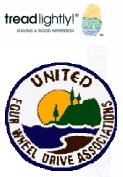
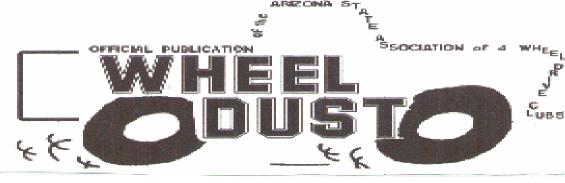
#### THE WHEELDUST SPRING 2005 EDITION







#### ASA4WDC 2005 **OFFICERS**

#### President

Rheal Tetreault Email

#### Vice-President Phil Strittmatter

Treasurer

#### Ray Jenkins Email:

Secretary Chari Ainsworth Email:

#### **ASA4WDC 2005 CHAIRS**

#### Wheeldust Editor

Rebecca Antle Email

#### **Membership Chair**

Jim Florence Email:

#### Historian

Don Hicks Email

#### 4-Wheel Awareness Chair

Steve Wiloughby-Email

#### **United 4 Wheel Drive Chair**

Don Hicks Email Jack McCullen-Email

#### Adopt-A-Trail

Ted Gersztyn Email

#### **Environmental Affairs Chair**

Sandee McCullen

Email

#### Legislative Liaison

Rebecca Antle Email

#### **ASA4WDC 2005 DIRECTORS**

**Region 1 Director** Sandee McCullen-

Email

#### **Region 2 Director**

Phil Strittmatter-

#### **Region 3 Director**

Steve Moorehouse

Email:

#### **Region 4 Director**

Rheal Tetreault-Email

#### THE WHEELDUST

The Wheeldust is the official publication of the Arizona State Association of 4 Wheel Drive Clubs, Inc. Circulation is limited to members, perspective members, resource management agencies and advertisers. The Arizona State Association of 4 Wheel Drive Clubs. Inc. is an association of rough terrain vehicle clubs with the following goals:

To promote a more responsible attitude towards vehicle use on public lands; To prevent legislation which would impose undo restriction on recreational 4-wheeling; To institute programs of conservation, education and safety and to provide social and recreational activities for its members. The Association also assists the state and national resource management agencies.

#### ASA4WDC EVENTS

#### **PHOENIX FOUR WHEELERS 33RD** ANNUAL ROUNDUP



The 33rd Annual P4W Round Up will include four wheel drive trips, dinner, camping and games. Full Roundup includes all trips,

activities, kids games, adult 4x4 games and even a drive in movie!

The date of the event is March 20 through the



Registration Fun



Heifer Trail

The fare for dinner will be BBQ. And other events include a dance, bingo and raffle.

The runs for this year are for all levels and include Hassayampa, Toad Run, Heifer Trail, Poker Run and Rough and Family trails.

So plan to attend. See the

registration form in this newsletter.

#### ASA4WDC MAY QUARTERLY CONVENTION/DELEGATES MEETING

There are numerous motels/hotels, restaurants and gas stations

in Kingman, if you don't wish to camp. The nearest gas and diesel is

eight miles north of Crazy Fred's Truck Stop with a diner and small

So plan to attend this years event. See this newsletter for the



convenience store.

registration form and more information.

The ASA4WDC May Quarterly/Delegates Meeting and Convention will be held at the Voyager RV Resort just south of Tucson on, Saturday May 14. The address is 8701 S. Kolb Road, exit is south off of I-10. There is camping and also rooms available. The phone number for the resort is 520 574-5000. You can reserve a room, small park trailer or bring your own RV.

The Quarterly/Delegates meeting will be in the afternoon with the Convention later in the evening.

As always we will have guest speakers and awards at the Convention. A catered dinner, happy hour and door prizes are also part of convention.

The Winch will also be given away at the Convention. So bring your tickets that you have sold and your money so you can buy some more. Remember the winch was donated by 4 Wheeler Supply and the proceeds goes to the Land Use Fund to keep our trails open.

Some of the awards this year are as follows:

Best Newsletter - This is an award given to the best ASA4WDC club newsletter submission for 2004. To participate please send me three of our best newsletters for 2004. I would like them by April 15, so we will have time to judge them. My address

Best Website - We will also present an award to the best ASA4WDC club Website. Please email me your club website address so that we can look at them.

ASA4WDC Four Wheeler of the year will be presented at the

ASA4WDC, INC. P.O. BOX 23904 TEMPE, AZ 85282

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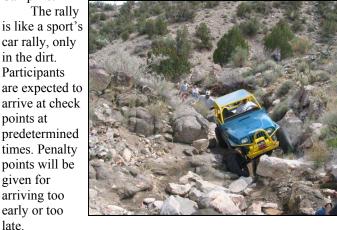
#### WALAPAI 4 WHEELERS GHOST TOWN **JAMBOREE**



The Walapai 4 Wheelers Annual Ghost Town Jamboree will be April 8, 9 and 10 in Golden Valley, AZ.

Registration starts on Thursday the 7th at 6:00 pm, and is also open on Friday and Saturday. This event includes hard, medium and easy runs.

Dinner on Saturday, along with Rally Awards, Raffle and Campfire.



given for arriving too early or too late. It is recommended that you have a co-driver act as navigator, and some handy but not essential items to have along might be a stop

watch(es), a calculator(s), paper (steno pads work great), pencils, a compass, a trash bag, and a rabbit's foot or two. The course is rated a 2.5 to 3 and can be done by stock 4x4

vehicles. It will take all day, so bring along lunches and drinks. There will be a variety of driving skill games that are a lot of fun for everyone (sometimes the spectators get the biggest laugh) and occasionally test the status of your marital bliss. Turn right! No, the other right! Slow down! Shut up, dearest, I'm driving.

Location of this years event is in Golden Valley. Golden Valley is in northwestern Arizona and the Jamboree location is eleven miles south of Kingman at an elevation of 2250 feet.

## 414/HEELERS SUPPLY & OFF ROAD CENTERS

3530 E. Washington Phoenix, AZ. 85034

(602) 273-7195 (800) 639-7195

### ASA4WDC WINCH RAFFLE MAY 14, 2005

Special thanks to 4 Wheeler Supply (see add back page) who donated the 8000 pound winch to our Land Use Raffle. Thanks for your wonderful support!

All the proceeds of the winch will go to our Land Use expenses. There are many important events coming up that need financing so we thought this would be a great way to do it. It not only benefits the ASA4WDC but everyone has a chance of wining a winch!

This raffle is open to everyone. The tickets are available from your Delegates or any ASA4WDC Board Member. The cost of the tickets are \$2.00 each.

The drawing will be held at the May Quarterly in Tucson. You do not have to present to win, but it would be more fun.

For more information you can contact

Help support our sport!



#### **ASA4WDC BUSSINESS**

Convention.

There will be awards for the past four wheelers and most club participants at the Convention.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend the Convention. You are also welcome at the Quarterly/ Delegate meeting too.

There is room in the convention hall for displays. So if your club has a display they would like to set up please bring it. We can put banners up in the room also, but they need to be free standing.

The Tucson Rough Riders will be leading a run on Sunday morning. This will be a moderate run, and hopefully very scenic since we have had so much rain. So if you are interested in touring some of the back roads of the Tucson area, let us know on Friday or Saturday of Convention.

First thing Sunday morning will also be a Tread Lightly! Clinic. There will be a short class in the morning for those who want to go four wheeling also. There will be an extended class for those who are interested. Let us know at convention.

If you have any questions or would like to help with the arrangements please let Don Hicks, 2005 Convention Chair, at 480 807-9558.

See you at Convention!

#### **JEEP TRACKS**

I have worked with many good people on our ASA4WDC board in the past and want to thank all of them for their hard work and support of this association.

This year we have a new member to our ASA4WDC Executive Board, Phil Strittmatter. Phil has taken on the position of Vice President so that Ray Jenkins can take over the Treasurers job.

Thank you Joan for letting Phil take this position even though you weren't exactly thrilled at the prospect.

Don Hicks has volunteered to be our second United Delegate, and also retain his present position of Historian.

Jim Florence from one our newer member clubs has volunteered to take over the membership position. Jim has been around four wheeling and the ASA4WDC for a long time and will be a welcomed addition.

Again congratulations to our new board members. You are all needed and important assets to our association.

Rheal Tetreault **ASA4WDC President** 

#### **OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our out going board members for a job well done for many years.

First of all Ray Jenkins has been a great vice president for many years. But Ray isn't through with the ASA4WDC board yet, he has taken on the job of treasurer. Thanks for all of your unending help.

Elliott Bartlett has decided that retirement and travel are more important than continuing on for more years as the ASA4WDC treasurer. We will sorely miss you from our board. You have served the board well for many years as a dependable treasurer. Thanks for all of

your help and hard work over the years and enjoy your retirement.!

Joanie Noel has given up her position as United Delegate for the job of United Secretary.

Again thank you all for your work and dedication to the ASA4WDC.

Rheal Tetreault

#### ASA4WDC DELEGATE MEETING

FEBURARY ASA4WDC DELEGATE MEETING Ramada Inn, Havasu City, Arizona February 5, 2005

Meeting was called to order by President Rheal Tetreault at 1:20 p.m.

Roll Call: Quorum was met. 16 of 24 clubs represented.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ray Jenkins

Sandee McCullen - MOVED and Minutes: SECONDED to approve the Minutes as published. MOTION CARRIED

Treasurer: Elliott Bartlett - MOVED and SECONDED to approve Treasurers report as presented. MOTION CARRIED. Closing year budget in file.

**Correspondence** - None

**COMMITTEES** 

Wheeldust Editor: Becky Antle - Becky and Rheal are doing the actual mailing due to the printers inability to mail in a timely manner. ASA4WDC again has a bulk mail permit that is good for 250 pieces or more. See Becky for more information.

Membership: We need a chair, please contact your club members regarding interest.

A "membership" email has now been set up enabling us to send information to all members with an email address. Hopefully this will help distribute information to everyone.

(Following the meeting) Jim Florence, AZ Rock Rats, volunteered to take the membership responsibilities. THANKS JIM!!!

Historian: Don Hicks - Has made historian books available for display and information booths.

Always need pictures and articles!

**4WD Awareness & Safety**: Steve Willoughby - Steve was not in attendance but message to the delegates: A Clinic is planned for March 26 at the Superstition Springs Ford dealership at Tomahawk and Hwy 60 in Apache Junction. Limited to 10 students, need help from instructors. Is looking at quarterly or maybe monthly training. Will not be hosting a CPR clinic. Instructors need to arrange to update their certifications themselves.

United: Jack McCullen - Need a second delegate. Don Hicks volunteered. THANKS Don!

Convention in Montana in mid July.

Rheal reviewed the new United Membership groups. It was recommended we join under the \$500.00 per year but no action was taken due to the fact we do not know the specifics of "when" this membership will take effect. There was discussion regarding the \$10.00 The ASA4WDC board portion to United. recommended:

"ASA4WDC join United under the \$500.00 membership group. The extra dollars from the \$10.00 normally directed to United be directed to the Land Action Fund to allow funding of legal actions and/or land use or political support. "

Clubs were asked to go back to their clubs for a decision/vote in May.

Adopt-A-Road: Ted Gersztyn—No Report

**Environmental Affairs/Conservation**: Sandee McCullen - Have attended numerous meetings regarding BLM and/or FS planning.

Tonto FS, Mesa Ranger District, has formed a group, "Friends of Sycamore" to help with planning an OHV riding area along Sycamore Creek. There have been threats of closure for a number of years but they are now working in partnership with all motorized recreation groups to plan this area for motorized use.

We did not have a booth at the 4x4 Expo due to we receiving only 3 volunteers to man the booth for the weekend. This was a free booth for us and won't be offered again. It is felt we need to reconsider what our goals are regarding our PR.

ORBA & BLM have signed an Agreement to meet quarterly to discuss issues relevant to OHV in Arizona. This is a huge step in helping us have people in leadership positions in the state to be positive towards OHV issues.

I am on the "AZ State Parks Grant Task Force" to review the "grant procedures".

I am on the Technical Committee working on "OHV rules and a Copper Sticker OHV permit" with AZ Game & Fish. They are trying diligently to close down all OHV through rules that could not be adhered to. i.e.: NO parts, seats, mufflers, suspensions, tires, etc could be replaced outside original OEM products. This has definitely been a challenge to work with this group. As of the second day of the last session we were finally on a roll by following a "rules/permit system" from Utah.

Becky and I attended the Business Summit of the West 2005 Conference at the AZ Biltmore Resort in Phoenix on Jan 5-7. The conference was sponsored by the Western Business Roundtable and the Business-Industry Political Action Committee.

The Roundtable is 27 years old and its members include a broad range of industries; such as agricultural products, mining, energy services, gas and oil production, pipelines, telecommunications, public and investor-owned utilities, etc. The Roundtable advocates a host of public policy issues; including economic development, environmental protection, regulatory reform, public land use, air and water quality, www.westernroundtable.com The attendees included CEO's and senior executives of organizations doing business in the Western United States, policy makers from federal and state agencies and numerous congressional and state lawmakers.

ORBA (Off Road Business Association) again stepped up to help us by paying my registration fees. I registered as a representative of the Az OHV (Arizona Off-Highway Coalition) Coalition to enable me to speak for all OHV in Arizona. Becky registered as a representative of the ASA4WDC. Her fees will be refunded from the ASA4WDC Land Use budget. This conference was most definitely an eye opener in obtaining first hand verification that ALL users of public lands are affected by the same problems. Recreation, small business as well as big energy business involving o u r c o u n t r y 's e c o n o m y.

Conference topics included the reform of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the roadless issues associated with public lands as well as President Bush's "Energy" plan. Access to public land was a major topic of d i s c u s s i o n .

The keynote speaker was Secretary of Interior (DOI) Gale Norton. Department of Agriculture Undersecretary Rey spoke to us regarding the Roadless issue. House Resources Committee Chairman Pombo was briefly in attendance prior to his return to Washington to participate in a vote on the floor of the House of Representatives. After returning to Washington, he participated in a discussion (via video conferencing) on Thursday afternoon. There were numerous D.C. representatives that spoke to us via satellite video regarding the ESA and Roadless issues. We received a report on the Pygmy Owl situation here in Arizona. The Arizona attorney that sued on behalf of the developers in Tucson was on the panel and able to discuss this issue and others. The Sage Grouse issue was at the top of the discussion with an announcement late on Thursday by DOI Secretary Norton that we WON this fight. The Sage Grouse will not be listed, due to the preemptive work that the counties did to bring the species back.

OHV recreation interests were represented by: Sandee McCullen, Representing AZ OHV Coalition, Rebecca Antle, Legislative Advocate, Arizona State Association of 4 Wheel Drive Clubs, Jeff Grush, Exec Vice Pres, Arizona OHV Coalition, and Arizona Trial Riders, Roy Denner, President of ORBA, Bob Mason, Chairman, ASA (American Sand Association)

The opportunity to network with the participants and to learn about the Roundtable goals and objectives was a valuable experience. Future opportunities to participate in Roundtable activities will be beneficial. Of particular interest is the reformation of the ESA. Jim Sims, Executive Director of the Western Business Round Table welcomes the support by OHV recreation interests. The AZ OHVC has presented a request for membership into this group as well as the partner group. Partnershipforthewest.org. We will be working directly with Jim Sims to put this deal together.

Reported by: Sandee McCullen ASA4WDC Land Use Director"

#### ASA4WDC CALENDAR

**Mar 20 -26** - P4W 33rd Round Up

Apr 8 - 10 - Walapai Ghost Town Jamboree

May 15 - May Quarterly will be in Tucson at the Voyager RV Resort.

**Aug 13** - ASA4WDC Quarterly/Delegate Meeting - Payson Area

Sept 30 - Oct 2 - TRR Trail Dust Days October 1-3 Catalina State Park

Oct 13 -16 - ASA4WDC Jamboree

Oct 28 - 30 - ARR Spook Rally

Nov 5-6 - Creepy Crawlers Chili Poker Run

Nov 11-13 - Parker Splash

**Nov 19** - ASA4WDC November Quarterly - Phoenix Area

#### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

Please send all of your change of addresses and dues to Jim Florence, ASA4WDC Membership or Ray Jenkins, ASA4WDC Treasurer.

The membership rosters need to be in an excel format to make sure we don't miss anyone or get the

wrong address. Please contact me at 4critter@comcast.net for the form if you do not already have one. Please include address, phone number and your email address for all of your members.

#### **WHEELDUST**

Okay, I think we got the mailing issue all taken care of. I believe everyone that has paid their dues got the last issue of the Wheeldust, if not please contact either myself or Jim Florence, Membership Chair.

We have gone back to the original way of mailing the newsletter like we did about 6 years or so ago when I was the editor before. We are now handling the mailing of the newsletter and no the printer. It does take a little more time to label each newsletter and sort them, but I know that they get out on time now and to the right people. It also gives Rheal and I more time to spend together (like we really need that!)

I am always open to anything that you might want to put in the newsletter, within reason. Please send it to me shortly after each quarterly. I have been trying to keep to the 30 days after each quarterly deadline.

If someone in your club does not receive a newsletter please let me know and we will try to fix that problem.

Following are the costs to advertise in the Wheeldust:
Business Card \$50
1/4 Page Ad \$75
1/2 Page Ad \$150
Full Page Ad \$250

These prices are for a full years add, the newsletter is printed four times a year, and are mailed after each quarterly delegate meeting.

This will be your last newsletter if your dues haven't been paid to the ASA4WDC. Dues were due at the February ASA4WDC Quarterly.

#### **CLUB HEADLIGHT**



The Walapai 4 Wheelers is a Non-Profit Organization in Kingman Arizona that has been in existence for the past 34 years. Our membership consists of 28 families of local 4X4 enthusiasts who,

while using and enjoying our open lands to the fullest work hard to keep them clean and preserved for future generations.

We also take pride is using our Non-Profit status to help local organizations both as volunteers and with monetary contributions each year, a few of our favorites have been. Kingman Police Dept's Shop with a Cop, which provides Christmas presents for less fortunate children in the Kingman Area. Kingman Fire Dept. with Sparky the Fireplug a program to help educate children about fire safety. The Mohave Museum of History and Arts, to help with a recent expansion of their Library.

Our volunteer efforts include participation in the Bureau of Land Management's Adopt A Road Program with the Moss Wash OHV Trail and are site stewards for the Gold King Mansion. We also share stewardship of Secret Pass with the Bullhead 4 Wheelers. We supplied the labor to replace a restroom roof at Burro Creek Campground.

We are active with the Arizona Dept. of Game and Fish and their Adopt A Ranch Program and the Kingman Area Habitat Committee.

Our main fundraiser is "The Ghost Town Jamboree". The Jamboree is manned by member volunteers and consists of a three-day rally with timed events, 4X4 games, BBQ, music and lots of fun for the entire family. The event is open to the public with past jamborees drawing hundreds of people. This year's event will take place April 8-10, 2005 in Kingman. For information on club membership or activities send email to <a href="mailto:walapai4wheelers@yahoo.com">walapai4wheelers@yahoo.com</a> or call Marty Helton, President

The club belongs to the Arizona Association of 4 Wheel Drive Clubs, and United Four Wheel Drive.

Marty Helton

## ASA4WDC FOUR WHEELER OF THE YEAR

It is that time of year again to nominate our newest four wheeler of the year for the ASA4WDC. This requries you to send in a short description about why you think your nominee should be four wheeler of the year for 2004

This year Don Hicks is handling the nominations. The past four wheeler of the year will always take care of the next years nominations.

The award will be given away at the May Quarterly Convention.

Don Hicks can be reached at: 480 807-9558 or email: Email gunny31@cox.net

#### LAND ISSUES AND MEETINGS

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) invites you to participate in workshops to discuss preliminary management alternatives for the Sonoran Desert National Monument and Phoenix South planning areas. These alternatives will consider proposed activities and uses, desired resource conditions, and management practices. These alternatives build on our previous workshops, including goals (January 2004) and parameters for management alternatives (April 2004). We considered your input and used it to develop preliminary management alternatives. Alternatives provide a range of options to consider and analyze and form the basis for the Resource Management Plans.

Public involvement and input are important to ensure that BLM is able to consider a full range of management options. Each workshop will include an overview and group discussion. The workshops will be hosted from 6 pm - 8 pm on the following dates in six communities:

Tucson, Wednesday, March 2, 2005 Quail Run Elementary School Cafeteria 4600 W. Cortaro Farms Road

Yuma, Thursday, March 3, 2005 BLM Yuma Field Office 2555 E. Gila Ridge Road

The preliminary management alternatives can be previewed on the BLM planning web page from Feb. 4, 2005 - March 11, 2005. The web site is located at: <a href="https://www.az.blm.gov/LUP/sonoran/son\_des.htm">www.az.blm.gov/LUP/sonoran/son\_des.htm</a>. You will also find the planning bulletin, which provides more information on the preliminary alternatives, on the web site.

The public is also welcome to view the preliminary information at the BLM-Phoenix Field Office, located at 21605 N. 7th Avenue (south of Deer Valley Road) in Phoenix, Arizona, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Monday through Friday. The preliminary alternatives will also be available at local libraries, the Tucson Field Office, and the Yuma Field Office; call our toll-free number at 1-866-627-7850 for specific locations. This information will also be available at the workshops.

After the workshops, BLM will complete the draft management alternatives for the plans that will be assessed in an environmental impact statement. BLM continues to invite comments or questions on the Sonoran Desert National Monument and Phoenix South Resource Management Plans at its toll-free telephone information line at 1-866-627-7850.

Thank you, Karen Kelleher, Planning Project Manager az\_sdnm\_phx\_south@blm.gov

#### **SYCAMORE AREA CLEAN-UP**

Massive Cleanup WILL Take Place at Lower Sycamore Creek On Saturday, April 2,2005 At 8:00 AM M.S.T.

Tonto National Forest, Arizona Game and Fish, Friends of the Sycamore and as a MAJOR Commitment to the Community And Future Generations Volunteers from the following Groups and Clubs of:ATV-OHV Off Road, Archery, Campers, Equestrian, Hikers, Shooters will be present. Also an Invitation to ALL groups and People who have and still enjoy the Sycamore area.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:

Marty Fabritz

Syacmore has been a Big Part of Many peoples Lives NOW it Needs OUR Help to insure that many more memories are made and that it will always be here.

#### **ASA4WDC AROUND THE STATE**

#### WHAT DOES STATE DO FOR ME?

That is an often asked question by almost all of our members. In fact I was asked that at our club board meeting a while back by one of our officers. I guess the thought of paying a portion of our club dues to another organization doesn't always sound like a good idea.

The question of "What Does State Do for Me," is a little complex to answer. But we will try.

What does the Arizona State Association of 4 Wheel Drive Clubs (ASA4WDC) provide to me?

Arizona State Land Department (ASLD) recreational permits are provided to each club that belongs to the ASA4WDC. This may not seem like a lot, but when you consider that you, as an individual club cannot acquire this permit then it becomes more of an issue. All of these permits are paid for out of your dues. Some of the things this permit allows are:

The ability to use State Lands for events and runs
The ability to allow guests to go along on our events
without buying an individual permit
The ability to camp on state lands

You should also have a personal ASLD permit for your everyday wheeling, when you take a group out or hold an event on state land that is when your club permit goes into action

The State has been able to acquire and pay for a group event insurance policy so that we can hold events on our public land. This also comes out of our dues. If we didn't have this insurance these are the clubs it would effect:

have this insurance these are the clubs it would effect:
Arizona Rough Riders – Spook Rally
ASA4WDC – Jamboree and Outdoor Events Shows
Creepy Crawlers – Chili Poker Run
Mesa 4 Wheelers – Fun Days
Parker 4 Wheelers – Parker Splash
Phoenix 4 Wheelers – P4W Roundup
Tucson Rough Riders – Trail Dust Days
Walapai 4 Wheelers – Ghost Town Run

Some of the other activities that the ASA4WDC and associated clubs also require insurance. The Tucson Rough Riders used to have a display at the County Fair which recently required us to carry a liability policy. In some cases insurance is required if you attend a car show, recreation show display and other events.

Try getting insurance on your own for your club event and see what the cost would be. All of the agencies and the private land owners require that we provide a \$2 million dollar insurance policy to use any of their land for an event.

The ASA4WDC has recently become more involved in the political side of the land issues. The ASA4WDC, for the first time, sent a representative back to Washington DC last year with ORBA (Off Road Business Association), American Sand Association (ASA), California Land Rovers, and other groups to talk to our legislators about what is going on in the West.

We have an opportunity to keep some of our public lands with the current administration and staying in touch with them will make a big difference. We lost a lot of land to the past presidential administration. Issues that resulted from that administration were:

The Roadless Policy (now being reviewed within this administration)

Many new wilderness areas were designated Many new endangered species were designated Many new National Parks were designated Many new environmental policies were enacted

Why is going to Washington DC an important issue? Because we can make a difference, it may not be a huge one but it is a difference. We can go back to DC and say that we represent 800 families, not just 80. All of a sudden there is a representation from the motorized community that never existed before. We now have to go to DC and inform our elected officials what was going on in our backyards. They never knew what is going on in our little communities. We have been informed by some of the Congress members we have meet with that we need to educate them on our issues.

Other issues the ASA4WDC Land Use Committee has been involved in are:

Middle Gila Conservation Partnership (MGCP) and Route Evaluation (all of this in the Florence area). Would it make a difference if we were not involved and just the agencies were doing the evaluation? You bet.

Imagine if the whole BLM staff was doing the route evaluation. Do you think it would come out as a fair process? Most of these people are very green and do not think any motorized recreation should exist on government land. The limited use group of the MGCP has left three main roads open out of close to 1000 miles of trails, various camp sites (just off the road) and turned what was left back to nature or made it into hiking trails. Fortunately, we have been asked to attend to balance this out.

The Western Business Roundtable (see minutes for more information) is an event that was attended by the ASA4WDC, Arizona Off-Highway Vehicle Association, American Sand Association and ORBA. ORBA was able to get us an invitation to attend. This conference was a great way of showing our western elected officials that there are more interests in public land than just the development and business industry.

The ASA4WDC also attended the Western Land Managers Conference in Las Vegas. This meeting was with the western agencies land managers and other officials to discuss the west and what direction it is going in. This was also a special invitation to the ASA4WDC to attend.

The ASA4WDC Land Use Committee has also been involved in numerous Land Management Partnerships such as:

Friends of Sycamore Ironwood National Forest Desert Hills OHV area MGCP And many more

All of these events cost money to attend and to send people back to represent us. And remember the people that go to these conferences do it on their own time; the state only pays transportation and lodging.

This leads me into the final reason. Probably the most important answer to the question is the fact that we are a large group. This may not mean much too many of you who just go four wheeling. But it means a great deal to those of us who try to keep our public lands open so that you can go four wheeling.

The ASA4WDC has a partnership with ORBA for some of our legal issues. They have been invaluable to our cause, and have ties that we don't have. They are able to get the ASA4WDC recognized as a reliable source of information for the motorized recreational community.

Keeping our roads and public lands open is a fight that we all need to be involved in. Remember it is more fun to drive a trail than to drive the same course at an off highway vehicle park.

## TITLE 5 OHV LAWS AND THE COPPER STICKER FUND

#### Title 5 OHV laws

The following would be possible amendments to the existing out of date **title 28 laws**, without rewriting the entire book. The amendments would allow Title 5 to include Quads, home made or specially constructed purposely built rock crawlers, those OHV golf cart jobs, Rhinos and any of the new types of OHV's that title 28 is missing. But the biggest "new" items to look at are Registration and a Copper Sticker use program.

#### Registration:

You say your OHV is already registered, maybe not. Here's how it could work.

You buy a new dirt bike from your local dealer, he sends in the paperwork and you get a RV plate which you use or throw away, now you will have to have it on your bike (or ANY OHV you want to use).

Now say you want it to be street legal, instead of the RV plate you would have to meet the "Standards for a Street" plate and that would act as your registration. The whole Idea here is that Law Enforcement would be able to track stolen OHV's, which all of us would like to see happen. One way or the other you would have to have a plate on your vehicle.

But what happens if you buy it from John Doe? Well, here is part of the "still in the Draft Stage." As written now (draft) you would have the transaction notarized, head to your local DMV, have the vehicle inspected for serial numbers and get your registration and paperwork just as if it came from the dealer. This protects you and helps control theft. This creates more running around but worth it.

But you say that your purposely built rock crawler has never been titled. You fall under the special construction vehicle designation at DMV. They will ask you for all the invoices for the major components of the vehicle and issue a title for it. You just need to keep your invoices, which you should have done for warranty purposes anyway.

Now we come to the potential problems.

First is the issue of OEM equipment and safety. As it is written now, most everything that comes on your bike from the factory could only be replaced by a factory part. Why? Because the factory protects its self by declaring anything not "Factory" to be unsafe if their parts are not used for replacement (read aftermarket parts!). They spent millions on designing those parts for their products and would like to recover \$\$\$\$\$ in replacement parts. And as it is written in the Draft for Title 5, this would be easy to interpret as THE LAW.

You ask why should you care? Well, that new FMF exhaust you just spent \$300 on could not be used, or those 35" mudder tires and rims that you just threw on the jeep would have to go back. And if you make your living selling parts for OHV's you would have a hard time competing with the dealer for sales if all you could buy /sell were OEM parts. Again, this is a simple wording fix, BUT it still needs to be changed and that simple stuff sneaks by if no one knows it NEEDS TO CHANGE.

Also, in this portion of the proposed law, "Sound regulations" are a problem. As in California, sound is CLOSING OHV areas. The new California laws would be adopted here in Arizona. Those laws are 96 db at 20 inches and ¾ throttle or drive by 3<sup>rd</sup> gear at 50 feet 82db test would be the ASA standard tests used and enforced. So those open race pipes would be good at the local MX track only, small price to keep riding. These Laws for Sound should be for ALL OHV machines and for that matter anything over the 96db should have to comply. This would include chainsaws, boom boxes, ext. Moms keep those kids quiet!

Now for the Copper Sticker use fee: Well, as in California, we need to help pay for our OHV use.

The trails don't build themselves, they don't number themselves either, they don't maintain themselves and they don't get inventoried or designated without \$\$\$\$\$ to do so. Unfortunately for us OHV'ers, most agencies don't think much of our sport. So the Copper sticker would help fund all the good things we would like to see happen on the trails, like to have them STAY open.

Again, it would be another chunk of change to hand over to play, but if you go most anywhere else to ride you have to pay to play anyway.

Now you ask where will the money be spent? Good question. We all know where the only Recreation fee dollars go now, "the Black Hole." One of the most important features we will have to enact is to protect the money from the Copper Sticker program from the Governor. We can not allow the Governor to sweep all the funds as has been done in the past with the OHV GAS TAX Dollars into the general fund. We need to protect these dollars for the purpose it was intended, US.

Now, one of my issues is that the current personal Arizona State Land Department (ASLD) Recreation permit be eliminated if we go to the Copper Sticker. Then a portion of the monies would go to ASLD to manage their trails and recreation areas.

But where would the dollars be spent? Well, again, I would present a proposed graduated scale, the largest portion would go for trails inventory mapping, signing



#### WALAPAI 4 WHEELERS GHOST TOWN JAMOBREE

April 8. 9, 10th, 2005, Golden Valley, AZ

REGISTRATION AND WAIVER Please complete both sides and return with check to: Walapai 4 Wheelers, Inc. P.O. Box 4004 Kingman, AZ 86402 <u>DEADLINE MARCH 15TH.</u> Late registrations welcome. No refunds for cancellations and no guarantee for shirts/dinners if received after the above deadline.

**Questions? Phone Marty** 

NAME:					Phone:							
M\ailing												
Address:												
City:						Stat	e:		7	Zip:		
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#### **AROUND THE STATE**

and Education. Say 75% for all of these issues and 25% going to Law Enforcement.

After the trails are signed, mapped and inventoried, Law Enforcement would get the lions share to keep. The Law just doesn't work without all the trails signed and people educate on the OHV use laws.

So, to sum it up. Under the new Laws, you would have to register your OHV, either with an RV plate or a Street plate. Then you would purchase the Copper Sticker so you could go out and play. Yes, it is more work for you and a little more money to spend, but it should be worth it **IF** this is done right.

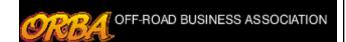
How can you help?

Go to the club you belong to, the shop you buy parts from or the Dealer you go to and ask them to get involved. Have them contact us at www.arizonatrailriders.org. We will keep the most current information on web page with the latest on this issue and who to write to. AGAIN, this is in the Draft stage and is the best time to give comments and though NO ONE wants to intentional take anything from John Q Public, misunderstandings happen.

Now, for my band wagon. Why is it, that the thought of loosing your right to buy an after market exhaust system would get you off the couch and writing emails, BUT the thought of losing your places to ride won't get you moving at all? I have gotten 20 times the response from the "lose your right to buy aftermarket" Email than any of the land closure issues. You can't use the after market stuff or your OHV if there is no place to ride. I just wondered what gets you motivated.

Thanks for your time on this issue. Jeff Gursh Arizona Trail Riders Arizona Off Highway Vehicle Coalition

#### **ORBA**



Following is a list of current members of ORBA, this is not a complete list. You can find a complete list on the website. This is a list of Arizona contributors and a few other large companies.

Please solicit our ORBA sponsors. 4 Wheeler Supply, Phx – Bryan Christeson

#### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4**

Advance Adapters Inc, Paso Robles, CA – Mike Partridge

Arizona Motorsports, Chandler - Bill Nash

Beard Seats/RedArt Corp., Anaheim, CA - Timothy Sausamian

Chirco Automotive, Tucson – Don Chirco

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Sand Winder, Phoenix, Darren Riley

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Tucson Motorsports, Tucson - Steve Walker

USA Motorsports, Avondale - Bob O'Brien

Verde Powersports, Mesa - Troy Green

Walt's Motorsports & Marine, Lake Havasu - Walt Beck

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#### **NATONAL CONTRIBUTORS**

#### **PUBLIC? OR PROHIBITED?**

Land & Access 4x4 Wire – A look at OHV use and impact

By Ray Ashba, Edited by John Stewart

When you hear the words, ORV, Off-road or four wheeler, what comes to mind? For many, it's an image of a pollution spewing, earth-ravaging machine, laying waste to beautiful wild land. If you see this image, do you believe it to be fact? Unfortunately, many do. While that is a tragedy in itself, the reason you believe it is far more appalling.

For decades environmental activ-ists have used Hollywood drama and showmanship to pull at the heart strings of the American people. You notice, I said 'activists' and not environmental conservationist. It is a surprise to most people to learn there is a difference. The largest surprise being that the recreational OHV users are conservationists. The recreational community does depend on unimproved dirt roads, not paved highways for their recreational pursuits. This is where the Sierra Club and other environmental activists use the term ORV-Off Road Vehicle, the recreational community identifies with the term OHV-Off Highway Vehicle. I hope to shed some TRUE light on the subject.

Most advocacy groups claim they are "backed by overwhelming public support" and display large membership numbers and long lists of supporters for land closure bills. For instance, one recent online petition favoring the closure of public; lands to road access, the Sierra Club claimed that its entire 650,000 members were for the new bill. Yet, the online petition support numbers were in the mere thousands. What happened to these people? Do they not care about their "public" lands enough to vote on a simple online petition? When challenged about these claims of support, we never see the actual numbers. Instead we get claims like: "67 percent of respondents want ORV's prohibited in the undeveloped 'roadless' areas of our National Forests; or, 55 percent thought ORV's should be prohibited everywhere in National Forests" How many people were surveyed? What was the method of selection of survey population? Which demographic did the data come from? Was this a poll of the Sierra Club membership of over 650,000? We never see this information. In a recent simple Public Opinion Poll by MSNBC, the response was quite different. "Where do you stand on the 'roadless' rule enacted by the Clinton administration?" 13,477 responses: I'm for it - 31 %; I'm against - 69%; Can't decide - 0%.

What is it that they are hiding? In response, many recreation organizations are running their own petitions and polls; but, with full disclosure of the signatures and data.

In response to the large membership numbers, many have cited that the advocacy groups are double counting when asked where the data comes from. They count the paid member sues in the organizations and add the numbers. The problem is, most people belong to more than one organization; therefore, instead of outcries numbering in the millions; it is the same core group of people being counted two or three or more times.

Advocacy groups claim that "ORV's have damaged every kind of ecosystem found in the United States. In some cases the wounds will heal naturally; in others they will last for millennia."

This stems from a late 70's White House report that in the lengths of this enormous document, the advocacy groups were able to find one quote that they use as the poster child of the environmental impact of OHV's. They make examples of Lake Tahoe in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, a beautiful crystal clear lake that is being overrun with algae and silt from the surrounding river basin. Advocacy groups are placing blame on a road built back in the 1850's known as the Rubicon road and other multiple use Forest Service roads and, as a solution, demanding closure of the forest roads. The

Rubicon Road is mainly bedrock and one proposal is it be gated off to prevent further erosion and silting of soils into Lake Tahoe. The flaw in this is simply that OHV use on this road has little, if no effect, on Lake Tahoe. The largest contributor to the algae and silt problem is not OHV's but fertilizer and silt runoff from the explosion of developments along Lake Tahoe's shores. Instead of placing limits on pesticides and fertilizers and more erosion control at construction and development sites, OHV's get the blame from a road that has been in use for over a hundred years. Why is it, OHV's are the fall guy? Maybe it has something to do with the advocates agenda and not real scientific data? One seldom cited Forest Service study determined that loss of wetlands where streams once flowed before reaching Lake Tahoe is the primary cause of the algae and silt problem. These wetlands provided a natural 'filter' to trap silt before it reached the lake. In place of these wetlands are stores, homes and roads that make up the developed communities surrounding Lake Tahoe.

The Santa Rosa Mountains rise above Palm Springs, California and have been designated a reserve to protect the Peninsular subspecies of Desert Bighorn Sheep. A park display exhibit about the Desert Bighorn Sheep describes how they are dwindling in numbers due to habitat loss, the encroachment of human settlements, and, of course, number one on the list, the use of ORV's in the desert. In stark contradiction, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Recovery Plan for the Peninsular Desert Bighorn Sheep lists the number one cause of dwindling population on disease contracted from domestic sheep and cattle. The domestic herds are carriers and not affected but the disease is fatal to Bighorn Sheep.

The historic range of the Desert Bighorn Sheep covered from sea level to over 14,000 feet in the entire southwest ranging from the alpine meadows of the Colorado Rockies to the deserts of Southern California.

The Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management still allow domestic cattle and sheep grazing permits in Bighorn Sheep ranges. Many of these permits are for areas which have been closed to OHV recreation to 'protect' the Bighorn Sheep. So again, advocacy groups have used OHV's as the fall guy. Seems like there is a hidden agenda of not protecting the environment but restricting access to public lands and eradicating a recreational use of public lands. So, where do these 'facts' on OHV's come from?

Previously mentioned was that recreational OHV users are actually conservationists themselves. This may be shocking, but many groups like the BlueRibbon Coalition, TreadLightly!, United Four Wheel Drive Association, and other regional and state associations, local clubs, and individual users aid our public lands everyday. The associations and clubs participate in Adopt-A-Trail Programs to maintain and improve trails on public lands used by motorized and non-motorized recreation along with other conservation programs that benefit the public lands and the wildlife inhabitants.

Recreation use aside, the mere existence of unimproved roads and trails is beneficial. They are used by land managers, fire crews and emergency vehicles to gain access to areas with no improved roads. Wildlife use them as natural runs. They act as fire breaks restricting the spread of forest fires. They give direct access to nature for ALL of the public to enjoy and gain respect for the environment. Unimproved roads and trails on public lands are vital access to public lands that would otherwise be locked away from the public and left unmanaged to burn, suffer disease and provide little collective benefit to society.

Most users stay on trails and observe the TreadLightly! Principles, leaving the area better than they found it. The extreme few who abuse these tenets are shown as representative of the whole. Many recreation OHV users have lengthy professional and volunteer backgrounds in environmental and conservation organizations and still enjoy the use of OHV's. Does this mean they do not care about the environment? Must they actively denounce all environmental and wildlife concerns brought up by the 'Greenies'? The answer to these questions is a resounding NO. The essence of silviculture and conservation is to preserve the resources

we have: Outdoor recreation, wildlife, timber, space, and aesthetics. A true conservationist values all these.

If the idea that restricting access to our PUBLIC resources stops us from 'disturbing' nature, one needs to look around to find one example of humans NOT affecting their environment in some way. It's a fact of life. We are here and we are going to change things; deliberately or not. We have a RIGHT to use our public lands in a responsible manner that preserves the resources for continued future use.

#### REGARDING "INVASIVE SPECIES" AND TROJAN HORSES

This is the other side of the invasive species. You decide. (See article "Noxious Weed Management, the Tonto National Forest, and You, a 4-Wheel Drive Enthusiast")

Note: This is an excellent and brief means of understanding the agenda of "invasive" species and those driving this Cash Cow. This is an agenda to control people by controlling their ability to responsibly use their lands and waters. It is an agenda to control all recreation by controlling access by humans whose shoe treads, bicycle and other vehicle tire treads, etc. "MIGHT" or "COULD" spread "invasive seeds" all the while never mentioning that birds spread seeds far more widely than people ever could. It is highly recommended that you share this gem widely.

(A must-read! – Reprinted from the Bullsheet – Bullhead 4 Wheelers)

By Fred V. Grau, State College, Pennsylvania

Weeds are weeds, whether native or nonnative. It is almost certain that some of the" invasive weeds" are "native weeds." Sagebrush, perhaps? It is a native specie. Confused? Don't feel bad. Confusion is part and parcel of the "Invasive Species" agenda.

You see, by definition President Clinton's Executive Order 13112, February 3, 1999 http://ceq. eh.doe.gov/nepa/regs/eos/eo 13112. html an "Invasive Species" must be "nonnative to that ecosystem". Who knows enough to decide what is native to an ecosystem and what is not?

The simple answer is: Nobody, really.

Okay, so what to do about that?

Here goes:

- Create a crisis (agenda). "Invasive Species": Natives are "good". Non natives are "bad."
- 2. Create bureaucracies to deal with this "crisis" (that didn't exist before February 1999).
- 3. For Precautionary Principles, list almost any non food plant species that is known to be of foreign origin as an' "Invasive Species". (Examples: red clover, timothy, brome as well as yellow starthisie, the knapweed family, and so on).
- 4. Create "partnerships" with universities, government research units, "environmental" groups, even agriculture organizations, etc., for the purpose of (see No.5).
- 5. FUNDING. Yes, it all boils down to power and money.

#### From No.2

we see that it will be the "experts" in the bureaucracies who anoint themselves as the sole authorities to determine what is "invasive" and what is not. Power.

#### From No.5

we see that the Greens and research types play the game

#### **ASA4WDC EVENTS**



SIGNED

## 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Phoenix Four Wheelers Roundup March 20th thru March 26th, 2005

WHEELERS	The Past, Present and Future	Think about this. Before 1999 (or 2000-200 had you ever heard the term "Invas
	ıns for all levels including Hassayampa Toad Run, Heifer Trail, Kids activities; BBQ, dance, bingo, raffle, drive in movie and r	Poker Run, Rough and Species" or "Invasive Weeds"?
*Full Roundup includes all trips, activities, Can		Drobably not Vou had haveyar heard
*Saturday only includes camping & trips	\$35.00(\$75.00)	Probably not. You had, however, heard term "noxious weed".
*Camping only per day	\$7.00	
*Saturday dinner Adults	\$8.00	The creation of the "Invasive Species" age
*Saturday dinner Children under 12	\$4.00	was/is an ingenious attempt (successful so
1	Total Enclosed	for the Green non-governmental organ
	r. Fastened seatbelts for each passenger and a working CB. L bring motorcycles, scooters or ATV's. No open headers. We r e for our trails.	tions and government bureaucrats to hij
Name	Vehicle Type	i
Address		Farmers and ranchers (as well as foresters other resource folks) need to be on Red A
City	State Zip	so they don't fall into the "Invasive Spec trap.
Club Affiliation (if any)		i
I .	,	The Greens will smile at you, as all par
Directions to the P4W Ranch	Regional Fark	agree on how "invasive" knapweed is (
Take State High-way 74 to Mile Post 11.5.	Lake Pleasant Regional Park	enough).
Turn North onto the dirt road and continue	74 NA	Cave Creek
	ARIZONA	Producers must peel off the ve-neer and ch
Paguinad Safety Equipment: Handton on nell	Wittmann	out the websites and literature to see
Required Safety Equipment: Hardtop or roll bar. Fastened seatbelts for each passenger	MARICOPA	themselves that it doesn't stop there.
and a working CB. Licensed drivers only		
behind the wheel in camp and on trail. Do not	Son City West	The ultimate agenda is to target all nonna
bring motorcycles, scooters or ATV's. No	90 Sampise	species, including useful ones such as
open headers. We reserve the right to refuse	Sinch	clovers, timothy, etc.
registration to any vehicle deemed unsafe for	White lank (303) Youngtown o Peorla Regional Park	
our trails.	Waddell W Northern Ave (60) Clend:	Money is one of the two factors. Power is
WAIVER - PLEASE DO NOT SIGN UNTIL		other and by far the more dangerous.
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	old harmless, The Phoenix Four Wheelers, Inc., its agents, adn	The Greens' intent is to wield power (
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	ons, whatsoever, growing out of any and all known and unknow	
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participating in the 2005 P4W Roundup.	·	l land.
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Received December 29, 2004 from Derek Cooper-an e-mail pal and dedicated advocate for multiple use on our public lands. [Ed)

Make Checks payable to P4W and mail by March 3, 2005 for early bird discounts to: P4W Roundup; P.O. Box

42011 Phoenix, AZ 85080-2011. Any questions please call or e-mail Denis Young

#### **Noxious Weed Management**

Karl Houser

the Tonto National Forest, and You, a 4-Wheel **Drive Enthusiast** 

I truly appreciated the opportunity to be able to talk with AZ State Association of Four-Wheel Drive Clubs about the Tonto's Noxious Weed Program at the November meeting. I was impressed with the very knowledgeable group of representatives that were there from all across the state.

"Noxious" weeds are those that have been placed on federal or state lists for control efforts, due to harmful health effects to humans and/or animals, adverse effects to the environment, and/or the potential to cause great economic losses. The major noxious weeds on the Tonto are Malta and yellow star thistle (both of which cause chewing disease, which can be fatal to horses). Russian and diffuse knapweeds, fountain grass and buffel grass (2 showy grass plants that are commonly used for landscaping), Dalmatian toadflax, salt cedar, sweet resin bush, and annual mustards.

The Tonto's noxious weed management program is fairly new. We are in the process of simultaneously finding/ mapping weeds; educating our own employees, Forest users, and many diverse organizations about noxious weeds; and developing partner organizations to help in our efforts to eradicate weed infestations. One of our first tasks is to develop an environmental assessment to be able

to use herbicides to control weed infestations throughout the Forest. Scoping letters were mailed to OHV groups last year soliciting input for this environmental assessment. A draft of the assessment will be provided to your clubs for review later this year. Any involvement of your organization in this environmental analysis is most welcome.

**AGENCY INFORMATION AND ISSUES** 

In the meantime, we are using other tools – mainly weed pulling/grubbing with hand tools and use of prescribed fires. Prevention of new infestations is the most basic, and also the most effective tool in noxious weed management. We welcome your group's participation

in all phases of our program. I would be happy to come out for field trips and show

Dalmatian toadflax

your members some of the known infestations on the Forest, so that members would be able to recognize and avoid these weeds, and notify us when they see them on the National Forest. Other important prevention measures include checking and

cleaning vehicles and clothing for weed seeds or plant parts before traveling.

If there are infestations in some of your favorite areas, we could set up a weed-pulling day, for volunteers to come out and work together to remove them. We all benefit from preventing weed infestations in our backyards, on our National Forests, in our campgrounds, at trailheads, and along roads and trails.

Here are some good web sites you can visit, to learn how to identify weeds that grow on the Tonto:

http://www.invasivespecies.gov/ http://rangelandswest.org/az/weeds/

noxiousweeds2.html

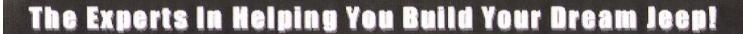
http://www.extension.usu.edu/weedweb/text/ a photo.htm

Patti Fenner

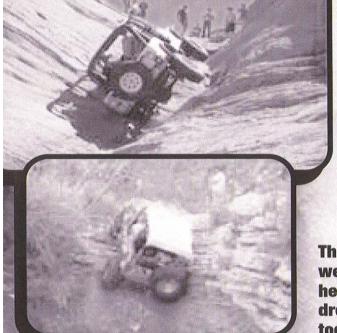
Noxious Weed Program Manager 602-225-5386, email: pfenner@fs.fed.us



# BAGA WHEEL DRIVE







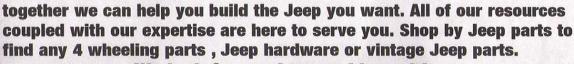
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