

Wisconsin Off-Highway Vehicle Association's

Badger Tracks

Off Camber

Hello fellow OHV enthusiast's, friends of nature and interested parties. The "Off Camber" feature is my attempt to keep the membership of WOHVA informed of current events, things going on in the OHV community and hopefully information that you will find useful.

In this issue I would like to address the status of WOHVA. Over the past 3 or 4 years we have gone through many transitions both in terms of direction and financial stability. It is my belief we lost sight of some of the "Big Picture" stuff, while focusing on other major contributors. For example, our relationship with National Organizations and Forestry officials has faded. Whereas, at the same time our Great Northern Trail Ride has provided financial benefits we've not seen before. The Northwoods Mole Lake Jeep Jamboree has been selling out year over year.

It will take time and a team effort to not only restore relationships with organizations like the Blue Ribbon Coalition and others but at the same time remain focused on what got us to this point like our partnership with the Sokaogon Chippewa community which has allowed us to grow financially.

We have also recently revised our Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and created an Org Chart. This will help in ensuring our BOD members have a clear vision and an understanding of what is expected from all. Soon we will have updated Bylaws.

If you're not already a member of the Blue Ribbon Coalition, United Four Wheel Drive Association or tread lightly!®, please consider joining these organizations. These are the folks who have been fighting for respected open access for decades. Consider joining state organizations such as W4WDA, WOHMA WATVA or your local 4X4 club that supports the principles of Tread Lightly. Recently there has been a HUGE surge in facebook groups. This has been both a blessing and a curse. I'll cover this in another edition.

Thank you for your attention and I look forward to sharing with you in the future editions

Tim Duenkel
Executive Director

MISSION STATEMENT

The Wisconsin Off-Highway Vehicle Association exists for the sole purpose of proactively assuring that public and private off-highway vehicular recreational opportunities are expanded in Wisconsin for safe use by this and future generations.



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"Your off-highway vehicle recreation future begins here"

Jeeps hit the trails in the Northwood's of WI

On July 14th through July 16th the Wisconsin Off-Highway Vehicle Association along with WOHVA/ JJUSA Coordinator John Lewins hosted the 21st Annual Northwoods Mole Lake Jeep Jamboree USA event, held on the Sokaogon Chippewa tribal holdings land in Mole Lake WI.

This year's event drew over 150 Jeep brand vehicles from all over the US. Participants ranged from first time off road drivers enlisting in the 101 training and trail ride to experienced drivers traversing the Orange rated trails. For one participant this was his 47th event, another with over 30 Jamborees under his belt.

The Jeep Jamboree was based out of the Mole Lake Lodge & Casino, who also catered all the meals including lunch out at the trail head. WOHVA would like to express our sincere appreciation to the entire tribal community for allowing WOHVA access to these lands. Without them this event would not be possible.

The event wrapped up Saturday evening with driver awards, a chance to win a Jeep makeover from Jeep Jamboree USA and a 50/50 raffle.

Local WOHVA/JJUSA coordinator John Lewins has developed a great team of trail guide and helpers to assist in this event. These volunteers spend many hours working on trail development and maintenance to ensure all participants have an enjoyable experience.

A HUGE Thank You to John & Toni Lewins and the entire volunteer base that made this year's Jeep Jamboree a resounding success.

Check out John's interview on Rhinelander's channel 12 WJFW news at the link below.

<http://www.wjfw.com/storydetails/20160716200020>





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State News

Progress continues following storms on Great Divide and Washburn Ranger Districts

Release Date: Aug 5, 2016

ASHLAND, Wis. (Aug. 5, 2016) – The Chequamegon Nicolet National Forest continues to make progress on temporary repairs to roads, clearing debris from roads and trails and planning efforts are underway for the long-term permanent repairs and clean-up efforts.

"We have assessed all of our roads and trails and the majority of them we have reopened," said Michelle Davalos, District Ranger on the Washburn Ranger District of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. "The ones that remain closed have significant damage."

Forest heavy equipment crews are completing emergency repairs and grading allowing passenger cars to travel on certain routes through the forest. However, in cases where major repairs are necessary such as a bridge that washed out, those roads will remain closed into the foreseeable future.

"We continue to make progress and are working with the towns and our partners to identify issues such as school bus routes and prioritize the repair needs with our crews and resources," said Mike Martin, District Ranger on the Great Divide Ranger District of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.

The Forest's website is continually being updated with the list of roads, trails and recreation areas that remain closed from the two storm events.

[To get the latest status update for the closures associated with the damages north of Hwy 2 on the Washburn Ranger District please click here.](#) You may also call the Washburn Ranger District at 715-373-2667.

[For the most current information on closures from flash flooding event south of Hwy 2 please click here.](#) You may also call the Great Divide Ranger District at 715-264-2511.

"We want to remind folks that there are still areas that are closed and pose a hazard to their safety, said Martin. "We ask that folks respect the barricades and signs and to not drive around them or move them."

For folks looking to gather firewood in the areas where trees are down, the Forest does have a firewood gathering permit for this activity that includes information on where gathering is prohibited. If you are interested in gathering firewood on the National Forest please contact the office nearest you for more information and to obtain a permit.

"We also want to remind folks of the changed conditions in the areas where the storms produced significant damage," said Michelle Davalos, District Ranger on the Washburn Ranger District of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. "There are still a lot of downed and damaged trees so please be careful and stay aware of your surroundings at all times."





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Border to Border

ST. PAUL, Minn. - It is news that off-road enthusiasts have long waited for.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) announced Thursday that it has entered into a partnership to construct a 400-mile trail system that will run from the shores of Lake Superior to the North Dakota border.

"The Border to Border Off-Road Vehicle Trail (also known as the B2B trail) will be the most ambitious four-wheel drive vehicle trail project in Minnesota history," said Erika Rivers, director of Minnesota state parks and trails.

The proposed route will link existing state and national forest roads to township roads, minimum-maintenance roads and connecting spurs to create an adventure touring trail that any vehicle with an off-road vehicle sticker will be able to use.

"The trail has potential to bring significant tourism benefits to northern Minnesota," Rivers said.

The DNR will collaborate with the National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council (NOHVCC) and the Minnesota Four Wheel Drive Association (MN4WDA) on the B2B trail project.

"We want people to know the Minnesota Four-Wheel Drive Association is building great new partnerships to create regionally significant trail-riding opportunities for the growing interest in 4-by-4 jeep and truck activities across the state," said Rick Langness, president of the MN4WDA. "We are especially excited to get started on the B2B."

Discussions will be held to identify stakeholders, define goals for building the trail and develop timelines. Leading the effort will be Ron Potter, a former manager with the DNR's Parks and Trails Division and a member of the NOHVCC Hall of Fame, and Judy Ness, recently retired U.S. Forest Service manager from the Superior National Forest.

Potter and Ness will be setting up a series of public fact-finding meetings along the proposed route to gather input and ideas.





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The National Front

BRC seeks nominations for Board of Directors

Sharetrails.org/BlueRibbon Coalition (BRC), a nationwide 501.c3 non-profit dedicated to defending access to public land for the OHV community, is seeking individuals interesting and willing to serve on its Board of Directors. We are most interested in individuals with a strong interest in motorcycles, jeeps, ATV's, snow machines, mountain bikes, watercraft or other OHV modalities who have an interest and the ability to raise money and recruit members for our organization.

Members of the Board of Directors are volunteers who are charged with assisting the Executive Director in raising money and recruiting members for the organization. Board members also have some organizational oversight responsibilities. Successful applicants should be prepared to:

- Assist the Executive Director in raising money
- Assist the Executive Director in recruiting members
- Advise the Executive Director on organizational matters
- Attend four meetings a year (three by teleconference)
- Answer questions required of Board Members on our Federal and State forms
- Exercise some organizational oversight (through the Executive Director)
- Serve on Board committees
- Travel on behalf of Sharetrails/BRC to events

Please note that these are volunteer positions with no expectation of pay.

Sharetrails/BRC does reimburse Board members for some travel on behalf of Sharetrails/BRC.

Those interested should send inquiries through Sharetrails.Org/BRC.

The BlueRibbon Coalition (BRC) is a national non-profit organization that champions responsible recreation and encourages a strong conservation ethic and individual stewardship, while providing leadership in efforts to keep outdoor recreation alive and well – all sports; all trails. With members in all 50 states, BRC is focused on building enthusiast involvement with organizational efforts through membership, outreach, education and collaboration among recreationists. - .





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2016 WOHVA Calendar of events

February

2/20/2016 BOD Mtg.
Holidays Pub & Grill Neenah, WI

April

4/16/2016 Annual OHV Enthusiasts Workshop &
Membership mtg.
Ramada Grand Seasons Hotel & Waterpark Waupaca, WI
4/23/2016 Spring Trails Mtg.
Location TBD

June

6/4/2016 Trail build & maintenance
Mole Lake, WI
6/11/2016 Trail build & maintenance
Mole Lake, WI
6/15/2016 BOD Mtg.
Location TBD
6/25/2016 Trail build & maintenance
Mole Lake, WI

July

7/2/2016 Trail build & maintenance
Mole Lake, WI
7/9/2016 Trail build & maintenance
Mole Lake, WI
7/14/2016 21st Northwood's Mole Lake JJUSA
Mole Lake, WI
7/30/2016 Trail build & maintenance
Mole Lake, WI

August

8/6/2016 Trail build & maintenance
Mole Lake, WI
8/13/2016 Trail build & maintenance
Mole Lake, WI
8/17/2016 BOD Mtg.
Location TBD
8/18/2016 8th Annual GNTR
Mole Lake, WI

September

9/3/2016 Trail build & maintenance
Mole Lake, WI
9/4/2016 Volunteer opportunity - Brush Run Races
Crandon, WI
9/17/2016 Fall trails mtg.
Location TBD
9/18/2016 Grand Larsony Annual car show
Kewaskum, WI

October

10/15/2016 BOD Mtg.
Fredonia, WI

December

12/10/2016 BOD Mtg.
Location TBD

