



QUAD NEWS

Magic Valley ATV Riders, Inc. P.O.Box 0767
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The weekend of July 19th the club gathered at the meadow below Wells Summit for a weekend of fun and riding. We were extremely surprised to find that a new species of plant has spread over the area. They are brown thin look kind of woody and have the words NO MOTOR VEHICLES. Our first encounter with these was at the top of Wells Summit. On the left is road 991 this is the old road and is on the map as open to ATV's but there is a NO MOTOR VEHICLES sign where you access this road. This is also the point where you would access Elk Ridge. The trail on Elk Ridge has been there for many years, a portion of trail is motorcycle only where it connects to couch summit. There is a resource issue with the trail at that point. Rather than either fix the trail or close only that portion of the trail the Fairfield Ranger District chose to close all access to Elk Ridge. This is very sad ,the view from Elk Ridge is quite something. The Elk ridge trail continues on and will connect with a fork of road 990. It also continues on and connects with the road coming up red rock creek (421) This trail was proposed to be open on earlier versions of the travel plan but did not make it to final. We had asked that the Forest Service construct an alternate route between Wells Summit and Couch Summit. At this time the only way to get from one area to the other is 20 miles of gravel or paved road, which very much fragments the riding. On your right at the top of Wells Summit you will see a sign that says Motorcycle only, this is trail 220 which goes to cannonball mountain. This is also proposed to be an ATV trail but probably needs some reconstruction to accommodate ATV's. As you continue down the road from Wells Summit you will come to road on your right that goes to large dispersed camping area. This is where we camped. This road at one time went across the meadows and continued on along the creek for about one half mile. Several years ago the Forest stopped access at less than one quarter mile which cut the area to camp in half.

Continuing on along road 095 just past the campground you will see a road go to the left, this has no sign. This is a very good road leads to dispersed camping sights, this is the lower access to road 991(which is open to ATV's but has a NO MOTOR VEHICLES sign in the middle of it). This road takes you up in the forest quite a ways before dead ending. Road 635 is also in this area is open to ATV's but has no access to it.

Continuing on down 095 a short distance you will see road 990 on your left this road goes up the hill and branches into two forks. The right fork goes a short distance and dead ends, the left fork goes up the hill to Elk Ridge. Only one branch is shown on the travel plan as open to ATV's, care to guess which one will be open to us?

Directly across Road 095 from Road 990 is cannonball creek road (420). This a very old popular road. I have ridden this road for about 40 years and one of the thing that makes it so popular is the ability to get on ridge near the summit of Cannonball Mountain. The view to the south is really something. I have probably taken a hundred riders to this spot over the years and it looks the same now as it did 40 years ago, **but for some unknown reason there is now a NO MOTOR VEHICLES** right in the middle of the trail to the ridge. Did you get that, you no longer can go to the ridge and see the view if you are using a motorized vehicle. If you try and continue on Road 420 as the travel plan shows you will hit another **NO MOTOR VEHICLES** sign in the middle of a motorized road. Road 420 is supposed to continue on to Liberal mountain where it is supposed to connect to Road 018. This connection is not yet there. It would appear that **NO MOTOR VEHICLES** have a higher importance than access. This road continues on as a motorcycle trail to Willow Creek, or maybe I should say did continue as it is now closed to all motorized use. This trail was also recommended as a ATV trail in the proposed changes on the Travel Plan but was also cut before the final plan. The cannonball road has several side roads leading from it. All of these roads now have a **NO MOTOR VEHICLES** sign in the middle of them. No more exploring, no more pulling down the road to have a picnic, no more setting up hunter camps off the beaten path. There are a total of 9 **NO MOTOR VEHICLES** signs on Cannon Ball Road.

Ok, continuing on down the main road (095) you will come to snowmobile warming hut on your left. On your right is a gate with a road leading from it. This road crosses the creek and winds its way to the Liberal Creek Road . Again this an old jeep road which has been around for a while, very scenic and gives you an alternative to riding the gravel road. This too was proposed to be open to motorized vehicles, but guess what we now have a **NO MOTOR VEHICLES** sign in the middle of the road. Apparently there was an issue with the road crossing the creek. The last I knew they were still selling culverts. Maybe there is no money left after they bought all these **NO MOTOR VEHICLES** signs.



If you continue on down Road 095 you will come to the Liberal Creek Road (018). **This is where it really gets good. This is where you get to see your Forest Service at their best.** After you start up Liberal Creek you will see a road going to your left, This is a very old road , this road connects to the Ditto Flats Road and is shown on old maps and topo maps. This road is also the original road to the Liberal Creek mine. Guess what? You already know the answer there is a **NO MOTOR VEHICLES** sign in the middle of the road. This a really neat road, along the creek and through the trees to the mine we go. When you get to the mine there is a logging road that crosses this road right at the mine. You are not going to believe this. This road is also **closed to motor vehicles** ,(Picture at top of page one is this road).

The only way to get to the mine is to take road 018 to the very end and then hike down a steep trail . See the website: www.mvatvr.org , click photo gallery and then Wells Summit pictures. **Hopefully these errors will be corrected in the first annual travel plan review.**

The Northern part of Fairfield Ranger District has almost no ATV trails it is almost exclusively single track trails. The southern half of the District is where most of the available ATV trails are or can be. The Fairfield District does have some good proposals in the works that should be on the ground next summer if

they proceed as they have said they would. This travel plan should not have been released until next year. The Forest Service got in a hurry and thought they had to be first to get a travel plan out. The Chief of the Forest Service said that all forests must have a plan that eliminates cross country travel.. Sadly local forests used this directive to close many long standing usable roads. This was wrong. This is a classic case of give me an inch and I will take a mile.

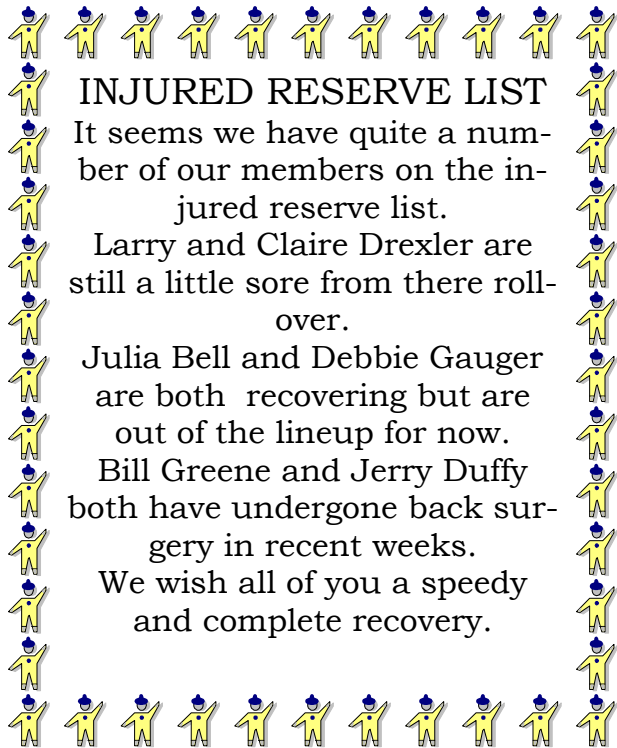
RIDE REPORTS

July 4th weekend. A group of us spent the 4th of July weekend in the Langford Flats Area of the South hills.. We did not have a big turnout but we sure had fun. Very few other campers and very little traffic. Great weather. We cancelled the Jackpot breakfast run and instead decided to pool resources and have group breakfast. Thanks to Ted Bell for making some great Mountain Man Breakfast.

July 18, 19 and 20 Wells Summit. We had a great time in spite of all the closed signs. Great bunch of people. We had about 8 campers , plus some folks that came up Saturday for the Willow Creek, Dollar Hide ride. 12 adventurous soles headed out Saturday morning and I don't think anyone was disappointed. Very fun entertaining ride. Great ATV trail to the top of the world. From Buttercup mountain you have a 360 degree panoramic view. We even had a snowball fight. Lots and lots of wildflowers. From the top we headed down meadow creek. Kudos to the **Ketchum Ranger District** for the work they have done on this trail. It had become quite eroded and they decided to fix it instead of closing it. What a novel idea! They filled in the ruts with what appeared to be decomposed granite and it is holding good. We then headed up to Dollar Hide Summit and then stopped at several old mines on the way back. The day concluded with a community cookout. What a feed. I did forget to mention that it was a little cooler up there than down here in the valley. In fact there was a little frost on the pumpkin two nights.

July 9th picnic . On the evening of July 9th we gathered with the MVTMA and SRTMA for an evening of food fellowship and information. A great big thanks to **J & C Motorsports**, Jeff and Chuck Sharp and everyone at J & C for the great hamburgers and the use of their facility. Let us not forget all the fantastic food furnished by all out members for the potluck. We also would like to thank, Scott Nannenga and Ann Frost from the Sawtooth National Forest for attending and giving us some updates on what happens next regarding the Travel Plan

Last month we offered a definition of the various forms of ATV accidents: Flip, Flop and Rollover. We may now have to create some new definitions. Julia Bell we believe did a combination of all three. We do know that the machine did a rollover. We are not sure exactly what Julia did because of the dust cloud she created. Due to the fact that she has black and blue places on numerous parts of her body suggests that she flipped, flopped and rolled. She also sustained a fracture of a small bone that makes it very hard to sit down (hint: sit on inner tube). Julia is recovering nicely but is also very lucky, if she had not been wearing a helmet the results could have been much worse. Not to be outdone Debbie Gauger tagged a rock did a flip and dislocated her finger and banged up her shoulder and then rode many miles on the ATV and in the hauler to the hospital.



INJURED RESERVE LIST

It seems we have quite a number of our members on the injured reserve list.

Larry and Claire Drexler are still a little sore from there roll-over.

Julia Bell and Debbie Gauger are both recovering but are out of the lineup for now.

Bill Greene and Jerry Duffy both have undergone back surgery in recent weeks.

We wish all of you a speedy and complete recovery.

TRANSFERS AND RETIRMENTS.

We will soon be losing a couple of good guys from the Sawtooth Forest. Glenn Lackey has been promoted and will be moving to Soda Springs in September. Zeke Zimmerman is planning on retiring in the near future. We will miss both of these gentlemen and hope the Forest Service can find someone with a passion for motorized OHV recreation to replace them.

Last month I mentioned the definition of the various forms of ATV accidents. One of our members feels that I did not go far enough in my explanation. Space prohibits his full dissertation but I will hit the highlights. He says I missed some such as: The wheelie slam, the topple, the tip recover, the duster, the splash, the submarine, and the butterfly, which is done with the elbows and various other body parts. The other type of maneuver I failed to mention was the **Stationary Rollover**. This particular maneuver is quite involved and is not for beginners. It seems it is best performed by riders with many, many, many years of experience, in other words it is best done by those who are well acquainted with Social Security. Thank you Larry for educating me on the finer points of unplanned ATV maneuvering.



**We would like to welcome
new members to our family
glad to have you aboard**

*William McClymonds
Dick and Bev Thompson
Bob and Kathy Locke
Kirt and Luann Short*

UPCOMING RIDES

First of all the Silver City Ride has been canceled due to camping problems.

But the good news is:

Ted Bell will be hosting a ride

August 2nd and 3rd at Hegler Canyon.

Very pretty area very easy riding similar to the south hills.

The plan is to camp at Mill Canyon. To get to campsite from Twin Falls:

Take I84 East, go past Burley, When the Interstate splits take I84 towards Ogden, Exit at Exit 223, Yale Road, go over the over pass and head East approximately nine miles, Turn right on Hegler Road, follow Hegler road until it splits into N. Hegler and S, Hegler. Take the North Hegler road and follow to campground. The miles from Twin to Hegler is about 80 miles.

For more information contact

Ted Bell 734-7859



A COWBOYS GUIDE TO LIFE

Generally speaking
Fancy tittles and
Nightshirts are a
Waste of time.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

This last month I have received phone calls, emails and in person conversations from many upset folks. The main theme has been, why are they closing all of these roads and trails, why didn't you stop them? What are you doing about it?

First of all I want to apologize to all of you for not doing a better job. The sad fact is I do not run the Sawtooth National Forest. If I did I can assure you things would be different. We can only recommend and show just reasoning for the roads and trails we want open. Sometimes that is not enough. We have accomplished more than some of you realize. If we had not been actively involved in this travel plan process from the beginning I have a feeling it would look quite different than it looks now. We have managed to convince the Forest Service to leave several roads and trails open and in some cases actually added trails to the travel plan. In case you were not aware the travel plan process now includes a provision for an annual review. We are already working on proposals for this review. If you know of any roads or trails that are not currently open that you feel should be open, please let us know. If you have suggestions for new trails please let us know?. We also need input on the spur road issues in the South Hills. If you want these left open you need to comment now.

For many years I have chastised the Sawtooth Forest for the lack of funding applied to motorized road and trail maintenance and construction. It seems funding for these projects winds up at the bottom of the list. I cannot count the number of times I have been told, there just isn't any money for this project. The most recent example of this is in the south hills. Bear Hollow road has had resource issues for many years it is badly rutted and eroded. From the start of this travel planning process I have repeatedly mentioned that this road needs to be fixed. The answer has always been the same. **No Money.**

An amazing thing happened recently. The Forest Service decided to **close** this road and within days the roadbed was gone. A Cat and Ripper went down through it and this road is no more. Now we know it was not a lack of funding that kept the Forest Service from fixing this road, it was simply allocation of funds.

Closing of roads and trails should be at the bottom of the list. If there is money to close there is no shortage of money.

Believe me when I say we are not through fighting. There are several issues that we are currently working on. We will be submitting comments and proposals to the Sawtooth National Forest in the near future and hopefully they will realize that trails open to all users are a much better use of the resources than limited use trails. Proper management of our public lands must come from a philosophy of:

YOU DO NOT NEED A REASON TO LEAVE A ROAD OR TRAIL OPEN, BUT YOU HAD BETTER HAVE A EXCEEDINGLY GOOD REASON TO CLOSE IT.

Beginning in September we will resume our monthly membership meetings. Time and place to be announced

Your officers and board of directors are here to serve you. Please feel free to contact them with ideas or questions.

Stan Mai 733-5981

Pat Mai 733-5981

Richard Borah 734-4983

Julia Bell 734-7859

Chuck VanVooren 543-6200

Glenn Fischer 734-8368

Joe Steffens 423-5256

Ted Bell 734-7859

Randy Graham 734-3613

Justin Ash 420-5545

**Application For Membership
Magic Valley ATV Riders, Inc.
P.O. Box 0767, Twin Falls, Id. 83303-0767**

Name (Please Print) _____

Spouse (Print) _____

Mailing address (Please Print) _____

City / State / Zip (Please Print) _____

Home Phone _____ **Work Phone** _____ **Cell Phone** _____

E-Mail Address _____

Would you like to receive your newsletter by Email? Yes No (saves money)

What type of riding and other activities do you enjoy?

_____ **Would you be interested in committee or board member positions?** _____

Type of Membership (Circle One) New Yearly Renewal (Membership Year is January to January.) New memberships received after July 31st will be half rate after November 1st will be credited for next year.

(Circle One) Individual \$20.00 per year Spouse/Family \$25.00 per year

READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING: I/we fully understand that ATV activities involve risks and dangers of serious injury up to and including death. I fully accept and assume all such risks and all responsibility for losses, costs and damages I may incur as a result of my participation in the Activity. I/we (to include all family members and guests) hereby release, discharge, and covenant not to sue Magic Valley ATV Riders, Inc. its directors, agents, officers, members, volunteers, other participants, any sponsors, advisors, and if applicable owners and lessors of premises on which the activity takes place, (each considered one of the "releasees" herein) from all liability claims, demands, losses or damages on my account caused or alleged to be caused in whole or in part by the negligence of "releasees". I will indemnify, save, and hold harmless each of the releasees from any litigation expenses, attorney fees, loss, liability, damage, or cost which any may incur as the result of such claim. I am 18 years of age or older, have read and understand the terms of this agreement, understand that I am giving up substantial rights, have signed it voluntarily and without any inducement or assurance of any nature and intend it to be a complete and unconditional release of all liability to the greatest extent allowed by law.

By signing this agreement I/we agree to abide by all club bylaws and rules

Signatures _____ **Spouse** _____ **Date** _____

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