

**From:** New Mexico Off Highway Vehicle Alliance [prez@nmohva.org]

**Sent:** Sunday, August 02, 2009 9:30 PM

**To:** Werkmeister, Mark R

**Subject:** News from NMOHVA

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## *NMOHVA Member Newsletter*

August

2009

### Where is the summer going?

Wow, Summer 2009 is flying by...don't forget to take advantage of the beauty of New Mexico's mountains this summer. We have had abundant rain and the higher elevations are lush and green. A day or two of riding each month is all it takes to remind us why preserving and protecting the roads and trails of New Mexico is so important to all of us. Enjoy!

Mark - President

### Upcoming Events for August

August 15 - New Mexico 4 Wheelers Club Meeting

August 17 - Deadline for Comments on the Carson NF (Canjilon/El Rito/Tres Piedras and Jicarillo Districts). [See the documents here.](#)

August 21-23 - New Mexico 4 Wheelers/Jeeps West Zuni Mountain Campout

See the [NMOHVA Calendar](#) for event details and contacts.

Do you have an event to share?

### Carson National Forest Releases Proposed Action for Travel Management on Four Districts

The Carson National Forest has released their Proposed Action for Travel Management on the Canjilon, El Rito, and Tres Piedras Districts. They have also released a separate document for the Jicarilla District.

The documents include maps of the areas, showing what roads will be kept open. Click on the link at the left, to go to those documents and maps. The release of these documents started the 30 day comment period that ends on August 17th. Citizens must submit comments on these documents to establish 'standing' in the appeal process that will follow.

**NOTE: If you have sent in comments to Carson before this, or left comments written on a form at a public meeting, or gave verbal comments at a meeting, THOSE DO NOT COUNT for establishing standing! You must send in your written comments during THIS official 30 day period. They**

Contact NMOHVA at [prez@nmohva.org](mailto:prez@nmohva.org) for a listing in the newsletter.

***can be delivered by mail, email, or fax. Instructions are on the Carson National Forest website under 'Travel Management'.***

The Carson National Forest is proposing to close 319 miles of existing roads on these four Districts, restricted dispersed camping and big game retrieval, and has ignored user requests for establishing motorcycle trails. Once the route designation process ends later this year, the only legal travel I will be on the designated roads and trails shown in the final version of the proposal. If your favorite road or trail is not there, you will lose it.

After the 30 day comment period ends, the Forest Service will finish their analysis process and issue a Final Environmental Assessment (EA). At that time, the only available legal step will be to file an appeal. Only those people who established 'standing' (by submitting a written comment between July 15 and August 17th) will have the right to appeal the EA when it is released.

The Carson is the most recent Forest to release their Proposed Action. Keep track of where your local Forest is in the Travel Management route designation process by monitoring the NMOHVA [web site](#).

## **Bearwallow Road Work Day**

Members of the Las Cruces Four Wheel Drive Club, The Mogollon/Apache/Gila (MAG) Riders ATV club from Glenwood and the personnel from the Gila National Forest gathered on Saturday, May 30th at the entrance to Bearwallow Road (Forest Road 119). The special occasion marked the erection of the official Adopt-A-Trail sign signifying that the popular road had been adopted by the two local clubs. The sign was provided by the Forest Service and assembled group wasted no time in promptly installing the sign. The Forest Service will also be installing a companion sign at the other end of the road near Bearwallow Lookout.



After the sign was installed, the rest of the day was spent picking up trash and clearing downed trees from the route. The two clubs applied to formally adopt the road three years ago and have been maintaining it ever since. Plans for future maintenance projects this summer include installing water bars to improve water management on the road.

Bearwallow Road is a very beautiful road starting at Highway 180 about 8 miles north of Glenwood and ending near Bearwallow Lookout. It makes a great loop with the Bursum Road back thru Mogollon. The road is a particular favorite in the fall when the aspen trees are at their most spectacular.

## NMOHVA Members "Star" in Forest Service Filming

Several NMOHVA members recently made their 'acting debut' by agreeing to help the Forest Service film some new Public Service Announcements (PSA's). Both the Cibola and Santa Fe National Forests contacted NMOHVA and asked if members would be willing to help with the film project. NMOHVA was happy to help provide members representing diverse modes (4WD, ATV, and off highway motorcycle) for the two day project.

Saturday, July 18th found a group of mixed group of NMOHVA members and other users gathered on the Jemez District of the Santa Fe National Forest for the monthly trail maintenence day. Mike Dechter of the Jemez District office coordinated the Forest Service film crew to accompany the work party for the day. The footage captured included the group as they invested a day building water bars on Forest Road 266NA and interviewing NMOHVA members for the PSA's.

Sunday, July 19th, the venue was the Cedro Peak trail system on the Sandia Ranger District of the Cibola National Forest. The film crew set to work shooting members riding the trails at Cedro Peak and using the new Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUM's).



NMOHVA Member Ron Schubert tells the camera why helping the Forest Service maintain routes is important.



NMOHVA Board Member Chris Johnson examines the Motor Vehicle Use Map with Lisa Jones from the Sandia Ranger District.

The plan is to use the footage for short PSA's on television 'advertising' the need to use the new Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUMS's) when they become available. They also plan to produce longer steaming video spots on good riding ethics and trail stewardship that will be featured on AZ and NM Forest Service web sites.



Lights...camera....ACTION! Hey! I said 'Action!' Seriously, it was a hot and humid day in the Jemez and the short lunch break meant finding a spot in the shade. Thanks to all who helped out with both the Santa Fe and Cibola film days.

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