



PO BOX 1662, POST FALLS, IDAHO 83877

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PANTRA NEWSLETTER JUNE 2009

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!!

River City Yamaha, Matthew & Sally Kagele, Zack Hill, Brightwell Family

Next Club Meeting June 10th at Jungle Pizza

503 E Seltice Way Post Falls, ID 83854

Social Hour 6-7 pm General Meeting starts at 7pm

Mark Your Calendar

Always check PANTRA forums for impromptu rides!!!

June 5th-7th Hudlow Campout

Randy will be hosting a campout and ride from Hudlow. There is a few roads and fields for kids to ride around in and most of the riding for adults is intermediate to advanced with 40-50 mile loops. If you are interested, check the forums. More information will follow, as we get closer.

June 19th-21st Fathers Day Campout

Father's Day Ride - June 20th and 21st at Little Pend Oreille Recreation Area. Lori, Pat and Randi are hosting the 9th Annual Father's Day LPO Campout. Both days will feature a 4 – 5 hour, 50 +/- mile intermediate to advanced loop on the Little Pend Oreille and Batey Boulder Trail Systems with a beginner/kids ride afterwards. There are trails for all skill levels so if you don't feel like taking the 50 mile loop but want something more than the beginner ride, I'm sure we can accommodate you. We will be camping at the Sherry Creek Campground and the ride will begin at 9:30 am each day.

From Spokane, take 395 North through Colville, take Highway 20 (Tiger Highway) East approx. 24 to the Sherry Creek turnoff, watch for a small brown Forest Service sign that says Sherry Creek. Go South at the Sherry Creek sign, follow the dirt road across the bridge and left at the Y, approx. ¾ mile from Tiger Highway. If you get to Beaver Lodge on Highway 20, you missed the turn off. Sherry

Creek's road is approx. ¾ mile West of Beaver Lodge.

You can also come in from the Newport Highway, take Highway 20 North from Newport, to the intersection of Highway 20/Highway 31. Go West on Highway 20 towards Colville to the Sherry Creek road ¾ mile past Beaver Lodge.

The campsite is primitive and there will be bugs. Beaver Lodge has cabins to rent, RV Hookups and a small restaurant, store, and gas. The number for Beaver Lodge is 509-684-5657. Cell phones do not work in the LPO area. If you need more info feel free to contact Lori at 509-951-3821 or pantratrails@hotmail.com

June 13th Dual Sport Ride

Join us for a fun, beginner to intermediate dual-sport ride. We are planning to leave D & B Power Sports at 9am and return at approximately 5:30pm. The route will take us to the Happy Hermit for lunch and gas (92 Octane) via pavement, Forest Service roads, and ATV & dirtbike trails. Our travels will also take us around the backside of Lake Pend Oreille where we will visit a few abandoned mines.

June 27th Weatherly Ride

Dick & Kevin Weatherly will be hosting their Annual Lakeview Ride on **June 27th**. Meet at the Weatherly cabin at 9 am. Kevin says it would be nice for everyone to be ready to ride after the riders meeting at 9 am. There will be 3 options for riders.

Yes, the Weatherly's would appreciate an RSVP so they have an idea of how many riders to expect. As

usual, Dick and his family will be providing a feast at the cabin after the ride so **please RSVP at 208-765-3401** and leave a message for Kevin if you plan to attend. Let me say, the Weatherly know how to put together an awesome feast

The Advanced Group will do about 70 miles with a gas stop. The pace is fairly fast and the trails are singletrack for the most part with some tight switchbacks, some technical sections, some tight sections and a bit of open riding along with some big stream crossings. This is an advanced ride.

The Intermediate Group will do about 50 miles without a gas stop. The pace is quick, just not as quick as the Advanced Group. The trails are basically the same as the Advanced Group but do not cover all of the trails the Advanced Group does. This is an advanced intermediate ride.

The Beginner/kids Group will do about 20 miles without a gas stop. The pace is comfortable. The trails are beginner friendly and the scenery is awesome.

From Silverwood Theme Park on Highway 95, take Bunco Road East to Road 278. Go left on Road 278 to Happy Hermit Lodge. Take the 2nd driveway on the right with a wooden gate, approx 1 mile past the Lodge. It takes about 45 minutes to drive from Silverwood to the cabin so plan accordingly.

Ride Reports

Kids Ride Sponsored by Allstate Insurance May 3rd



Rex and Andy from Allstate Insurance

The kid's ride was another huge success. Bryant Robinson, the ranger with the Spokane Parks & Rec., brought dognuts and coffee and gave us a nice ad in the Spokesman to endorse what we do. Allsport, D&B Motorsports, MASH, Couerd Alane Honda, Helmet Outlet, Beaudry Motorsports, and

RockyMountainATV/MC.com all helped donate prizes for the kids. Allstate Insurance, Steve Hallidy's employees Rex and Andy made lunch for everyone who attended.

This year we set up a Poker Run and 32 kids showed at the challenging Liberty Lake ORV Park. The course was a little longer this year, so we made a shorter run for the less experienced kids as well. There were a few crashes, but all kids rode on, and all the kids seemed enjoyed the course. We had kids from 4 years of age all the way to 17. Both kids got prizes for being the oldest and youngest, and every kids got as prize for their poker hand.

Thanks to all our sponsors and volenters that helped make this ride possible. Pictures are on the website for those who are interested.

Thanks again to Steve Halliday for his help with e the 2009 Kids ride. You can reach Steve at 208-772-9535 or stevehalliday@allstate.com



Kids ride 2009

Trail Clearing

Many have been out trail clearing over the last month. We know Batey Bould, LPO, Canfield, & N. Bayview, have been either done or off to a good start. Check forums if you are interested in helping.

Also, make sure to get those trail clearing hours reported on the website. This helps us for future grants, shows our commitment to the landowners what we are doing, and lets everyone know what has already been cleared.

Membership Dues!!!

Just remimder membership dues were due in May. You not too late, send them in today!!!!

Land Use

Always check forums for latest land use issues.

IDPR

Hello Everyone, I just wanted to drop you all a quick line to let you know about the 2009 IDPR North Region trail maintenance schedule. This week I hired Tyke Shannon and Kert Whitaker as trail rangers, and Bob Hafer as a trail cat operator. Starting June 10th the trail ranger crew and the trail cat operator will begin working on motorized trails in North Idaho. I have attached a list of trails scheduled to be maintained by the trail rangers and trail cat, and I included the dates that the crews will be maintaining the different trails throughout the region. I figured that knowing which trails will be maintained, and when they will be maintained would be helpful in planning your club rides. I am very excited to have a great crew coming on board, and I know that they will provide you all with safe and fun trails to recreate on this summer. Please let me know if you have any questions. I hope you all get some great rides in this year.

Sincerely,

Marc Hildesheim

Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District

The Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District, came to our last meeting to explain the closures in the forest for this year. Buckles, Straight Creek, Chilco, Hunters Trail, Lost Creek & McGee Peek, are all on the chopping block. Most have to do with insatiability in the trails that are listed, meaning the grades are too steep to erosion issues. There is a 45-day comment period to the forest service, if you would like to keep these trails open. We are losing more than 40 miles of motorcycle trails in the Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District.

Go to:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/cda/travelplan/>

and click on the "NEPA Documents" link to get here:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/cda/travelplan/nepa/>

Washington State DNR

As you now know, the state legislature diverted our yearly \$1.5 million in NOVA grant funding to

Washington State Parks for at least the next 2 years. These grant funds are critical in keeping 110 gas-tax supported facilities and trails open and safe. In addition, our general fund budget was reduced by 60 percent, leaving us with only \$200,000 a year to maintain 33 recreation facilities and 167 miles of trails. This includes facilities such as Mt. Si, McLean Creek, Lake Spokane, and Ahtanum Snow Park.

As a result of these budget reductions, we are forced to make some painful decisions that will require closing some of our recreation areas-either temporarily or permanently.

Decisions about closures will be based on many things, including how remote a site is, sites that don't support trail-based recreation, and sites that are high maintenance but attract a low volume of visitors

At this point, we don't have a specific date set for when closures will go into affect. We will keep you updated and in the loop as we work through this difficult process.

Many of you have asked me why DNR can't rely on volunteers to keep these areas open. Volunteers and user groups are very important to our program and help keep our recreation areas safe, clean, and enjoyable places for the public. We are committed to continue working with these dedicated people.

But the reality is much of our budget shortage can't be made up for with volunteer time. For example, pumping outhouses requires professionals at a cost of \$750 each pump out. Replacing a vandalized picnic table costs \$500. \$20 to replace signs, etc.

Once the recreation staff and I have developed a list of potential sites we will be forced to close, we will present this information to DNR's executive management committee for further consideration. My hope is to have these difficult decisions made by July 1, which is the start of our new budget cycle for the 2009-2011 biennium.

Mark Mauren
Recreation Program Manager
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
360-902-1047



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