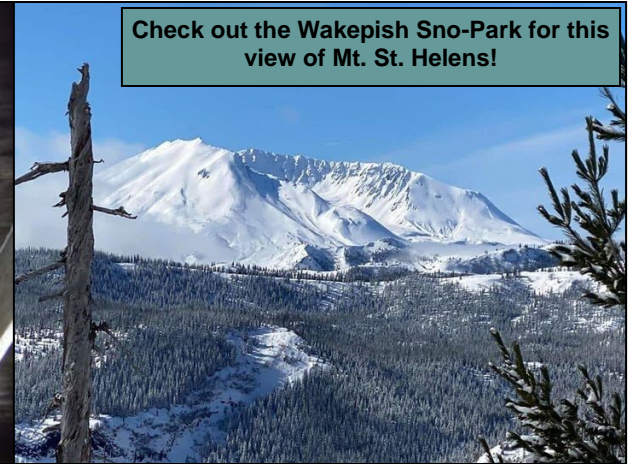
over \$80,000, from this event directly to Make-A-Wish, Alaska and Washington! Last year alone we raised just over \$7,000 with a

Jim Martinek & Tom Imm enjoying a cup of hot coffee inside the Midway Garage.



The Midway Garage roof needs a bit of help...

Check out the Wakepish Sno-Park for this view of Mt. St. Helens!



plans on resurrecting this neglected building into a warming shelter for everyone to use. We are planning a work party September 11th and 12th to do some reinforcing and replace the roof. Please see the pictures provided and contact me at (253) 224-8806 if you would like to donate money or materi-

Every January we host an event we call 'Charity on the Snow' at the Orr Creek Sno-Park. This is a family-friendly weekend of camping, snowmobiling, and other fun activities with a charity auction for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Since 2002 we have been donating 100% of the money raised, totaling

record turn-out thanks to all the hard work from Jim and Jan Martinek, Craig Miller, Jimmy Bauer, and EVERYONE else who helped organize this fun event! We hope to see you all again this coming January!

A huge THANK YOU also goes out to Back Country Plowing and

(Continued on page 20)

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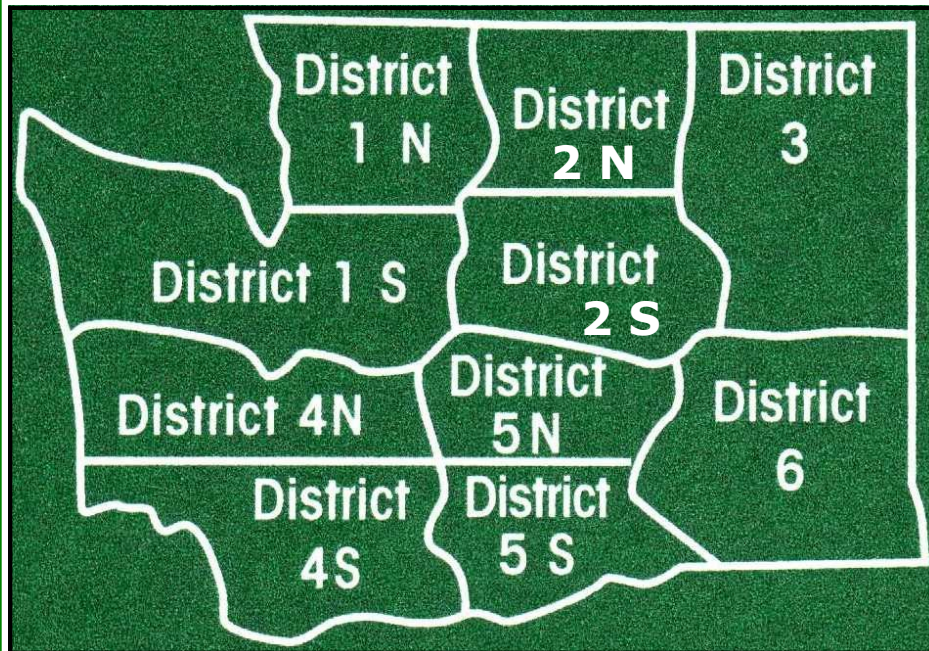


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Snowmobile Clubs



Note: Facebook addresses in blue

District 1 North

(Clallam/Jefferson/Kitsap/Skagit/Snohomish/Whatcom Counties)

Northwest Glacier Cruisers

Tom Shields
(360) 661-0003
northwestglaciercruisers@gmail.com
www.northwestglaciercruisers.com
[Northwest Glacier Cruisers](#)



Whatcom County Snowmobile Club

Kassi Leeper
(360) 927-5825
whatcomcountysnowmobileclub@gmail.com
[Whatcom County Snowmobile Club](#)



District 1 South

(King County)

Cascade Drift Skippers

Tony Keys
(208) 880-1096
tjkrash@gmail.com
www.cds.clubexpress.com
[Cascade Drift Skippers](#)



District 2 North

(Okanogan/Ferry Counties)

Assoc. of Okanogan County Snowmobile Clubs

Tom Windsor
(509) 429-3488 • twindsor40@msn.com

Bonaparte Snowmobile/ATV Club

Mike Olmstead
(509) 486-1134
bonaparte.snowmobile.atv.club@gmail.com
[Bonaparte Snowmobile/ATV Club](#)



Butte Busters Snowmobile Club

Ron Hirst
(509) 486-2284
whistlerman_2000@yahoo.com
[Butte Busters Snowmobile Club](#)

Crawfish Lake Snowmobile Club

James Peterson
(425) 277-0141
jhenryp1@aol.com

Methow Valley Snowmobile Assoc.

Craig Stahl
(509) 996-2378
methowsnowmobilers@gmail.com
www.mvsnowmobile.blogspot.com
[Methow Valley Snowmobile Association](#)



Mountain Trails Grooming Assoc.

Chuck Ultican
(509) 996-4309
mountaintrailsgrooming@gmail.com



North Central ATV Club of WA

Tim Weller
(509) 826-6780
ncatvclub@live.com
[North Central ATV Club of Washington](#)

Republic Tree Benders

Brian McKay
(509) 775-3511 • bam2604@yahoo.com
[Republic Tree Benders Snowmobile/ATV Club](#)

Tri-River Snowmobile Club

Kurt Hensley
(509) 689-2843
wakefield63@gmail.com
[Tri-Rivers Snowmobile Club](#)



District 2 South

(Chelan/Douglas Counties)

Apple Country Snowmobile Club

Jim Burts
(509) 860-3980
applecountysnowmobileclub@yahoo.com
www.applecountysnowmobileclub.com
[Apple Country Snowmobile Club](#)



Bavarian Boondockers

Matt Kensrud
(509) 433-2100
info@bavarianboondockers.com
www.bavarianboondockers.com
[Bavarian Boondockers](#)



Lake Chelan Snowmobile Club

Devon Griffith
(509) 679-9704
devongriffith64@gmail.com
www.lkchelansnowmobileclub.com
[Lake Chelan Snowmobile Club](#)



Lake Wenatchee Recreation Club

Michelle Kocher
(509) 763-3858
www.lakewenatcheerecclub.com
[Lake Wenatchee Rec Club \(LWRC\)](#)



District 3

(Grant/Lincoln/Pend Oreille/Spokane/Stevens Counties)

Chewelah Sno Posse

Howard Justice
509-233-8027

Selkirk Trailblazers

Brian Ford
(509) 964-7665 • selkirktrailblazers@gmail.com
[Selkirk Trailblazers Club](#)

Spokane Winter Knights

Greg Figg
(509) 534-3417
greg.f@msn.com
www.winterknights.com
[Spokane Winter Knights Snowmobile Club](#)



District 4 North (Grays Harbor/Lewis/Mason/Pacific/Pierce/Thurston Counties)

Barnyard Racing

Eric Clark
fj55@comcast.net

Junco Snowmobile Club

Tom Imm
(253) 370-6145
tombimm@gmail.com
[Junco Snowmobile Club](#)



Lewis County Drift Skippers

Jim Beslow
(360) 494-6690 • beslowsap@gmail.com

Northwest Boondockers

Mike Eveler
(360) 893-3035
mike.eveler@cpfd.com

Sno-Jammers Snowmobile Club

Tanner Hamlyn
(253) 376-2739
tanner.hamlyn@wssa.us
www.snojammers.org
[SnoJammers](#)



District 4 South

(Clark/Cowlitz/Skamania/Wahkiakum Counties)

Mt Adams Snowmobile Club

Shay Smith
(541) 490-0891
mtadamssnowmobileclub@gmail.com
[Mt Adams Snowmobile Club](#)

Mt St Helens Trac Riders

Doug Wick
(360) 751-8250
dwick@entekhvac.com
[Mt. St. Helens Trac Riders](#)

District 5 North

(Kittitas County)

Hi Country Beelers

Dan Johnson
(253) 838-7600
jetjohnso@aol.com



Reecer Creek Riders

Bill Miller
(509) 899-0243
reecercreekriders@gmail.com
www.reecercreekriders.org
[Reecer Creek Riders](#)



Snomads

BJ Oswald
(206) 227-2912
bjoswald21@gmail.com
[Snomads of Easton](#)



Stampede Summit Seekers

Jim Sternod
(206) 948-2946
stampedesummitseekers@gmail.com
[Stampede Summit Seekers](#)

Teanaway Snowmobile Club

Charles Johnson
(509) 674-6803 • ochasjohn1@mac.com

District 5 South

(Benton/Klickitat/Yakima Counties)

Cascade Snow Drifters

Nina Gottschalk
(509) 945-2511 • 98shay@gmail.com

Chinook Pass Snowmobile Club

Bob Jump
(509) 966-5074

Drift-A-Way Snowmobile Club

Jim Kingman
(509) 698-3658
mtnmax777@yahoo.com



Yakima Ski-Benders

Liz Van Amburg
(509) 759-5179
yakimaskibenders@hotmail.com
www.yakimaskibenders.net
[Yakima SkiBenders](#)



District 6

(Adams/Asotin/Columbia/Franklin/Garfield/Walla Walla/Whitman Counties)

Blue Mountain Snowmobile Club

Jake McNeil
(509) 386-4688
verticalescape03@hotmail.com
[Blue Mountain Snowmobile Club](#)

Mt. Misery Snow Drifters

Kent Flynn
(509) 566-7012 • klflynn@msn.com
[Mt Misery Snowdrifters](#)

Tollgate Trail-Finders

Brandon Christensen
(509) 830-3706
tollgatetrailfinders@gmail.com
www.tollgatetrailfinders.org
[Tollgate Trail Finders Snowmobile Club](#)



Pacific Northwest

Pacific Northwest Vintage Snowmobile Club

Stephen Phillips
(603) 203-5344 • pnwvsc@gmail.com
pacificnorthwestvintagesnowmobileclub.org
[Pacific Northwest Vintage Snowmobile Club](#)



Vintage Snowmobiles of the Inland N.W.

Dave Brummer
(208) 755-8334 • dbrummer@stimsonlumber.com
www.wsvsa.com/VSTOTINW.html

Club News

(Continued from page 18) Grooming! The roads to our sno-parks can present quite a challenge due to the number of trees that come down every year. Lee and Kim Olive, along with Travis Martinek and the rest of the crew, all put in a lot of hours and hard work to keep the miles and miles of roads plowed and cleared for safe travel. We love working with them and hope to do so for many more years to come! They are also very responsive on social media, so follow them for daily updates on Facebook at www.facebook.com/backcountryplowingandgrooming.



Bavarian Boondockers

By Matt Kensrud, President

The Bavarian Boondockers made their way up to Sugarloaf Mountain to bring the warming hut down. It

is now safe and sound at the Stegaman Ranch.

A few things have changed with our

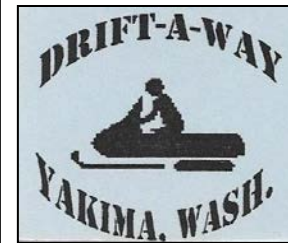
The Boondockers removed their hut from the mountain during the spring and will reinstall before the snow flies this winter.



leased property; Weyerhaeuser Timber Corp. sold the land to Hampton Resources. Fortunately nothing will change with our lease. Yay!

The club is still looking for help in all aspects of the club. If you're interested, e-mail bavarianboondockers@gmail.com.

Hope you all have a great summer!



Drift-A-Way Snowmobile Club

By Matt Mead, Secretary

It was a banner season for many Drift-A-Way members; several logged more miles and riding days than in recent history! Our first rides were in mid-November and only stopped in mid-April after the 4x4s were rutting up the trails. Members are stoked about the upcoming season

(Continued on page 21)

Experience

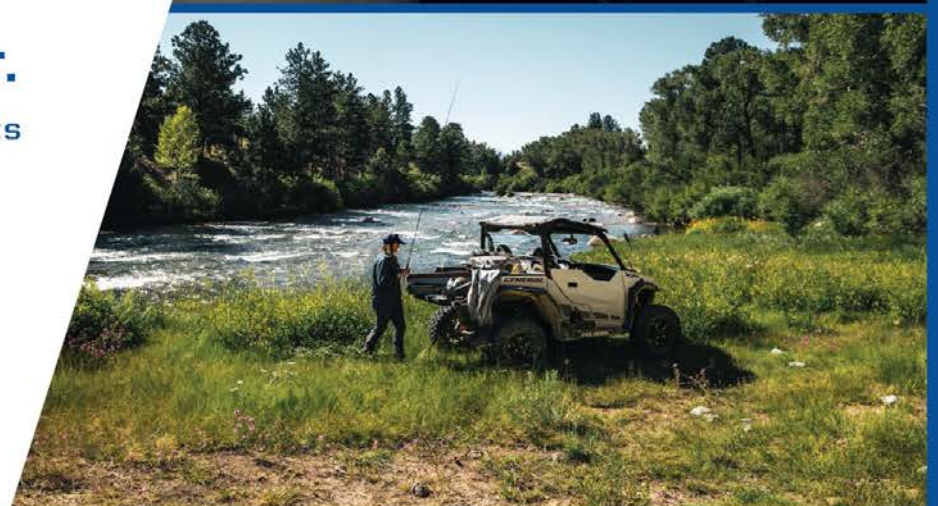
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Club News

(Continued from page 20) and hoping for November rides again this year.

The Drift-A-Way club's normal springtime Airstrip Clean-Up at the Tieton Airstrip was put on hold and eventually cancelled when the Forest Service didn't open the area back up this spring and early summer. The club also lost access to the Soup Creek Sno-Park for our annual camping trip due to an outfitter having exclusive use of it. With both of these minor setbacks, the club put together another plan and scheduled a campout and clean up at the Cold Creek Sno-Park in early June. Due to the date and short notice, the turnout was small, but the club members enjoyed a quiet weekend in the mountains and cleaned up the Cold Creek and Pinegrass Sno-Parks, and a couple of miles of the Tieton Reservoir Road. Currently the club is considering another campout weekend before the weather turns cold and will clean up any area we camp.

Speaking of cleanup... There is a segment of the recreating public that doesn't see the need to clean up after themselves and leaves trash along our trails and in the dispersed camping areas. We encourage everyone who spends time in the woods to take along a trash bag or two and clean up after these inconsiderate folks. While it shouldn't be necessary and is frustrating as all get out, if we don't do it, we risk losing access. I don't

know about you, but I'd rather spend some of my time picking up trash while I'm out playing versus not having any mountains or campsites to enjoy.

The Drift-A-Way club is a small club and we added two new families last season. If you ride (or want to ride) in the Yakima area and are looking for fun off-trail mid-week rides and/or family-friendly weekend trail/off-trail rides, maybe you'd like to join us.

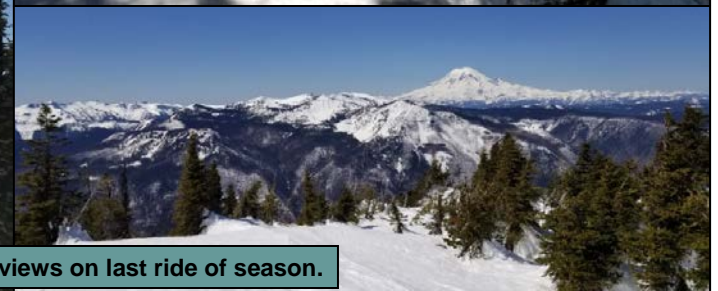
Ego-free and sense of humor required! While COVID hampered our meetings last season, we expect to get back to the first Monday of the month at Round Table Pizza in Yakima. Contact President Jim Kingman or myself for details on our next gathering.



My sled on first ride of the season on November 19th; new member Dennis Knight's sled on last ride of season April 16th. That pretty much sums up our usual rides!



A bit warm, but incredible views on last ride of season.



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Winter Rendezvous 2022 - - Yakima

Feb. 18th - 21st

Guided Rides

Friday-Sunday

Information / Sign up @ Check-in

Rendezvous Pricing

More Information to Follow

Home 2 Suites

Yakima, WA

More Information To Follow



Great Fun for the entire Family

Photo Contest

Sled Deck Raffle

Silent & Live Auctions (proceeds go to Legal Action Fund)

Awards Ceremony & Dinner (Fri & Sat Night)

Entertainment & Prizes

State Parks Update

By Pamela McConkey, Winter Recreation Program Manager

Keeping Busy

Staff and volunteers remained busy through the spring attending ZOOM/TEAMS/WEBEX and telephone conference meetings. Although these were a new experience for us, they proved to be effective and productive. The Snowmobile Advisory Committee (SMAC) winter meeting was held virtually and well attended by the user groups and interested parties. Staff also, at the Commission's request, attended a State Parks Commission workshop in April to give them an update on the winter's issues, resolutions and overall activities. The next SMAC meeting will be on July 30th and 31st in Wenatchee at the Wenatchee Convention Center. This meeting will review the 2020/2021 winter season budget and will focus on setting the budget for the 2021/2022 winter season budget. This meeting will be a hybrid of in-person and virtual attendance and participation. We are looking forward to seeing many in person later this month. Watch for the fall Snoflyer to see the results of the budget meeting if you are unable to attend.

2021 Legislative Session

The 2021 legislative session began on January 11th and concluded on April 25th, 2021. The snowmobile program had success in getting Senate Bill 5016 passed with their second attempt during this session. This bill will become effective July 25th, 2021 and the cost for registration will be the same as a snowmobile (\$50) annually. The Bill in Summary: "Tracked all-terrain vehicle" is defined within the

snowmobile chapter of state law as a WATV, weighing less than 2000 pounds in stock configuration, with tracks or a combination of tracks and skis installed in place of the tires. The definition of snowmobile is broadened to include tracked all-terrain vehicles. An owner of a WATV is allowed to maintain concurrent registrations for the vehicle for use as a WATV, and for use as a tracked all-terrain vehicle. When registering as a WATV, the WATV registration laws apply, including applicable fees. When registering as a tracked all-terrain vehicle, the snowmobile registration laws apply, including applicable fees. The Department of Licensing must establish a declaration for submission by the WATV owner when initially applying for a snowmobile registration, which states the WATV complies with all applicable federal or state vehicle safety standards while in use as a WATV upon public highways.

Hopeful for the Future

As we prepare for the upcoming summer budget meeting, we are also hopeful for the future and 'getting back to normal'. We are looking forward to snow shows,



grooming council meetings, club events and being back out on the snow. Take a look at your calendars and start planning to attend the snow shows, reconnect with vendors and friends, see what WSSA has been working on and check out all the new snowmobiles, gear and swag. Stop by the State Parks Winter Recreation Program booth and say hello if you find the time.

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commissions Winter Recreation Program is proud to partner with:



Follow the State Parks Winter Recreation Program on Twitter @ WaStatePks_WNTR

Snowmobile Registrations

	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY 20-21 Difference
July	166	149	145	134	148	166	151	(15)
August	1,142	531	676	782	2,307	222	249	27
September	3,546	2,968	3,145	2,946	1,682	2,974	3,220	246
October	2,544	1,662	2,139	2,489	1,882	3,357	3,189	(168)
November	2,870	3,129	3,362	4,360	2,960	2,372	5,009	2,637
December	6,656	11,575	13,170	6,973	8,320	6,726	7,229	503
January	2,741	3,528	3,196	3,358	3,433	4,514	3,295	(1,219)
February	381	1,164	1,513	1,166	1,602	1,293	1,541	248
March	68	298	686	674	958	355	636	281
April	42	82	181	175	258	89	219	130
May	22	32	93	93	90	135	108	(27)
June	23	30	84	71	83	126		
Total:	20,201	25,148	28,390	23,221	23,723	22,329	24,846	2,643

RTP funds several snowmobile projects for next two seasons

By Matt Mead, Publicity Secretary



When asked how our Snowmobile Program is funded, the common response is we are solely supported by our paid registration fees and a portion of the state fuel tax based on the number of snowmobiles registered. While we do receive the bulk of our funding this way, we can benefit from the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) as well. The reason **this isn't** usually mentioned is because this money is far from guaranteed. What is RTP and where does the money come from? This is a federal program administered in just about every state; federal fuel tax dollars, (estimated from fuel used in off-highway vehicles), are sent to the states to be administered in a way benefitting the recreation community, both non-motorized and motorized. In order to earn these funds, grant applications must be written and we are competing with all types of recreation needs in the state including hiking, bicycling, skiing, off-roaders and just about anything else you can think of. The competition is fierce, but generally the snowmobile community has **done well over the years. This holds true for the next two years and below you'll find the snowmobile-related grant requests and out-come.** For more detailed information on the grant requests submitted, visit the RCO (Recreation and Conservation Office) website here: <https://rco.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/RTP-Grants-2020.pdf>

Grant Requester: U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District

Purpose: Investing in two Snow Rangers for Wenatchee River and Entiat Ranger Districts

Request Amount: \$20,000

Approved: \$10,000 (Note this amount is for one year of the two year grant cycle and likely will be renewed for the second year.)

Synopsis: The Wenatchee River and Entiat Ranger Districts in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to fund two Snow Rangers to improve safety and educate the public at five sno-parks, one highly visited parking area, and 185 miles of groomed winter trails across about 250,000 acres of backcountry area. The Snow Rangers, along with volunteers, educate visitors about safe and courteous snowmobile operation, trail conditions, trail etiquette, avalanche awareness, winter survival, winter wildlife, and respect for Wilderness and other visitors. An estimated 500-700 people use the winter trails every weekend. The Forest Service will contribute \$12,900 in a federal appropriation, equipment, a state grant, and donated labor.

Grant Requester: Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Purpose: Grooming Stampede Pass Trails

Request Amount: \$150,000

Approved: \$75,000. (Note this amount is for one year of the two year grant cycle and likely will be renewed for the second year.)

Synopsis: State Parks will use this grant to groom trails at Stampede Pass, which is a Mecca for snowmobile enthusiasts, and eliminate 6,200 groomed miles of maintenance backlog during two winters. Major snowstorms require clearing trails of fallen trees, removing snow drifts, and using snow removal equipment including snow cats, snow blowers, and plows all winter long. This backcountry area is close to multiple major cities and is quickly accessed via Interstate 90. Stampede Pass provides opportunities to enjoy all forms of non-motorized winter recreation including cross-country skiing, dog sledding, and fat tire biking. State Parks will contribute \$124,000.

Grant Requester: U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Chelan Ranger District

Purpose: Caring for Lower Lake Chelan Summer and Winter Trails

Request Amount: \$150,000

Approved: \$75,000 (Note this amount is for one year of the two year grant cycle and likely will be renewed for the second year.)

Synopsis: The Chelan Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to maintain about 296 miles of trail used for hiking, Nordic skiing, snowmobiling, snowshoeing, and motorized activities. Work will include clearing trails of debris, improving trail surfaces, and replacing trail elements, such as bridges. The project also will include grooming trails in the winter for snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and fat-tire biking. The Forest Service will contribute \$130,000 in a federal appropriation, equipment, staff labor, and donations of equipment and labor.

Grant Requester: U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat Ranger District

Purpose: Maintaining Snowmobile Trails

Request Amount: \$102,000

Approved: \$51,000 (Note this amount is for one year of the two year grant cycle and likely will be renewed for the second year.)

Synopsis: The Entiat Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to maintain about 150 miles of trails. Work will include removing fallen trees, clearing trail debris, repairing minor washouts, and maintaining 250 trail signs. By keeping the trails and roads clear of debris, the district ensures snow groomers can keep the trails open in the winter. The Entiat and Wenatchee River Ranger Districts have more than 200 miles of trails that are groomed weekly during the winter. An estimated 45,000 people visit this area annually. The Forest Service will contribute \$122,000 in staff labor, a state grant, and donations of equipment and labor.

Grant Requester: Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Purpose: Maintaining Blue Mountains Snowmobile Trails

Request Amount: \$118,100

Approved: \$59,050 (Note this amount is for one year of the two year grant cycle and likely will be renewed for the second year.)

Synopsis: State Parks will use this grant to plow snow at four Sno-Parks, and groom 138 miles of snowmobile trails in the Umatilla National

(Continued on page 26)

(Continued from page 25) Forest. These trails tie into trail systems in Oregon and open riding opportunities into the mountains of northeastern Oregon. The unique terrain of this area provides open ridges with panoramic views and winding valleys with forests of Ponderosa pine and grand fir. State Parks will contribute \$15,000 in a state appropriation.

Grant Requester: U.S. Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest, Pomeroy Ranger District

Purpose: Pomeroy Ranger District Trail Grooming, Maintenance, and Operations

Request Amount: \$38,000

Approved: \$19,000 (Note this amount is for one year of the two year grant cycle and likely will be renewed for the second year.)

Synopsis: Grooming and Maintaining Trails in the Umatilla National Forest. The Pomeroy Ranger District in the Umatilla National Forest will use this grant to fund a two person crew and volunteers to provide winter grooming and maintain 138 miles of snowmobile trails in the Umatilla National Forest. The crew will remove fallen trees, clear debris, improve signs and trail markers, and install snow poles. The Forest Service will contribute \$80,000 in equipment, staff labor, materials, a state grant, and donations of equipment and labor.

Grant Requester: Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Purpose: Caring for Pyramid Peak Snowmobile Trails

Request Amount: \$140,000

Approved: \$70,000 (Note this amount is for one year of the two year grant cycle and likely will be renewed for the second year.)

Synopsis: State Parks will use this grant to clear snowmobile trails, remove winter storm and trail debris and snow drifts, and plow snow to provide safe and accessible parking for visitors to the 112-mile Pyramid Peak snowmobile trail system. The work will maintain around 5,800 miles of groomed trails for two winters plus keep five sno-parks and access roads plowed and safe for public use. The trail system lies on the west side of the Cascade Mountains, close to State Route 410, and provides quick access for Seattle and west side residents to ride groomed winter trails. State Parks will contribute \$10,000 in a state appropriation.

Grant Requester: Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Purpose: Maintaining Mount Baker Sno-Parks and Trails

Request Amount: \$132,000

Approved: \$36,712 (Note this amount is for one year of the two year grant cycle and likely will be renewed for the second year. This request was only partially funded.)

Synopsis: State Parks' Winter Recreation Program will use this grant to maintain six sno-parks and groom 7,600 miles of snowmobile trails in and around Mount Baker in Whatcom and Skagit Counties for two winters. The goal is to maintain safe and usable parking areas and trails for snowmobilers and other winter recreationists. State Parks will contribute \$20,000 in a state appropriation.

Grant Requester: U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District

Purpose: Cle Elum Ranger District Winter Trail Maintenance

Request Amount: \$51,800

Approved: **Alternate**

Synopsis: Maintaining Trails in the Cle Elum Ranger District. The Cle Elum Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to fund a two-person crew to maintain 500 miles of snowmobile trails and 60 miles of ski, snowshoe, and dogsled trails in Kittitas County. The crew will remove hazardous and fallen trees, groom trails, install and maintain signs and markers, and repair bridges and culverts, which are large pipes and other structures that carry streams under roads. The trails are used for snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, dogsledding, snow play, snowshoeing, and skijoring. The ranger district is one of the most heavily used winter recreation areas in the state, with easy access from population centers, abundant snow, and good weather. The Forest Service will contribute \$1,500 in donated labor.

Grant Requester: Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Purpose: Grooming Selkirk Snowmobile Trails

Request Amount: \$133,000

Approved: **Alternate**

Synopsis: State Parks will use this grant to plow snow at seven sno-parks and groom 8,700 miles of snowmobile trails in the Colville National Forest and on Mount Spokane. Work will include plowing snow at parking lots and access roads, clearing trails of debris, and moving fallen trees. The goal is to maintain safe and usable parking areas and trails for snowmobilers and other winter recreationists. State Parks will contribute \$20,000 in a state appropriation.

Grant Requester: Mountain Trails Grooming Association

Purpose: Grooming Snowmobile Trails in the Methow Valley

Request Amount: \$65,100

Approved: **Alternate**

Synopsis: The Mountain Trails Grooming Association will use this grant to maintain 117 miles of trail in the Methow Valley. Work will include grooming, cutting overgrown brush, and maintaining signs for trails that provide a backcountry experience for snowmobilers, cross-country skiers, and hikers. This grant supplements state funding, which has declined by 10 percent in the past year. The Mountain Trails Grooming Association will contribute \$7,300 in donated labor.

Grant Requester: U.S. Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mount Adams Ranger District

Purpose: Winter Education Patrols

Request Amount: \$18,800

Approved: **Not-approved. Grant applicant did not certify match. Project is not eligible for funding.**

Synopsis: Supporting Winter Education Patrols. The Mount Adams Ranger District in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest will use this grant to hire a ranger for two seasons to educate snowmobilers and other winter visitors. The ranger will focus education efforts on safe and responsible trail use, winter safety and avalanche hazards, sno-park education, and respecting all visitors. The U.S. Forest Service will contribute \$18,000 in staff labor.

International Snowmobile Hall of Fame Class of 2021

Contact: ISHOF, (715) 479-2186, www.ishof.com

We are honored to officially announce the annual inductees to the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame (ISHOF) as part of the new class of 2021.

For 32 years, this prestigious Hall of Fame honor is bestowed upon the incoming class of annual recipients in recognition for their achievements for the sport of snowmobiling; as awarded each year from select categories that include:

- Inventors, Designers & Manufacturers
- Explorers & Adventurers
- Trail & Program Developers
- Volunteers & Club Organizers
- Publishers & Journalists



Let's Meet the ISHOF Class of 2021 Inductees:



Henry & Peggy Hartman, Hanover, Pennsylvania - Publishers and Journalists

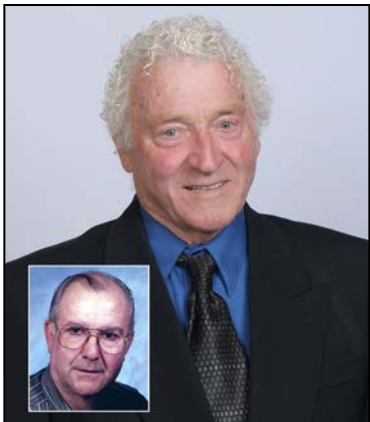
Henry and Peggy Hartman were the editors and publishers of the 'Keystone Snowmobiler' for 30 years (1989-2019), a newspaper which served as the official publication of the Pennsylvania State Snowmobile Association (PSSA). The Keystone Snowmobiler was the only known publication of its kind to be printed and mailed all 12 months of the year. The Hartmans thrived on enthusiastically promoting snowmobiling as a safe, fun and family-oriented sport for all to enjoy! Henry, also well known for his strong mechanical abilities, took ownership of a long existing Polaris dealership in Hanover from 1985 to 1997. These were the 'Indy' years. Henry and Peggy sold and serviced machines in southern Pennsylvania and northern Maryland.

Henry and Peggy both participated in organized snowmobiling, on local, state and national levels. Their hometown club, Pigeon Hills Snowmobile Club, is where Henry served several terms as President and Peggy as Secretary. The Pigeon Hills club, along with the Hartmans, had their annual fundraiser, the Ma-son Dixon Snowmobile Grass Drags, which went on for 20 years. Henry was very involved with the techni-cal side of scoring the race sleds and Peggy helped run the food stand. This is just one example of how active Henry and Peggy were with the snowmobile clubs near their hometown.

On a state level, the Hartmans have been very active with PSSA in various roles beyond the newspaper. Henry served as Region 5 Director in the mid 1980's. Since 1996, Henry and Peggy have implemented the Used Sled Coral at the PSSA Fall Show. This proved to be a lucrative fundraiser which gave participants excellent opportunities to buy or sell their used sleds.

On a national level, the Hartmans covered news through the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA). They attended and covered stories of more than 20 International Snowmobile Congresses. They were also active members of the International Snowmobile Media Council.

Henry also has a long history of working with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources on educating the youth on snowmobile safety. To this day, he is still a very active Snowmobile Safety Instructor spanning over 45 years. Henry has participated in teaching nearly 2,000 students to ride safely and responsibly. Henry and Peggy's commitment to snowmobiling went way beyond the publishing business. Their very long and unwavering devotion to the sport is the reason they are being inducted into the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame, Class of 2021.



Team Jim Langley and Clark Dahlin, Anoka/Cambridge, Minnesota - Explorers and Adventurers

Jim Langley and Clark Dahlin achieved a monumental journey like no other by completing a transconti-nental snowmobile expedition starting in Vancouver, British Columbia, and ending in Portland, Maine. On November 28th, 1966, they left the shores of the Pacific Ocean embarking on an adventure many said couldn't be done. Two men on two 1967 Polaris Colts conquered a continent in 24 days and 4,018 miles where they literally drove their sleds in the icy shores of the Atlantic Ocean. Because interconnecting snowmobile trails were all but non-existent at the time, the route was destined to require extensive travel on roadways. Therefore, the machines were properly equipped for road travel, which meant extra head-lights, windshield wipers, turn signals, seat belts and license plates were necessary. Also, wheel kits were added to the skis since much of the trip would lead them to no snow conditions. Weather also provided challenges, which were successfully overcome.

At first, during planning stages of this expedition, Allen Hetteen was reluctant. Polaris (Continued on page 28)

(Continued from page 27) donated the sleds but did not fully sponsor for fear of bad publicity pending failure. However, once the two men reached Roseau, Minnesota, after crossing the plains of Manitoba in 40 below winds chills, Jim Langley recalls Allen Hetteen pulling him aside telling him, "Jim, we're on the right track"! The orders were coming in. Dealers were doubling their orders for new sleds. The positive publicity and exciting news coverage of these two men and their machines were paying off. Polaris sales soared and the first transcontinental trip by snowmobile was merely at its halfway point. The company was in the middle of an amazing comeback just one year after the terrible losses they had suffered from the Comet model recall.

This journey also deemed Jim and Clark the first to ever cross Michigan's Mackinac Bridge on snowmobiles. Team Langley and Dahlin averaged 168 miles per day. One day of the trip they logged 336 miles. Their coast-to-coast expedition 55 years ago was truly a great feat for the early days of snowmobile development and for one manufacturer in particular. It is this amazing piece of snowmobile history that lands Jim Langley and Clark Dahlin squarely in the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame, Class of 2021.



Dave and Joann Smith, Mosinee, Wisconsin - Volunteers and Club Organizers

The Smiths bought their first snowmobiles as soon as they moved to Wisconsin Rapids in 1977. Excited to experience Wisconsin winters, they searched for places to ride and meet people to ride with. A year had gone by before they learned of a local snowmobile club, the Kellner Knights. The club was there yet seemingly hard to find even for folks like the Smiths, who were looking. Being that the club seemed hidden in plain sight, Dave and Joann made it their pet project to put together a grassroots public relations campaign that made the Kellner Knights front and center to any snowmobile enthusiast looking for a club to join. It worked! In only two years the club's membership grew from 35 to 150. Not long after, Dave was elected club president and Association of Wisconsin Snowmobile Clubs (AWSC) Wood County Director. Joann became the club's treasurer. Word got out and they were invited to do a presentation on their membership program at the International Snowmobile Congress.

Dave and Joann were recognized and respected in organized snowmobiling on a state, national and international level. Joann became the first woman vice president of the AWSC. She served as V.P. for two years continuing to champion the importance of club membership. Her efforts did not go unnoticed. She joined Bombardier Corporation when they moved their offices to Wausau and became a Project Leader in public relations. She also served as the representative for Ski-Doo on the International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association (ISMA) Public Relations Committee. It was a good fit, one that lasted 20 years and although supposedly retired, Joann and Dave continue to work for BRP (Ski-Doo) as independent contractors managing photo and media shoots.

No matter how involved the Smiths were on a national level they remained grounded with the AWSC and their local snowmobile clubs. Dave was voted in as AWSC Executive Director for two years and then Vice President for four years. He was the AWSC Director for Marathon County and Vice President of the Marathon County Snowmobile Council for several years. He served the Wausau Trailmates Snowmobile Club as Vice President, being their race track chairman for their annual grass drags for over 20 years and was a groomer operator. Joann manages the Trailmates website and monthly newsletters.

Dave and Joann have literally been and still are involved in every level of snowmobile organizations. Their strong yet unassuming leadership qualities and devotion to snowmobiling are key reasons for the Smith's long overdue induction into the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame, Class of 2021.



Charlie and Marilyn Vallier, Naubinway, Michigan - Explorers and Adventurers

Charlie's obsession with snowmobiling began when his dad purchased a Hus-Ski 444 snow machine for him and his seven siblings to ride. After high school, Charlie went into the Army where he met Marilyn, who had never been around snowmobiles before. In 1971, Charlie talked his dad into starting a Viking dealership. His passion for snowmobiling was clearly contagious and Marilyn soon became acclimated to the sport as well. When Viking went out of business, they switched to a Scorpion dealership until Scorpion's demise in the early 80's. With a strong passion for snowmobiles, Charlie was always finding and working on old sleds and became an active member of the Antique Snowmobile Club of America where he serves as a Director.

Charlie had gained a personal collection of over 200 sleds. This is where his dream of having his own museum began. Charlie and Marilyn first opened the Top of the Lake Snowmobile Museum on July 4th, 2007, from a rented building they remodeled that once was a laundromat. It wasn't long before they filled that space and needed to relocate. They broke ground on a much larger new building at what is now their current location, highly visible on Highway 2 in Naubinway. It opened in October, 2013. They dedicate most of their time to the museum so it could be open to the public seven days a week. They quickly gained notoriety and the Top of the Lake Museum was recognized by SnowGoer Magazine as being 'the best snowmobile museum' in North America. Currently the museum is home to 185 snowmobiles and countless snowmobile related items.

Charlie and Marilyn attend numerous vintage/antique snowmobile shows and swap meets throughout the Midwest.

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News

(Continued from page 28) In order to raise funding for the museum, they sell many snowmobile related items. The most popular of which is Charlie's signature wooden snowmobile rockers that engrain the idea of snowmobiling to the youngest of toddlers.

Charlie and Marilyn have several organized events annually. One example, always keeping the youth in mind and exposed to snowmobiling, they have the 'Ride Your Sled to School Day'. About 30 kids will ride their snowmobiles to school and when school lets out, Charlie leads them on a trail ride to the museum.

They have dedicated their lives not only to the preservation of snowmobile history but keeping the love for snowmobiles alive and fun. For this, Charlie and Marilyn Vallier are awarded induction in the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame, Class of 2021.



Red Arrow Snowmobile-ATV Club, Townsend, Wisconsin - 2021 International Snowmobile Club of the Year - sponsored by Woody's & Supported by the Midwest Chapter & Western Chapter of Snowmobile Associations:

The Red Arrow Snowmobile-ATV Club Inc. was established in 1969 and proudly gets its name from the historic U.S. Army 32nd Infantry Division made up of National Guardsmen from Wisconsin and Michigan who fought in WW II and Korea. The club has grown from about a dozen families in 1968 to over 414 family, individual and business booster memberships in 2020. Red Arrow grooms 65 miles of trails and is one of nine other clubs that make up the Oconto County Snowmobile and ATV Alliance that maintain a total 475 miles of snowmobile trails. Red Arrow is very active in local, county-wide and state organizations such as the Association of Wisconsin

Snowmobile Clubs and the Wisconsin ATV Association. Their members work hard to make both their winter and summer trail system 'among the best' in the State of Wisconsin. Red Arrow promotes the 'Take a Friend Snowmobiling' program and encourages members to get friends and family involved in the sport. Club members have always held a strong traditional work ethic, yet have embraced modern technology utilizing all the popular social media outlets to promote the club and motorized recreation in general. As a result, they have been fortunate to maintain a healthy supply of active club members who make their presence known in the local community and beyond. It is for these reasons and 50+ years of dedication to snowmobiling and motorized recreation in general that warrants The Red Arrow Club the 2021 International Snowmobile Club of the Year.



Ken's Sports, Kaukauna, Wisconsin - 2021 International Snowmobile Dealer of the Year - sponsored by Snow Goer & Supported by the Midwest Chapter & Western Chapter of Snowmobile Associations

Starting out in 1968 selling Arctic Cat snowmobiles, Ken and Mary Vander Loop have grown their business to what is considered the largest power sports dealership in Wisconsin. Small family owned, community minded business practices have always been the back bone of their success. Their involvement with organized snowmobiling dates back to the earliest years of this sport and as snowmobiling developed, Ken's Sports was always there doing all it could to facilitate its growth. Ken's

is a huge supporter of local snowmobile clubs and the Association of Wisconsin Snowmobile Clubs (AWSC). In the early years, Ken volunteered countless hours doing trail work and helped groom the trails as well. For 53 years, snowmobile clubs and county alliances have been coming to Ken's Sports for donations to support their various fund raising events. A decades old AWSC commercial sponsor, Ken's Sports was there at the Associations' Workshops and Conventions. For 13 years Ken's Sports has been a major sponsor of the annual Military Appreciation Ride in Eagle River, Wisconsin, by donating snowmobile gear and helmets to help introduce military veterans and their families to the sport of snowmobiling. Since 2019, Ken's Sports has created and funded four \$300 scholarships. These four scholarships are awarded annually at the AWSC Convention to deserving high school graduates pursuing further education. These are just a few examples of over 50 years of contributions Ken's Sports has made to the snowmobiling community. This makes the highly successful power sports business a deserving choice for the 2021 International Snowmobile Dealer of the Year.



Don Matheson, Bruce Mines, Ontario - 2021 International Groomer of the Year - sponsored by Arrowhead Groomers, Track Inc., Pisten Bully, Prinoth, Ltd. and SnoBoss Groomers

Don has been a member of the Bruce Mines Sno Glyders for over 40 years. He has been a groomer operator for the club for 25 years, the last 15 he has been Head Groomer Operator. Don has also served on the club's Trails and Signage Committees. For Don it's not just about running the groomer. He is directly involved in training the novice groomer operators. Don is the chief equipment repair and maintenance person. Don spends countless hours working on the trails to keep them in top shape - from brushing, tree removal, building new trails, bridge repair, and constantly looking to make sure of proper signage. In addition to his grooming and trail responsibilities, Don actively participates in every club fundraising event. Don and his wife host the club's annual volunteer appreciation event at their home. Don is

(Continued on page 30)

News

(Continued from page 29) present at every club meeting and is a participant in the club's rescue team. Don is a volunteer. He has never accepted any compensation; instead, the funds are donated back to the club. Over 40 years of this kind of tireless dedication has earned Don Matheson the 2021 International Groomer of the Year Award.



Mickey Rupp, Mansfield, Ohio - 2021 Edgar Hetteen Memorial Award of Merit - sponsored by the Elmer Cone Family & the Iron Dog Brigade

Mickey Rupp started Rupp Manufacturing in 1959 with eight employees in Mansfield, Ohio, building go-karts and mini-bikes. By 1964 Rupp Mfg. built about 50 prototype snowmobiles which turned into 500 'first year' sleds for the 1965 model year. Mickey felt confident he could improve on snowmobile designs that other manufacturers were currently using, with an emphasis on performance. This was to be done by making them more light weight, employing aluminum tunnels and bulkheads. Also, he was one of first sled manufacturers who designed an aerodynamic down swept hood. This would give the machines a sportier look and allow the drivers to see better in front of them rather than the common boxy designs of the time. By 1969, Rupp Manufacturing had grown to over 400 employees producing models of the Rupp Sno-Sport snowmobiles as well as their go-karts and mini-bikes. In 1970, Mickey Rupp had taken Rupp Mfg. to 30 million dollars in sales, producing 35,000 snowmobiles. Mickey Rupp rode and tested all his own products along with his employees. He was always innovating and engineering new prototypes. Rupp is still a recognized name in the snowmobile industry today.

Mickey Rupp's performance driven sled designs pushed the other larger snowmobile manufacturers to build a more sporty recreational type snowmobile. This warrants Mickey Rupp the recipient of the 2021 Edgar Hetteen Memorial Award of Merit.

Join us for ISHOF Induction Weekend in Eagle River, Wisconsin, on Friday and Saturday, September 17th & 18th. We invite YOU to honor the new Class of 2021 and special award recipients with a special banquet and induction ceremony in their honor. The ISHOF Induction Ceremony Weekend celebrates and honors those involved in the sport of snowmobiling, recognizing a NEW class inducted into the Hall. Join the celebration; we invite all industry representatives, dealership personnel, club members, motorsports enthusiasts, friends, fans and supporters alike to attend this ISHOF annual special event. YOU can join this year's ISHOF Induction Weekend with FUN activities of interest in Eagle River, Wisconsin, beginning on Friday September 17th. A formal sit down prime rib or chicken dinner

(your choice) to officially honor the Class of 2021 as they're inducted into the Hall is on Saturday, September 18th, 2021, at Eagle Waters Resort, 3958 Eagle Waters Rd, in Eagle River. This is a semi-formal affair so please dress accordingly for the event.

Show your support for the newly inducted Hall of Fame Class of 2021 and all special award recipients by registering online at www.ishof.com to attend. ALL major credit cards and PayPal are accepted for secure online payment with immediate receipt and event info provided to you via e-mail with your paid registration. NOTE: Registration is REQUIRED for ALL guests and supporters to attend. Registrations close on September 7th. Thank you for your support. See YOU in September!



New

ISMA Update**Snowmobile Sales Data for Winter of 2020-2021****Contact: Ed Klim, President, ISMA, (517) 339-7788**

ISMA
International
Snowmobile
Manufacturers
Association

The new snowmobile sales data for the winter of 2020-2021 shows sales of new snowmobiles outperforming economic growth worldwide. The resilient economies of North America and northern Europe battled back from the International COVID pandemic and brought many individuals outdoors to enjoy outdoor family recreation following social distancing and good, healthy activity. The winter of 20-21 reported excellent snow conditions in some of North America and Europe which helped to support the snowmobile community, manufacturers, dealers, and suppliers. This season, worldwide sales grew to 133,444 units sold, a 10% increase from last year. The sales increase was lead by the United States and Canada. In the U.S. there were 59,234 new snowmobiles sold for a 16% increase from last season. In Canada there were 50,567 new snowmobile sold for a 16% increase from last season. The new sled sales recorded in the United States are the highest since 2008. In Canada the new sled sales were the highest since the year 2000! The new snowmobile sales in Scandinavia and Russia were as follows: 8,483 units sold in Sweden – an increase of 5% over last year; Norway sales were 4,126 new units sold, a 1% decline from last year; Finland had sales of 3,437 new units sold, a minor decline; and Russian new sled sales totaled 5,309 units – down approximately 10% from last year. Sales throughout other markets in the world totaled 2,288 units – down 30% from last year. Overall, worldwide sales were strong.

In addition to the strong new sled sales, reports from dealers and individual sales reports across North America show many new snowmobilers purchased used snowmobiles and entered the market.

The snowmobile industry is now realizing the lowest number of used or non-current models available in its history. We are looking forward to a great 2021-2022 season.

States and provinces also reported there were over 1.9 million registered snowmobiles in North America. These registration numbers continue to steadily increase showing snowmobiling continues to be an active, growing, healthy winter sport. Snowmobile registrations in the United States were up over 70,000 snowmobiles and Canada was up over 50,000 snowmobiles.

Our recently conducted snowmobile user survey showed over 65% of all snowmobiling families own two snowmobiles they register and ride. 34% of the families report having three or more snowmobiles. Increased registration in Northern Europe continues and there are over 350,000 active snowmobilers now in Scandinavia.

Snowmobile-related tourism continues to increase in North America and beyond. This activity can be seen in recent economic impact studies conducted by major universities in conjunction with the state and provincial snowmobile associations. Over \$38 BILLION DOLLARS in economic activity is generated by snowmobilers in North America.

Miles ridden by snowmobilers continues to be strong. The average snowmobiler reported riding their primary snowmobile 1,555 miles this past winter. Primary snowmobiles are considered to be 2017 models and newer.

The average age of a snowmobiler is 46 years old. Approximately 30% of all riders are aged 60 years or older. 88% of snowmobilers are male and 12% female.

Surveys show snowmobilers are active outdoor enthusiasts who enjoy snowmobiling with family and friends. 82% of first-time snowmobile buyers purchased a used snowmobile and most plan to purchase a new snowmobile later in life.

Snowmobile tourism is a key component of the \$788 Billion tourism sector in the United States economy since we generate income and jobs for the rural economy during the winter months. Many jobs are generated by snowmobiling in the rural sectors of North American and Northern Europe.

Snowmobilers are optimistic, fun loving people who enjoy outdoor sports and are a vital component to the economy.

www.snowmobile.org
www.gosnowmobiling.org
www.snowmobilesafetycertification.org
www.Facebook.com/GoSnowmobiling



out in the snow,
there's only one friend
more dependable than **BOA-SKI**

Boa-Ski. By Alsport. For ruggedly dependable, carefree snowmobiling. Super powered by reliable Hirth engines. From a 292 cc to a 44-horsepower twin. Super smooth ride, too, on a 1 1/2 in. track and wide-stance skis with double action shocks. (Both slide and bogie suspension available in the Boa-Ski line.) Unexcelled styling a hallmark. Sleek, rakish cowl with twin headlamps, sport seat and at-a-glance instrumentation. All carefully built and tested, to never let you down. Boa-Ski. You can depend on it.

Alsport, Inc.

84 Whittlesey • Norwalk, Ohio 44857

man's best friend in the snow



ISMA Update

ISMA Slide Show presented at 2021 ISC in Omaha



Manufacturers Update



Worldwide New Snowmobile Sales History

2021	133,444
2020	123,862
2019	133,081
2018	124,786
2017	118,657
2016	126,972
2015	150,713
2010	111,492
2005	173,733
2000	208,297

New Snowmobile Sales for MY2021

Worldwide	133,444
United States	59,234
Canada	50,567
Sweden	8,483
Norway	4,126
Finland	3,437
Russia	5,309
Other	2,288

United States New Snowmobile Sales History

2021	59,234
2020	51,036
2019	55,025
2018	53,179
2017	50,659
2016	56,006
2015	58,299
2010	48,599
2005	100,899
2000	136,601

Canadian New Snowmobile Sales History

2021	50,567
2020	43,535
2019	46,784
2018	47,024
2017	44,161
2016	44,431
2015	50,752
2010	37,670
2005	46,304
2000	51,995

Scandinavian Sales History

Year	Sweden	Norway	Finland	Russia	Other
2021	8,483	4,126	3,437	5,309	2,288
2020	8,326	4,768	5,094	7,191	3,912
2019	11,956	5,862	4,581	6,411	2,462
2018	10,159	5,071	3,627	3,404	2,322
2017	9,778	4,692	3,032	3,829	2,506
2016	9,629	5,441	2,759	6,275	2,431
2015	10,200	5,194	3,842	20,012	2,414
2010	7,255	4,375	2,742	8,160	2,691
2005	7,629	3,937	6,093	5,794	3,007

(Continued on page 33)

ISMA Update

ISMA Slide Show presented at 2021 ISC in Omaha - continued...

(Continued from page 32)

US Sales History By Region

Year	Northeast	MidWest	West
2021	26%	43%	31%
2020	26%	43%	31%
2019	27%	43%	30%
2018	29%	42%	29%
2017	25%	44%	31%
2016	28%	44%	28%
2015	27%	47%	26%
2010	28%	44%	28%
2005	36%	40%	24%
2000	25%	51%	24%

Canadian Sales History by Region

Year	Eastern	Central	Western
2021	49%	33%	18%
2020	52%	31%	17%
2019	50%	31%	19%
2018	49%	32%	19%
2017	47%	33%	20%
2016	47%	34%	19%
2015	42%	33%	25%
2010	47%	30%	23%
2005	48%	32%	20%
2000	35%	40%	25%

Year	Registration Total
2021	1,189,466
2020	1,112,810
2019	1,246,439
2018	1,258,675
2017	1,262,270
2016	1,259,930
2015	1,340,585
2014	1,357,200
2013	1,392,043
2012	1,366,630

United States Registration History

Year	Registration Total
2021	596,101
2020	543,118
2019	637,196
2018	591,289
2017	611,524
2016	634,720
2015	606,802
2014	594,276
2013	583,477
2012	593,248

Canadian Registration History

Determinants of Demand for snowmobiles and other normal goods



2020-2021 Survey Results:

Average age –	46 years old
1 st snowmobile purchased was	
used:	62%
new:	38%
Do you belong to a Club or Association	72% yes

(Continued on page 34)

ISMA Update

ISMA Slide Show presented at 2021 ISC in Omaha - continued...

(Continued from page 33)

Average miles/kilometers ridden

- Primary snowmobile (MY 2017-2021): 1155 mi / 1859 km
- Secondary Snowmobile (MY 2012-2016): 794 mi / 1278 km
- Third sled or more (MY2004-2011): 170 mi / 274 km

- 65% have 2 sleds
- 34% have 3 or more sleds

50% Trailer their snowmobiles to ride
50% Ride from their cabin or home

12% of snowmobilers are Female
88% of snowmobilers are Male

Average spent annually on Snowmobiling:

\$2,000.00

Snowmobilers OTHER recreational pursuits:

- 60% ATV riding
- 57% Boating
- 54% Camping
- 53% Hunting
- 38% Fishing
- 35% Hiking
- 32% Motorcycle Riding
- 26% Golfing
- 17% Biking
- 15% Other



RV sales are up

Boat sales are up

ATV and UTV sales are up

The Outdoor Recreation Economy Generates:

- **\$788 Billion** in consumer spending annually
- **5.1 Million** American Jobs
- **\$65.3 Billion** in Federal Tax Revenue
- **\$59.2 Billion** in State and Local Tax Revenue

Safe Riders! Safety Video Series

Available at:

<https://www.snowmobile.org/safe-riders-videos.html>

(Continued on page 35)

ISMA Update

ISMA Slide Show presented at 2021 ISC in Omaha - continued...

(Continued from page 34)

International Snowmobile Safety Week: January 15-23, 2022

Take a Friend Snowmobiling Week: February 12-21, 2022

Snowmobile
Safety.....
Avalanche
Awareness
and safety
training has
expanded.

- GET THE GEAR:
- GET THE TRAINING:
- GET THE FORECAST:
- GET THE PICTURE:
- GET OUT OF HARMS WAY:

Avalanche Trainers

- Members of MAP (Motorized Avalanche Professionals)
 - Avalanche 1 – Eagle, CO – Mike Duffy
 - American Avalanche Institute – Jackson, WY
 - Silverton Avalanche School – Silverton, CO
 - Back Country Institute – Utah
 - Six Point Avalanche Education – Idaho, Montana, Wyoming
- Aiare
- AAA (American Avalanche Association) – Jayne Thompson new AAA Director
- US Forests Trainers (Friends of the Forest)
- Avalanche Canada

ISMA Grant Project Objectives

- Support of Government Rides
- Safe Rider support efforts
- Increasing or maintaining land access
- Precedent setting lawsuits regarding land access issues
- Economic Impact studies
- Educate New Riders and Welcome them to Clubs and Association-emphasizing the reason for riding on the trails and within open riding zones

SAE Snowmobile Challenge



March 29, 2021
TBD– next year

International Snowmobile Celebration

October 29-30, 2021

ACSA E-News

**Contact: Christine Jourdain, Executive Director,
ACSA, (517) 351-4362**



53rd ISC - Omaha, Nebraska

Over 200 snowmobile enthusiasts gathered in Omaha, Nebraska, to attend the 53rd International Snowmobile Congress (ISC) in June. The 2020 ISC was cancelled due to the COVID Pandemic.

Meetings were held by the American Council of Snowmobile Associations, the International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association, the Mountain and Trails Riding Regions, the ISC Chapters, the Media and Tourism Councils, the Iron Dog Brigade and the ISC Planning Committee.

There were informative and inspirational speakers that started the day every morning before breaking out to the different meetings and multiple educational breakout sessions.

The groomer manufacturers brought their equipment to the ISC and talked with everyone about the latest and greatest features and improvements that have been made.

The snowmobilers in attendance were very generous! Over \$28,000 was raised during the week for various fundraisers!

Several deserving volunteers were recognized at the Saturday evening Awards Banquet for their dedication, leadership and volunteerism for snowmobiling.

Exciting plans for the 54th ISC are underway! Mark your calendar and plan to attend! Dubuque, Iowa -- June 8th-11th, 2022.

Thanks to each and every attendee for being in Omaha!

Special thanks to each and every ISC sponsor!

2020 ACSA Award Winners:

Dealer of the Year: Day's Power Sports*

Club of the Year: Sno-Trails Snowmobile Club* (Hayward, WI)

Youth of the Year: Nick Wilterdink

Snowmobile Family of the Year: Norbie and Paula Ziegler

Snowmobiler of the Year: Jeff Krael

*Also named International Snowmobile Dealer and International Snowmobile Club of the Year.

Other Notable Awards:

2020 Iron Dog Distinguished Award: Peggy Spieger

2021 Iron Dog Distinguished Award: Joann Smith

ACSA 2021 Young Snowmobiler of the Year

At the 53rd International Snowmobile Congress, A.J. Krueger from Wausau, Wisconsin, was named the ACSA Young Snowmobiler of the Year.



Rodney & Racyl Burinski, AJ Krueger with parents Wayne and Dawn.

Krueger got involved in her snowmobile club 16 years ago, and more recently become involved with youth snowmobiling, Kids and

Adults Out Snowmobiling (KAOS). She has volunteered working the Grass Drags, brushing and marking trails, fundraising and participated in the Badger State Games Torch Run.

Krueger's original involvement was with the Wisconsin Kids

Snowmobile Racing Association and the Wisconsin Kitty Cat Racers. So, it came as no surprise that A.J. was not able to receive her award due to a previous engagement, racing her truck in Iowa the evening of the awards. She is also an active truck racer, traveling around Wisconsin and surrounding states competing on the race track.

"Having young and enthusiastic involvement like A.J. is the future of snowmobiling" stated Association of Wisconsin Snowmobile Clubs' President Dave Newman. "With youth involvement and encouragement from young snowmobilers like A.J., our future is bright! Passionate snowmobilers, especially young snowmobilers, are the future leaders of our sport. We are so proud of A.J. and the entire KAOS group!"

Congratulations to this year's ACSA Youth Snowmobiler of the Year, A.J. Krueger!

ACSA 2021 Snowmobile Club of the Year

The Red Arrow Snowmobile Club from Townsend, Wisconsin, was named ACSA Snowmobile Club of the Year.

The Red Arrow Club was founded in 1968 with about a dozen families. Today the membership is over 400. They have progressed from hand-drawn trail maps to a website and Facebook with thousands of views.



ACSA VP Dan Long, Gary and Sandy Wagner, and ACSA President Scott Herzog.

The club grooms about 65 miles of trail. In 2010, they converted to a joint snowmobile/ATV club. In fact, this club was instrumental in helping to form a multi-county ATV/UTV club leader group that meets quarterly with the National Forest to address issues and challenges.

The Club realizes the importance of working together with other clubs and organizations as well as the local chamber of commerce and neighboring towns fire departments and ambulance services. They participate in local events such as the 4th of July Parade and Fireworks as well as organize snowmobile safety classes. Every **Wednesday during the winter, the club hosts a 'Join the Group' ride, for all snowmobilers and their friends. It's an all-day ride with lunch for experienced riders as well as new riders.**

The Club has been blessed with many young retiree residents as well as **'active weekenders' who love motorized recreation!**

At the Awards Banquet, Gary Wagner, Past President of the Red Arrow Club, learned they were also named International Snowmobile Club of the Year!

Congratulations to this year's ACSA Snowmobile Club of the Year, Red Arrow Snowmobile!

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ACSA E-News

(Continued from page 36)

ACSA Snowmobiler of the Year

Brian Erickson from South Dakota was named this year's ACSA Snowmobiler of the Year.

Erickson has been an active member of their state snowmobile association and ACSA for 22 years. He started at the club level and worked his way up from the club to the state level to the national level.

As with many snowmobilers, starting as a club member quickly turns into volunteering at different work events, fundraising events, and eventually working your way through the officer positions.



Brian and his wife, Tracey, and his parents, Lois and Leroy Erickson

Moving from the club leadership to the state association leadership is another natural turn of events for driven and gifted leaders. Erickson started as a delegate and ended up serving as Vice President, President and Past President as well as taking on responsibilities for

state events, national events and appointing new committees.

Erickson attended several ISCs as well as many DC Fly-Ins. He became involved at the national level on awards and public service announcements as well as other projects.

And like most dedicated leaders, fundraising is always an important piece, whether it's at the local level, state level or national level. Erickson is no different – and has been intimately involved in funding at all levels from selling raffle tickets and 50/50 tickets to Poker Runs and FOSPAC fundraisers.

Leaders lead by example – and Brian Erickson has done exactly that! When there is a local land issue or National Forest land issue, he picks up the phone or writes letter. If it's a state issue or national issue, he will fire off a letter to their state officials as well as their D.C. representatives.

And like most snowmobile leaders, snowmobile safety is always the priority. Whether it's mentoring new riders on the trail or helping a fellow snowmobiler dig out of misfortunate situation, it's all about helping each other out and having a great day riding.

Congratulations to this year's ACSA Snowmobiler of the Year, Brian Erickson!

ACSA Awards Video

To See the ACSA 2021 Award Video, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wNRypWUd-ys>

Forest Fires and Air Quality

A study recently released by the California Air Resources Board said the 2018 Camp Fire subjected area residents to unhealthy levels of particulate matter, zinc, lead and other dangerous chemicals that were detected 150 miles away.

As wildfires hammer the drought-stricken Western U.S., the findings raise alarms about the risk of health impacts such as cancer and learning deficits. Some parts of California such as the city of Chico saw lead concentrations briefly spike to 50 times the average level, the study by the California Air Resources Board found.

"This report makes it clear that wildfire smoke poses a real health threat not only to people living and working near these fires, but to anyone affected by the smoke as it travels across California and beyond," said Richard Corey, executive officer of the agency, in a press release.

The air board's study said the Camp Fire was particularly noxious because of the extraordinary number of buildings that burned down, releasing an unusually high volume of chemicals into the air.

Taiga Receives \$50 Million from Canadian Government

The Quebec-based Taiga Motors Company that is attempting to bring mass production electric snowmobiles and personal watercraft to market got a big boost recently when it announced \$50 million in government support for a manufacturing facility in Shawinigan, Quebec.

- \$50M in combined support from federal, provincial and municipal governments of Taiga's Mass-Production Facility for electric snowmobiles, watercrafts, battery packs and powertrain systems in Shawinigan, Quebec.
- Utilizing cutting-edge technology, the most advanced high-volume electric powersport production facility in the world is expected to begin operations in second half of 2022.
- Once fully operational, the facility will have an annual production capacity of up to 80,000 units and three gigawatt-hours in battery pack and module production.

Who Will Lead the BLM?

A heated Senate panel deadlocked along partisan lines recently over the nomination of Tracy Stone-Manning, whom Republicans have accused of lying about her connection to a 1989 tree-spiking incident, to lead the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

Due to the 10-10 vote in the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Senator Chuck Schumer had to employ a rarely used maneuver to 'discharge' the nomination to the Senate floor.

The committee's top Republican, John Barrasso of Wyoming, accused Stone-Manning of lying in her written answers to the committee when she said she had never been investigated

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Visit www.snowmobile.org for Safe Riders! material. Please use to promote club membership and snowmobile

ACSA E-News

(Continued from page 37)

for tree-spiking. Stone-Manning sent an anonymous letter, which she did not write, to the Forest Service warning trees had been spiked on the Clearwater National Forest.

This tie vote will result in Stone-Manning being referred 'unfavorably' to the full Senate, requiring Democrats to bring up a motion to 'discharge' her nomination at the appropriate time and tacking on an additional four hours of debate before a confirmation vote can occur. Democrats have said they are confident they have the votes to ultimately confirm her.

Forest Service To Review Shawnee National Forest For Wilderness Designation

Senate Majority Whip Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-IL) sent a letter to the U.S. Forest Service requesting the lands of the Shawnee National Forest in Illinois be reviewed to determine if areas of the forest meet the requirements to be considered for Wilderness protection.

Senator Mitt Romney (R-UT) and Congressman John Curtis (R-UT) introduced the Shawnee Wilderness Designation Act earlier this year, which would protect all 289,000 acres of the forest as Wilderness.

This legislation was in response to Durbin's introduction of the America's Red Rock Wilderness Act, which would protect 8.4 million acres of land in Utah.

As The West Burns....

House Committee on Natural Resources Ranking Member Bruce Westerman (R-AR) introduced the Resilient Federal Forests Act, a bipartisan bill to address the environmental and economic threats of catastrophic wildfires. House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA), House Minority Whip Steve Scalise (R-LA), Congressional Western Caucus Chairman Dan Newhouse (R-WA), and 67 other members joined the bill as original cosponsors, and more than 85 organizations supported the legislation.

"Record-breaking wildfires in the West repeatedly highlight the need for proactive, scientific forest management," Westerman said. "Decades of mismanagement have led to insect infestation, hazardous fuel buildup and dead and decaying trees, creating tinderboxes for the smallest stray spark to ignite a raging inferno."

"It's time for Congress to stop sitting on our hands and actually allow the Forest Service to use proven, scientific methods when managing our forests so that we can prevent these fires from occurring in the first place," said Westerman.

Firesheds Act Introduced to Better Manage

Senator Jim Risch (R-ID) and Rep. Blake Moore (R-UT) introduced bicameral legislation to better manage firesheds or landscapes at extremely high risk of catastrophic fire. The Forest Improvements through Research and Emergency Stewardship for Health Ecosystem Development and Sustainability (FIRESHEDS) Act, would allow governors to enter into joint agreements with land management agencies to designate fireshed management areas and implement management projects.

It would also expedite the environmental review process to perform critical fuel reduction and prescribed fires to better protect public health, critical infrastructure, wildlife habitats, and watersheds. Additional Senate cosponsors of the FIRESHEDS Act include Senators Mike Crapo (R-ID), John Barrasso (R-WY), and Steve Daines (R-MT).

Newhouse Introduces Legislation to Prevent Wildfires

Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA) introduced the Stop Causing Alarming Tree, Air, and Soil Trauma Resulting from Obstructive Progressives' and Hypocritical Environmentalists' Schemes Act (Stop CATASTROPHES Act). This legislation enhances an important tool known as 'categorical exclusions' to improve forest health to reduce the risk of wildfire.

"The Stop CATASTROPHES Act is commonsense policy that will act as a tool in combating catastrophic wildfires through proper forest management," said Rep. Newhouse. "Far too often, misguided special interest groups prevent innovative management from being implemented, resulting in poor forest health and thereby increasing the threat of devastating wildfires."

Thune Introduces Bill to Expedite Urgently Needed Forest Management on Federal Lands

U.S. Sen. John Thune (R-SD), a longtime member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, introduced the Expediting Forest Restoration and Recovery Act. This legislation would require the U.S. Forest Service to expedite treatment of more than 70 million acres of Forest Service lands, in consultation with states, that were identified during the Obama administration as in need of treatment to reduce the threat of insect and disease infestations and catastrophic wildfires.

In South Dakota alone, the U.S. Forest Service designated the vast majority of the Black Hills National Forest as a landscape-scale insect and disease area that is in need of treatment.

Stauber sponsors Healthy Forests for Hunters Act

U.S. Rep. Pete Stauber (R-MN) led eight Republican colleagues in introducing forest management legislation that would aim to strengthen wildlife habitat and increase hunting and recreating on America's public lands.

"Right now, wildfires threaten forests in northern Minnesota and nationwide," Rep. Stauber said. "Therefore, I am proud to offer a solution that will take necessary steps to preserve our forests and wildlife habitat, so Minnesota's rich hunting tradition can continue for years to come while providing quality jobs for loggers in National Forests."

Mark Your Calendars!

Information on the 'Sled Season' celebration will be forthcoming!

Are You Following Us?

www.facebook.com/AmericanCouncilofSnowmobileAssociations

(Information pulled from weekly e-mail blasts and edited for publication in the Snoflyer.)





American Council of Snowmobile Associations Legacy Fund

Contact: Len Neisler, ACSA Legacy Fund Committee Chair, (317) 507-5436

We have good news to share: The American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA) board of directors recently established an endowment fund with the Capital Region Community Foundation – a public, charitable, 501(c)(3) organization with more than \$100 million in assets. The name of the endowment fund is the ACSA Legacy Fund.

Community foundations specialize in building endowments to benefit communities and nonprofit organizations. The Capital Region Community Foundation will professionally manage our fund, provide fiscal oversight of the ACSA Legacy Fund through its governing board, and has an experienced staff that administers over 400 other endowment funds. And, it is well suited for the proximity of ACSA's corporate office.

By making a gift to the ACSA Legacy Fund, our donors receive a tax deduction and at the same time benefit ACSA in perpetuity. All grants from the fund are made to ACSA. Placing the endowment with the Capital Region Community Foundation gives donors the confidence their gifts will be well managed financially with consistent concern for growth of principal and generation of income for **ACSA's use**. Contributions to the ACSA Legacy Fund at the Community Foundation are eligible for federal income tax deduction in the year the contribution is made. By giving qualified appreciated assets to the ACSA Legacy Fund at the Community Foundation, donors can avoid capital gains taxes. And, the assets in our fund grow tax-free!

I am ready to give now. What are my options?

- **Gifts of cash:** A cash gift is the easiest to make. Your donation is deductible as a charitable gift for federal tax purposes. Your check made payable to the Capital Region Community Foundation should include 'ACSA Legacy Fund' in the memo line and can be mailed to:

ACSA Legacy Fund
Capital Region Community Foundation
330 Marshall Street, Suite 300
Lansing, Michigan 48912

- **Gifts of securities:** When you donate appreciated securities, you receive the same income tax savings that you would with other donations, but with the added benefit of eliminating capital gains taxes on the transfer. Making a gift of securities is as easy as instructing your broker to transfer the shares. Contact the Community Foundation at (517) 272-2870 for instructions regarding the best way to arrange a transfer.

- **Qualified Distributions from your IRA:** The tax bill passed by Congress in late 2017 doubled the standard deduction and placed limitations on certain itemized deductions. As a result, many taxpayers are no longer able to itemize charitable deductions on their federal and state tax returns, and if over 72, are unable to use charitable deductions to offset the taxes on the required minimum distribution (RMD) from their IRAs. These recent tax law changes make it attractive for such taxpayers to make charitable gifts through a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) from their IRA directly to a qualifying public charity, such as the Capital Region Community Foundation (which holds the ACSA Legacy Fund). Utilizing a QCD (sometimes referred to as a charitable IRA rollover) allows donors who are at least 70½ to:

- Satisfy all or a portion of their RMD by causing a qualified charitable distribution to be made directly from their IRA account to a qualifying public charity (such as the Community Foundation) in an amount of up to \$100,000 annually; and
- Exclude the qualified charitable distribution from their federal and state taxable income.

Such charitable transfers may be attractive to donors who do not need their IRA distributions to support their retirement lifestyle. They may also benefit donors who desire to make charitable contributions, but who are not in a position to itemize deductions (often because they pay no mortgage interest). Finally, they may benefit higher income donors by excluding their RMD from their adjusted gross income (thereby avoiding certain adverse tax consequences).

Note that the transfer must be made directly from the trustee holding the IRA to the Capital Region Community Foundation, the recipient charity.

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News

(Continued from page 39) Because there are certain limitations on the use of QCDs, and because the specific tax implications of a QCD will depend upon your individual circumstances, you should consult your own tax or financial advisor about the tax treatment of such a gift.



What are my choices for giving later?

- **Bequests:** Making a gift to the ACSA Legacy Fund with the Community Foundation through your will or trust is simple. A charitable bequest can be a specific dollar amount, a percentage of your estate, or what remains after other bequests – including those to family members – are made. Or, you can specify that your heirs receive a lifetime income, with the remainder going to the ACSA Legacy Fund.
- **Retirement assets:** Naming the ACSA Legacy Fund as a beneficiary of your retirement plan assets will support your charitable interests while achieving significant tax advantages for your heirs. This approach offers a highly efficient way to preserve your estate and to give a significant gift.
- **Charitable gift annuities** are a contract between you and the Community Foundation, guaranteeing you or someone you name a certain fixed income for life. At the death of the last annuity recipient, the remaining assets will be placed in the ACSA Legacy Fund as you originally specified. Charitable gift annuities also provide the donor and beneficiary with significant tax benefits.
- **Life insurance** can be used as a charitable asset when you name ACSA Legacy Fund with the Community foundation as the beneficiary of your policy. Making the Community Foundation the owner of a policy can also provide you with tax benefits.
- **Other charitable giving vehicles** such as charitable remainder trusts and charitable lead trusts may also provide favorable tax benefits to the donor. You should discuss your individual situation with your professional tax advisor.

Note: Since the Capital Region Community Foundation is the legal entity holding the ACSA Legacy Fund, all gift instruments – including wills, trusts, and beneficiary forms – should indicate that your gift is made to the 'Capital Region Community Foundation, a Michigan nonprofit corporation, to be placed into the ACSA Legacy Fund.'

Whether to utilize any of these vehicles, and if so, which ones, depends greatly upon your own individual financial and tax situation. You should therefore discuss these options with your financial and legal advisors to determine the best approach for you.

We hope you'll join us in supporting the growth and future of the ACSA by making a charitable contribution today to the ACSA Legacy Fund. Your dollars, combined with the dollars of others who value the work of ACSA, will ensure the sustainability of our work.

For more information about the ACSA Legacy Fund, including inquiries regarding the establishment of funds to support specific ACSA programs, or ACSA activities in a particular state, please contact:

American Council of Snowmobile Associations
P.O. Box 1670
Brighton, Michigan 48116
Phone: (517) 351-4362
Fax: (517) 351-1363 info@snowmobilers.org

Forest Service Update at ISC

Contact: Penny K. Wu, National Travel Management Program Manager, Forest Service Recreation, Heritage & Volunteer Resources, Washington Office



Chief Christiansen announced her retirement. She will remain on as Chief until August and stated Secretary Vilsack will announce a new Chief.

Visitation to the National Forest System. Record-breaking visitation continues with numbers recently reported for Fiscal Year 2020: The Forest Service experienced 18 million more visits than the previous year, for an estimated total of 168.2 million visits to National Forest and Grasslands. The majority of the increase occurred in dispersed settings and in the last half of the fiscal year, as people sought outdoor activities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Trails Stewardship Outfitter-Guide Pilot Offset Program. This is a pilot program, required under the National Forest Trails Stewardship Act, and was implemented in the spring of 2020 with 20 pilot units. Participation by outfitter and guides was limited because of the COVID-19 pandemic as some permit holders did not operate in 2020. The feedback, however, from partners who participated in the pilot season was overwhelmingly positive. Implementation of this program continues into 2021. *(Editor's Note: The Outfitter and Guide Trail Stewardship Credit Pilot Program provides an opportunity for approved outfitters and guides to help with trail maintenance and, in exchange, offset all or part of the annual land use fee they pay for operating on National Forest System land. Twenty National Forests have been selected for participation in the pilot programs. Stewardship activities are aimed at constructing, improving, and maintaining National Forest System trails, trailheads, and developed recreation sites that support public use.)*

10-Year Trail Shared Stewardship Challenge (Trail Challenge) – the Trail Challenge strategically focuses the energy and resources of employees, partners, and volunteers on actions resulting in shared priorities, greater capacity to manage and maintain trails, and to provide more miles of well-maintained and well-located trails that provide access and value to communities and the public. The first of three implementation phases of the Trail Challenge most recently included an issuance of Phase 1: Launch and Learn Guidebook, which provides measurable actions to track improvements to management of trails.

Policy & Guidance in Relation to Recreation/Trails Program:

- **E-Bike Directives (Manual 7700).** The Forest Service is finalizing directives that clarify how e-bikes are managed on National Forest System lands. The new directives will create an e-bike definition; identify three classes of e-bikes for designation as motor vehicles. These updates provide needed guidance to field units under existing Travel Management Rule definitions and establish criteria to designate trails and areas for e-bike use.
- **Operation and Maintenance of Developed Recreation Sites (Manual 2330 & Handbook Chapter 50).** At the end of May, the Forest Service published a new handbook and updates to the manual providing direction for operating and maintaining developed recreation sites. These particular directives for operation and maintenance were last revised in the 1990s and early 2000s.
- **Draft Directive Public Lands Corps and Resource Assistants Program (Manual 1800).** Draft directives currently out for public comment, and provides guidance to field units who work with partners to deliver workforce development opportunities.

Over-Snow Vehicle Use Travel Mgmt. Planning Projects in California. Five forests have completed the NEPA process by the required deadlines of a 2013 settlement agreement; with four of the forests now working towards finalizing Records of Decisions.

Charity Report - International Snowmobile Council

Presented at the International Snowmobile Congress by Len Neisler, ACSA Legacy Fund Committee Chair, (317) 507-5436

(Editor's Note: You'll notice another poor showing for Washington State. It's not that you all haven't been raising money and donating hours, but the fact you are all too lazy to report it to WSSA. It hasn't helped that WSSA no longer has a Charity Chair to collect that data, but I'm going to lay that at your feet as well. Step it up WSSA!)

International Snowmobile Congress Charity Report 2021

State/Province/Territory	Charity Contributions ⁽¹⁾			Hours Donated	Number of Clubs	Clubs Reporting
	National	Local	Total			
Alberta	\$0	\$11,403	\$11,403	120	35	35
British Columbia	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	60	0**
Colorado	\$0	\$7,000	\$7,000	882	35	2
Idaho	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	30	3**
Illinois	\$1,200	\$8,035	\$9,235	2,904	15	15
Indiana	\$0	\$100	\$100	3	10	1
Iowa	\$3,350	\$5,350	\$8,700	3,094	57	4
Klondike/Yukon	\$0	\$0	\$0	400	1	1
Manitoba	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	52	0**
Michigan	\$5,900	\$23,469	\$29,369	55,775	99	17
Minnesota	\$1,457,304	\$167,405	\$1,624,709	28,888	40	40
Montana	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	25	0**
Nebraska	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	5	0**
New Brunswick	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	1,102	0**
New York	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	228	228**
Newfoundland/Labrador	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	1	0**
Nunavut	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	1	0**
North Dakota	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	37	0**
Northwest Territories	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	1	1**
Nova Scotia	\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000	400	21	21
Ohio	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	9	0**
Ontario	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	213	0**
Oregon	\$10,920	\$14,279	\$25,199	25,199	8	8
Pennsylvania	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	57	0**
Prince Edward Island	\$2,500	\$1,000	\$3,500	500	3	3
Quebec	\$0	\$100	\$100	1,774	200	200**
Saskatchewan	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	63	0**
South Dakota	\$4,154	\$31,612	\$35,766	7,841	23	10
Utah	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	5	0**
Washington	\$0	\$0	\$0	3,747	44	4
Wisconsin	\$19,475	\$74,255	\$93,730	19,896	625	70
Wyoming	\$790	\$112,077	\$112,867	13,090	13	13
Totals	\$1,517,593	\$456,085	\$1,973,678	164,513	3,118	676

** No report from this Organization

Note 1 - funds in United States Currency

List of Some of the National Charities financially supported by States, Provinces and Territories:

Red Cross Nat. foundation for Cancer Research-Breast Cancer
 Am. Heart Fund-Disabled Vet's
 Special Olympics
 Elks Nat. Foundation
 Nat. foundation for the Blind
 ACSA Legal Defense Fund
 Disabled American Veterans - DAV and Veterans of Foreign Wars
 ALS - Lou Gehrig's Disease American Cancer Society
 Am. Cancer Society
 American Red Cross
 Lions club international flood victims, eye bank
 Canadian Cancer Society
 Blue Ribbon Coalition
 Easter Seals
 Spina Bifida
 Make A Wish
 Stars and Stripes Honor Flight
 University Clean Snowmobile Team
 St. Helen "We Care", St. Helen Helping Hands
 American Diabetes Association

List of some local charities financially supported by States, Providences and Territories:

Contributions to snowmobile related charities
 Local Fire Departments
 Local Lions Club
 Local Food Pantries
 Local Schools
 Local scholarship funds
 Local Spina Bifida
 Local Chamber of Commerce
 State/Provincial Snowmobile Association
 Spina Bifida State Fund
 Libraries
 Local Volunteer Fire Departments
 Youth Snowmobile Groups

Submitted by Len Neisler, ISC Charity Chair
 May 28, 2021

Join WSSA and help support snowmobiling in Washington State!



What Does WSSA Do For YOU?

- WSSA paid consultants work on the behalf of all Washington State snowmobilers' in Olympia's Capitol
- WSSA District Reps represent snowmobilers' interests with local land officials and in regional trail grooming councils
- WSSA travels to Washington D.C. to discuss snowmobile related issues with your congressional representatives and national land managers
- WSSA represents snowmobilers on the national level with a voice in the American Council of snowmobile Associations and the International Snowmobile Council
- WSSA hosts the annual Snowmobile Expo & Swap Meet in Puyallup – the largest snowmobile event in the Pacific Northwest
- WSSA's successful Trail Grant program helps fund new sno-parks & warming huts, trail upgrades & facility improvements
- WSSA's annual Winter Rendezvous offers you the opportunity to ride in different parts of the state with guided rides and evening social gatherings
- WSSA supports snowmobile and non-snowmobile projects and charities to boost the image of snowmobilers across the state

Matt's Misc.

Only 17 more Fridays til my first ride?

We were spoiled last fall with early, deep snow on White Pass. We usually have to give a break to the hunters until the middle of December, but they were forced out of the woods early. Having my first ride on November 19th was something I hadn't done since I lived in Maine back in the late 80s. Can we pull it off again this season? I sure hope so. I'll be ready, and will make sure my riding group is as well!

Tracked ATV/UTV legislation -

PASSED! Our legislation to allow tracked ATVs and UTVs to register as snowmobiles and use our groomed trails is a done deal. It passed both the House and Senate last session and has been signed by the Governor. I'm not sure if you can actually register one today as details are still being worked out with DMV, but it should be no problem to have it done before the snow flies.

So, how's it going to work out? I've heard from a handful who believe there will be carnage on the trails and snowmobilers will be killed in fiery crashes. I'm hopeful everyone rides 'right' and keeps their speed in control and everyone gets along swimmingly. It's the responsibility of all of us to ride safe, keep speeds in check, and stay to the right side of the trail, especially when going around blind corners. I'm anxious to see more people out enjoying our trails in the winter. More registered users means more money in our Snowmobile Program. It also means more voices to speak up when we face a land-use issue where someone is trying to eliminate our access.

U.S. motorized-avalanche fatalities report for the 20/21 season. I'll start with the link to read the report. Read it. You can find it here: https://backcountryaccess.com/en-us/blog/p/u-s-avalanche-fatalities-report-20-21-season?utm_source=BCA%20US%20Staff&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EM-072221_Sled_Avvy_Report_US%20%28RGgmBA%29&_kx=o8dIZoVRZXi3RWcVKIZoMI8Kav47p96gl31UpfmjxLQ%3D.RqC9dV

But let's get to the dirty little secrets of the report...

Last season was the most deadly in the last 70 years and 91% of the avalanches were caused by persistent slab.

U.S. avalanche fatalities last season total 37; 11 were snowmobilers. (Skiers had 18 and snowboarders 4.) One was from Washington. While many think snowmobilers are involved in the most avalanches each year,

in fact we have only topped the list three times in the last 11 seasons.

Six of the victims had airbags and five of them deployed them.

Seven victims had avalanche transceivers, (but only six had them turned on).

Here's my take: If you want to survive an avalanche, stay out of avalanche terrain.

Having all the gear isn't going to save you.

It might help, but the majority last year had it and died anyway. Check the forecast. Even a guy like me who avoids the open hills and likes to play in the trees looks at the forecast.

If you haven't done it, check out the Ski-Doo/Back Country Access-sponsored videos on YouTube. Easy way to learn a few things that could save your life. The first one is here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nte_TI35iw4

All season club? Is your club an all-season club? I've noticed more and more clubs in Washington are becoming more than just snowmobile clubs. Some have changed their name to include ATVs/side-by-sides while others have a summer events calendar including other recreational pursuits. I was reminded of this when I received an e-mail from the Mt. St. Helens Trac Riders with a list of upcoming ATV/side-by-side rides. I think it is a great idea and is a good way to keep members connected during the 'off season'.

Snowmobile fees in Idaho increase and non-residents hit the hardest. The Idaho Governor signed HB 229 into law, raising snowmobile registration fees across the board. The current snowmobile fee goes from \$31 to \$45.50 for Idaho residents and from \$31 to \$59.50 for non-residents. A previous version of this bill would have charged \$10 less for these fees but the Senate amended it for a larger increase. The initial bill was crafted at the request of snowmobilers. I didn't see any comment from snowmobilers or the Idaho State Snowmobile Association regarding the higher fee set by the Senate. It is reported Idaho grooms more than 5,600 miles of trails and owns 40 trail groomers. It was also noted the registration fee hadn't increased in nearly 15 years. Some of the registration fee will go to the following: Two dollars will go to the state's snowmobile search and rescue fund; one dollar will go to the Idaho Department of Lands to 'provide snowmobile opportunities and to repair damage directly related to snowmobile use'; and one dollar will go to a

By Matt Mead, Publicity Secretary



newly-created state avalanche fund to support avalanche centers, improve education and forecasting.

Well, it does have a track... From the strange and not very useful file comes the Hamyak. This 187 lb tanklet is powered by a 150cc Chinese scooter engine and has a top



speed of about 25 mph. With no suspension... not to mention no real steering... that is probably fast enough. (The article indicates you steer it like a skateboard, but the video shows it only going in a straight line.) Is it strange that I want one? You can read the article here: <https://www.rideapart.com/news/500828/hamyak-custom-moto-tank-vehicle/> And watch the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DVs3-hIYjFA>

Legendary figure. I'm talking about Stan Wostenberg, an 82-year-old cowboy who has been snowmobiling Wyoming's Big-horns for roughly 60 years. He's old school, forgoing the fancy snow gear for a pair of jeans, work boots and a weathered Carhartt jacket. Those who love riding the trails of the Bighorns have Stan largely to thank; he was the first to groom in the late '60s and early '70s. Mr. Wostenberg built the first of three solar-powered warming huts in 1995 that are still in use today. Stan is still active, riding a couple of times a week and usually alone. (He packs enough supplies to survive a night out if necessary.) For his contributions to the sport, Wostenberg was named the 1995 snowmobiler of the year by the

(Continued on page 43)

Matt's Misc.

(Continued from page 42) Wyoming State Snowmobile Association and received a certificate of merit from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The article about Stan Wostenberg is well-written and contains more info; I encourage you to read it here: http://www.buffalobulletin.com/news/article_23e747d8-9d63-11eb-b04c-77cbfe0819ba.html

Just another publicity stunt. How about a Taiga electric snowmobile racing an electric Tesla? Yes, it happened this past winter. The outcome is what you'd expect. But if you want to check it out, the video is here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3k64EAqwpUA>

Speaking of Taiga... Their new mass-production facility will be in Shawinigan, Quebec. The location was selected for its existing infrastructure, location and pool of qualified workers. Opening in 2021, they expect to produce 80,000 units annually. (I believe that number is across all product lines.)

Want to see a couple of good videos on the Taiga sleds? SnowTrax has them posted to YouTube. They are here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1pRApYCheB0>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s1_LJTME0_k&t=34s

Washington Hometown: Check them out for apps and maps for all your recreational needs. In addition to the Snowmobile WA app, they cover other needs such as dirt biking, off-road and ATV/UTV. The ATV/UTV version also covers what towns and counties allow road travel with a street-legal kit. Visit <https://www.washingtonhometown.com/>

Bombi B-7 snow coach sells for \$67,200 at auction this spring. A pretty sweet example of a '40s Bombardier, powered by a Ford flat head V-8 with seating for seven. A three-speed transmission and 90 horsepower won't win any drag races. The first B-7s hit the snow in '35. There aren't

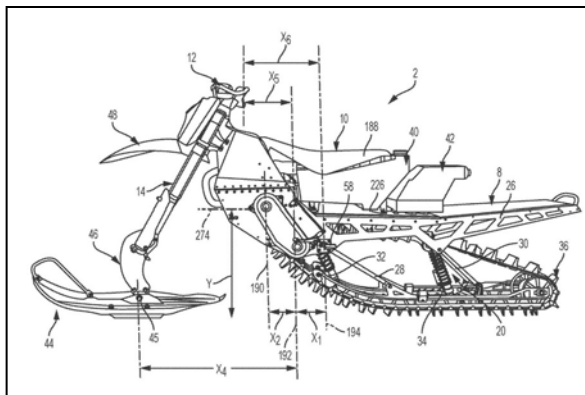


many pristine survivors as the wooden bodies didn't survive well in the harsh conditions, but this museum queen did. More pics can be found here: <https://www.motor1.com/news/504201/snowmobile-heads-auction-eight-cylinders/>

Polaris interim CEO and CFO made permanent. Mike Speetzen had been serving as interim CEO (Chief Executive Officer) of Polaris since January. Speetzen joined Polaris in 2015 as its Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and previously had been CFO of water technology provider Xuylem Inc.

Robert Mack, who was serving as interim CFO, is now permanent. Previously he had been responsible for corporate development and strategy of Polaris' global adjacent markets and boats.

Polaris snowbike spotted in new patents. Looks like Polaris is going to take the Timbersled conversion to the next level and build a dedicated snowbike using a purpose-built uni-body chassis. Developed by Tim-



bersled founder Allen Mangum, the new chassis will adopt the same tracked rear drive system and fork-based front suspension currently in use.

The engine mounts higher and farther forward than on a typical bike and aluminum panels bolt to either side of the Husky 450 4-stroke

engine. The result is a shorter machine with greater suspension travel, and better weight distribution. Gone is the radiator, replaced by a typical snowmobile-type heat exchanger mounted in the tunnel. This project has been in development since at least 2018 based on records discovered by CycleWorld.com.

Another Ski-Doo recall. Snowmobile's muffler can overheat and cause the upper right-hand vent grill to melt and drip plastic on to the ex-

haust and pose a fire hazard. Likely won't affect many western riders as the Summit isn't listed in the recall. It includes 600 EFI engines, but I wonder if it is only the 600 ACE engines since it lists just about every model except the Summit. This recall involves model year 2021 and 2022 Ski-Doo Backcountry, Expedition, MXZ, Renegade, Skandic and Tundra snowmobiles equipped with a 600 EFI engine.

The recall affects roughly 5,400 sleds sold in both the U.S. and Canada. Obviously Ski-Doo would like owners to stop using their recalled machine and contact a dealer for a free repair. Ski-Doo has received 10 reports of overheating mufflers, including three incidents that resulted in fires. No injuries have been reported.

Now that's a Super Duty! Ever wonder how mail is delivered in Yellowstone National Park to the roughly 120 employees who live in the Park during the winter? I hadn't. Logically, I'd have guessed by snowmobile. Nope. Park Rangers use this monster Ford twice a week to make the 150 mile round trip. The truck is a F-550 with a 6.7L Power



Stroke diesel running Michelin CARGOXBIB high-flotation tires standing 49" tall and measure 22" wide. Brakes and steering have been upgraded to handle the mass. Probably comes as no surprise the truck is also sporting an eight-inch lift. Forget touring the Park in a snow coach; I want to take this!

New York snowmobilers suffer setback. Several years ago New York's Department of Environmental Conservation and the Adirondack Park Agency approved a plan to allow many miles of new connector snowmobile trails to run through the Adirondack Forest Preserve. From the beginning they faced legal challenges, but the agencies thought they were on solid legal ground and pushed ahead and allowed trails to be constructed. In May a New York Court of Appeals ruled the trails violated the New York Constitution in regards to the 'forever wild' clause which covers the Adirondacks. If

(Continued on page 44)

Matt's Misc.

(Continued from page 43) this ruling stands, these agencies will be required to remove more than 20 miles of trail and return the land to



the previous state which will mean the removal of bridges and culverts, replanting of trees, removal of signs and re-contouring the land back to its natural state. In addition to losing these trails, snowmobilers will lose access to communities, or at the least face re-routes that will add unnecessary miles and time. I'm not sure what legal options are left, but it doesn't look good from my vantage point.

On the positive side from New York...

An economic impact study was recently completed in the Tug Hill region and it was determined snowmobiling generates more than 850 jobs and nearly \$82M in sales. Over 2,400 surveys were completed with the following findings: 866 jobs and more than \$28 million in wages were generated; tax revenue from the county is estimated at nearly \$445,000; there were 35,254 unique snowmobilers using the trails each year with 52% being non-local; non-locals spent a total of 347,337 days in the region each year and participated in other activities including dining and local events/festivals; non-locals spent on average \$192 per day. This is just another confirmation showing how snowmobilers boost winter economies and we need to spread this word to our legislators and land managers.

Need old Yamaha parts? I mentioned Howard Briggs in my last article as he used to have a snowmobile repair shop and he specialized in vintage Yamaha sleds. He's got other parts too. Anyway, Howard retired from his business several years ago but still has quite an inventory. He'll make you a great deal, and in fact, he told me he has

VINTAGE SLED PARTS parts he'd happily give away to free to the right person. (I'd hoped to get over to his place to take some pics of his inventory, but things got hectic and I didn't make

it. Sorry Howard!) So if you have old Enticers, Phazers or whatever you are still riding or want to get running, give Howard a call. You can reach him at (509) 656-4084. Howard is also an active member in the Pacific Northwest Vintage Snowmobile Club (PNWVSC) and you will likely be able to find him at their events, including the WSSA Expo this October in Puyallup.

Win a new Harley! The Pink Ribbon Riders, the group that raises money to help cancer patients in need, has another raffle. You may remember they raffled off a new Polaris sled last winter. Right now they are offering a raffle for 2021 Harley Davidson FLHT Electra Glide worth over \$14,000. Tickets cost \$30 for one, or \$50 for two. The drawing is October 6th and only 2,500 tickets will be sold. Tickets can be purchased online or by mail. For more details and to purchase tickets, visit <https://www.pinkribbonriders.com/motorcycle-raffle-fundraiser/>

Coast to coast on a snowmobile... in 1969. First off, a shout-out to the Antique Snowmobile Club of America. It was an article in their March/April issue of Iron Dog Tracks where this info came from. (If you like old sleds, I suggest joining this group. Their website is <http://www.ascoa.org>.)

You may have read about Jim Langley and Clark Dahlin and their cross-country journey from Vancouver, British Columbia, to Portland, Maine, on page 26 of this Snoflyer, but there was another noteworthy trek made just a few years later.

Back in the fall of 1969, a guy named Tom Shiflet made a coast to coast run on a Chaparral sled. He rode from the Port Authority building in New York City to Fisher-



man's Wharf in San Francisco. Stops along the way included Pittsburg, PA; Ft. Wayne, IN; Council Bluffs, IA; Denver and the summit of Pikes Peak, CO; Vernal and Salt Lake City, UT; and Sacramento, CA.

His trip covered 3,931 miles and ended on October 2nd. Obviously that time of year is snow-less just about everywhere, so the snowmobile was equipped with wheels on the front instead of skis. Best I can tell, everything else, track included, was stock. **Think about that...** Over 50 years ago a stock sled was ridden cross-country in mild temperatures on asphalt and didn't break down. I wonder how many of today's sleds could do the same?

Hot weather got you down? Maybe it's time to pop over to YouTube and watch... or re-watch... the 13 episodes of Snowmobiler TV's 2021 season. Episode one is here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DBsOtOXpp4w&list=PL1D-EHCqYifUk7sh_-ztgar1Z5QMvMYKZ&index=13

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