

WYOMING SNOWMOBILE

# WRANGLER



JANUARY 2022





# WSSA President

**BRENDA MILLER**

Snow has been late coming to Wyoming this season however, I think that Mother Nature is finally waking up from her long nap. I know that there are a lot of Avalanche trainings going on in Wyoming from Awareness to Avy 1 and Avy2 classes. We have riding areas in Wyoming or close by that are prime avalanche riding. There have been avalanche deaths already this season, luckily none of them have been in Wyoming. If you have not done any type of Avalanche training please plan to do so.

There are multiple Outdoor Recreation Collaboratives happening around Wyoming as well. If you have one going on in your area, see what you can do to be involved. Especially if there is not currently any representation on the collaborative from the snowmobiling community. These collaboratives started about 3 years ago and I know that the Wyoming Outdoor Recreation Office is planning to have them cover the state.

I am not sure what other areas in Wyoming are eligible for funds related to COVID (ie: CARES Act Funds) but I do know that in the Cody area the Park County Travel Council has some that they are using to help promote winter sports in our County. With that said, earlier this month the Cody Country Snowmobile Association was asked to take two different film crews out on a snowmobile trip in their riding area. The film crews did interviews with the riders that attended the event. The film crew also did videos of the riders doing what they do best, RIDE. One of the film crews was from Halifax, Nova Scotia and the other crew was local to the Cody area.

Did you have a chance to check out the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA) website? Again, there is a lot of great information out there that can be used on your websites and social media websites (<https://www.snowmobilers.org>). Remember that your local club is a member and I am hoping that they are sharing the information with each of you. Did you join ACSA as an individual member?

Did any of you take "The Pledge"? Did you video your pledge and post it on your social media sites? If not I would challenge you to do so. We need to get this message out, our riding areas are in jeopardy if we don't. I know that trails are being lost in the Midwest all of the time due to illegal riding. Again you can find information at: <https://snowmobilerspledge.com/>

• The Pledge: I realize that illegal off-trail riding is closing access for all snowmobilers and endangering our riding freedoms. This is about more than my personal rights or my wishes – this is about the good of the entire riding community I Pledge to ride off-trail only where I know it's legal and accepted

**ACSA E-News:** Just a reminder that the information in the ACSA E-News is available for the State Associations to share in whole or in part. Please feel free to share individual articles or the entire E-News on your social networks including website and facebook as well as in any communications to your membership including newsletters and membership renewals.

**2022 Cash Calendars:** We are receiving calendar stubs on a daily basis! The first drawing (January) will be held February 1. Remember - this is a fundraiser for State Associations (\$5 each calendar sold) and ACSA....and it's fun to find a check in your mailbox! If you haven't gotten a calendar it isn't too late. Contact your club's representative or contact the WSSA Secretary directly ([WSSASunny@gmail.com](mailto:WSSASunny@gmail.com))

Fun Days is just around the corner! I'm not sure about you but I am looking forward to what the Sweetwater Snopokes have in store for us.

See you on the trail.

# WSSA Secretary/Treasurer

**SUNNY MADDEN**

Hello snowmobilers!

I hope you all enjoyed the holidays and got to spend some time in the snow. We were very lucky here in Laramie to finally have a white Christmas!

Fun Days is just around the corner, so don't forget to get your registration sent to the Snopokes and your hotel rooms reserved!

Some deadline reminders fast approaching:

- Scholarship essays and applications are due to Shannon by Feb. 1
- Club Awards nominations are due to Holly and me by Feb. 1.
- Keep selling those raffle tickets! 50% of the proceeds go back to your club.

Thank you to everyone for pulling together and getting their membership lists sent in for the January Wrangler! Please continue to send new membership info to me each month.

Keep the snow dances going!

## On The Cover

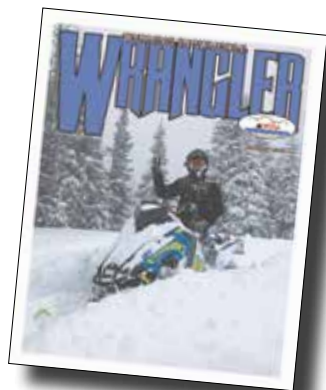


Photo courtesy Trent Slagowski  
Dubois SnoKatters

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## Big Horn Mountain Snomads

**DOUG NELSON**

Happy New Year everyone! Hoping this New Year is holding everyone healthy and full of vigor for the new season! I, myself, have not been up but I'm excited to get there soon! Bearlodge is getting the trails groomed and they are getting better every day I understand.... Thank you, Rick and the crew for doing that and it's so well appreciated.... Hopefully this makes it on time to make the paper. I'm doing it in a delayed flight atmosphere at the airport in Denver coming home from the FCS championship football game which the Bison kicked Montana's ass for them. Although it was a bittersweet game seeing their star player get out on the first drive, I'm sure would have been a much better game! Please come and support our activities so we can keep them going for everyone who is interested and enjoys it as much as we do and of course we always have applications available to join the club. For any other information get on Facebook on the Big Horn Mountain Snomads website. That is normally fairly well updated! For now, see everyone on the hill. Be safe and warm and keep doing that snow dance.

**DEADLINE FOR THE  
NEXT WRANGLER IS  
FEBRUARY 10!**

**The Wyoming  
Snowmobile Wrangler  
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# Jackson Hole Snow Devils

COURTNEY HODGES

We hope everyone is having a great start to the New Year and snowmobile season! In December we celebrated our Christmas party, where donated items from local business raised \$8,000 for Teton Youth and Family Services. The Snow Devils would like to extend a sincere thank you to Pete Leabee with Rocky Mountain Powersports and Chris Haderlie with the Hitching Rail for your donations to our Christmas party.

At our January Club meeting the Little Devils were able to attend an Avalanche Safety Training held by one of our very own members Bob Tomb. Bob provided the Little Devils with very important Snowmobile safety tips and information to know before they head out on their snowmobiles. This was a great experience for them and they even got the opportunity to see and experience an avalanche float vest being deployed.

Our members have been busy anxiously awaiting Mother Nature to bring on the snow, but she blessed us at Christmas. We are planning to have our January club ride on Jan. 22 where we will be able to hold a hands-on avalanche safety course before our ride and during for all individuals who are in attendance.

Currently our club is starting to plan for the 45th World Championship Snowmobile Hillclimb to be held March 24-27. This year we will be selling raffle tickets to benefit the Ride for Reid Scholarship fund. Jackson Hole Snow Devils would like to wish everyone a safe and happy riding season.



# District 9

GEORGE PRYCH

Snow's coming! Remember to stay safe and check the avalanche site for forecasts and warning. About 20 people attended the Avalanche Awareness class. The weather was warm and there wasn't any snow to practice on (or in) but we all benefited from pulling out those probes and shovels. Lessons learned included checking our transceivers (aka beacons) in the parking lot with our group to ensure everyone is receiving and sending. Taking an awareness class every year is the least we can do to stay current and practice safety techniques to ensure we all come home safely after a great day of riding. Happy Birthday to Gary Neely of Pinedale! Follow us on Facebook for meeting dates and updates on events. We look forward to seeing you at Fun Days!

# Snow Drifters

PRICE PURDUM

Hello everybody, we've had an interesting year under this Pandemic cloud. Our membership has decreased and we have had skeleton groups at our monthly meetings. A small but energetic group of members have completed our highway cleanup in Sinks Canyon. Another member got some people together to clear trails late summer and fall. Cal Anacker our former President has led these efforts to keep our trails clear and has track packed some of the trails. The State has done some grooming although the lower part of the Wind River Range is kind of skimpy for snow this year. Up higher there is some snow for grooming and riding on. We took the lack of snow to take time to work on our groomers, sleds and trailers. We passed on our annual Christmas dinner this year. That dinner was sadly mourned by several members who usually enjoy the ham, turkey and extras at Christmas time. The Riverton Snow Goers who had joined our club have now gotten their club up and running again. The pictures are from our club's fish fry outing to Christina Lake; they seemed to enjoy themselves. We decided to make a donation to the Care and Share foodbank here in Lander this year. Many of our members have driven up to Togwotee for sledding this year, trying to get to better conditions. Have fun sledding and stay safe out there.





# Directory



[www.snowmobilewyoming.org](http://www.snowmobilewyoming.org)

## Officers

**President: Brenda Miller** - (307) 899-9491, bnbkids@gmail.com  
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**Secretary/Treasurer: Sunny Madden** - (307) 360-7609, wssasunny@gmail.com

## Appointees

**Awards/Fundraising Chairperson: Holly Sinclair** - (307) 880-2625, wssaholly@gmail.com  
**Charity Chairperson: Brenda Miller** - (307) 899-9491, bnbkids@gmail.com  
**Historian: Forrest Kamminga** - (307) 335-8229, forrest.kamminga@wyo.gov  
**Safety Chairman: Lou Grunewald, Sr.** - (307) 234-9000, rec-vee@hotmail.com  
**Scholarship Chairperson: Shannon Glandt** - (307) 413-3950, shannonglandt@gmail.com

## District Representatives

**District #1 - Platte, Goshen, Laramie, Albany Counties: Cory Juhnke** - (307) 399-0635, cjuhnke1@gmail.com  
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**District #14 - Lincoln County (south): Susan Johnston** - (307) 690-0770

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**Big Horn Mountain SnoMads** – snomads1@outlook.com, PO Box 397, Sheridan WY 82801  
**Big Horn Sno Goers** – bighornsnogoers@gmail.com, 1509 Cloud Peak Dr, Worland WY 82401  
**Casper Snow Gypsies** – snowgypsies@gmail.com, PO Box 3301, Casper WY 82601  
**Cody Country Snowmobile Association** – codysnowmobileclub@hotmail.com, PO Box 1745, Cody WY 82414  
**Dubois Sno-Katers** – jolee@wyoming.com, PO Box 1022, Dubois WY 82513  
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**Powder River Sno-Buffs** – powderriversnobuffs@yahoo.com, PO Box 754, Buffalo WY 82834  
**Rev It Up Girls** – info@revitupgirls.com  
**Riverton Sno-Goers** – rivertonsnogoers@gmail.com, PO Box 2115, Riverton WY 82501  
**Snow Explorers Altitude Offroad** – pse1271965@gmail.com, PO Box 2509, Pinedale WY 82941  
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**Sour Doughs**  
**Sweetwater Snowpokes** – snowpokes@yahoo.com, PO Box 1731, Rock Springs WY 82902  
**Top of the Rockies** – toralpine@gmail.com, PO Box 3172, Alpine WY 83128

## Wyoming State Trails Program

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**Regional Supervisor: Josh Milek** - Office: (307) 335-8229 ext 221, Cell: (307) 349-4778

**Regional Supervisor: Jordan Weller** - Office: (307) 335-8229 ext 225



On the web at: [wyotrails.state.wy.us](http://wyotrails.state.wy.us)

Barrett Building, 4th Floor,  
2301 Central Avenue,  
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Permits and general information: (307) 777-7477, Fax: (307) 777-6472



# Top of the Rockies

ANDREA BURCHARD

The 2021/2022 snowmobiling season in Alpine area is off to a slow start. Our snow levels were extremely low coming into December, but then we got seriously dumped on right after Christmas! We thought things were looking up, but then we had spring like temps in the mid 30s. The combination of these weather events has created a very unstable mountain environment and we've had to proceed with caution when considering any opportunities to ride.

The adverse conditions also caused a delay in getting our tipi setup on top of the Squaw Creek Trail. It has been used the last two years as a safety shelter and has proved to be invaluable. A group of volunteers was able to head up on January 9th to dig a hole where it will be placed in the next few weeks. On the same day, a separate group headed to our safety shelter at Murphy Creek and stocked it with firewood we cut back



in October.

Last year the club purchased a second Beacon Check Station and it has been installed at the Murphy Creek Trailhead. This area is mostly in Idaho but is heavily used by our Wyoming residents, so we were thrilled to be able to provide it.

The weather is expected to hold steady for about a week, which will give the conditions time to stabilize – then hopefully we can get out and ride!

**Did you know ...**  
 Your privilege to snowmobile is being threatened?  
 Do you know who's representing your snowmobile interests in Washington DC?  
 It's the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA).  
 Are you a member? Do you care about snowmobiling?  
 Make sure YOUR voice is heard.



**Join your local snowmobile club, your state snowmobile association and become a member of ACSA TODAY for only \$15.00! Now's the time to get involved!**

[www.snowmobilers.org](http://www.snowmobilers.org)



[www.snowmobilers.org](http://www.snowmobilers.org) AMERICAN COUNCIL OF SNOWMOBILE ASSOCIATIONS [www.snowmobilers.org](http://www.snowmobilers.org)

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# Sweetwater Snowpokes

ANGELINA PRYCH

Good news - we're starting to see some snow! Along with snow comes colder tem-

peratures. Are you ready? Many thanks to the folks who cut and loaded the wood shed and brought wood into the Strawberry Safety Shelter this year. Here are some photos.





# Cody Country Snowmobile Association

**BERT MILLER**  
DISTRICT 5 REP.

We are finally getting snow in the Cody area, it about time Lol. The Cody club hosted our Avalanche Awareness class Jan. 7 and 8. We are very pleased with the turn out. We hosted 70 folks Friday night at the Holliday Inn for the evening class and approximately 62 on the mountain for the on hands field training. Friday night the club hosted a sandwich bar and on Saturday we served Chili on the mountain. Attendance was great, we had folks from Cody Powell, Meeteetse, Casper, Sheridan, Basin, North Dakota and more. Thank you to all of you how drove some of the iciest roads we have seen in a long time.



We would also like to thank all our sponsors! We asked the community for support, and it was more than we ever expected, over \$4,300 in sponsorship donations and safety equipment. Things like BCA radios, Avalanche Beacons, AVI Bag, Shovels, Probes, Backpacks, over \$1,200 in gift certificates and more. Again, thank you to ALL our fantastic sponsors! Without this great support we would never be able to have this great training.

Also thank you to Eric Knoff and his crew from 6 Points Avalanche Education. We had 4 trainers and they all did a fantastic job! Plus, we would like to thank Bob Comey and Wyoming State Trails and grant funding. Plus, the Blair Hotels (Holiday Inn) knocked it out of the park with the sandwich bar. To the CCSA club members who helped, you guys are the best.

We are also very excited to announce a new club member, Lailyn Lamb, born Jan. 6, 2022 to Levi Lamb and Ryleigh Rickard and proud grandparents Lynn and Jenya Lamb. A special shout goes out to our favorite hockey goalie WAY to protect that goal Aspen Alexander!

Until next time, when in doubt throttle out!





# Rev It Up Girls

Eva K.

## 2022 IS HERE. WINTER HAS BEGUN.

Our annual Free Avy Savvy and Survival Practical Day in December, was well attended. Again we teamed up with 801 Mountain Riders and Star Valley Paramedics. Though, we didn't have any snow, We were still able to teach avalanche terrain awareness, high altitude mountain medical dos and don'ts, how to build fires and shelters, tips on wearing and using your safety, gear correctly, practiced single and multi-beacon searches, digging and probing simulations, communicating, leadership, and more.

Practicing with your sled buddies brings trust, confidence and communication we all need in the event of a misfortune. This can only happen with practice in the field. If you couldn't make it, we hope to see you next year. For me, it was an invaluable experience learning from my peers and experts in their field, especially the practicing part.

The evening of Dec. 17, was our club meeting and women's snowmobile set-up at Chantal Heiner's house. Thank you to the Heiner Family for the heated shop. Also, mega thanks to Janice Enos' husband, Kevin, for teaching, "Sled Setup for our Women riders". They came all the way from Montana.

Kevin walked us through: handlebar height dos and don'ts, proper body stance, front suspension, rear suspension and track tension setup on all three brands. Ski-Doo, Polaris and Arctic Cat.

So, if you missed the Facebook LIVE, please go to our @RevItUpGirlsClub Facebook group, log in and ladies you too can learn how to set your sled properly. Proper setup will make you a better rider. And I know now where the blinker fluid lights and flux capacitor is.

On Dec. 17, we had our first ladies ride of the season. Baily-Ann, Megan, Ashley, Tess, Cat, Janice, Susan and my self ventured into the backcountry. WOAHH did we have a blast. A few bumps, bruises, rocks and a-arms were harmed in making our December Ladies Ride Video. If you couldn't make it, go online and watch a two-minute VIDEO [www.facebook.com/GirlsOnlySnowmobile4seasonsRidinClub](http://www.facebook.com/GirlsOnlySnowmobile4seasonsRidinClub).

We want to welcome our newest business member, Mountainist. The Mountainist helps women of all ages find the best fitting mountain bike, snowmobile / avalanche, dirt bike /quad and flying fishing gear on the market. Either buy direct or rent before you buy. Visit the Mountainist in person, or chat with Jenn or Tana online. By the way, she also sells men's gear.

<https://mountainist.com/> 185 U.S. 89 IN BACK, UPSTAIRS, Alpine, WY 83128

Our last BIG even was a "Radio Workshop and Try On Party" at with our Newest Business Member, Mountainist on Thursday, January 13th from 430-6pm. Being knowledgeable with your own radios' safety and frequency features was a big eye opener. All the women who attended brought their own RADIO, we were able to have some Hands-On practice Then afterwards, we tried on all sorts of 2021 /2022. winter or summer off-road gear accessories.

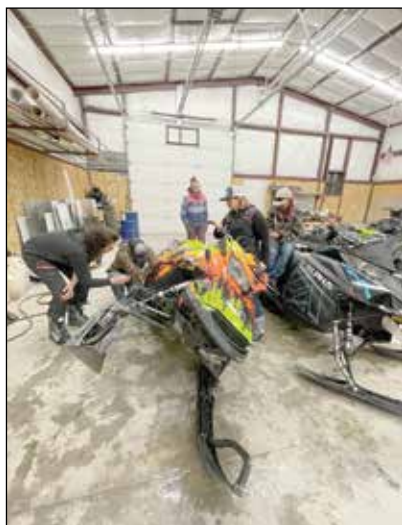
What we covered:

- Why everyone in your group should have a radio
- What kind of radio to get for sledding
- How do they work? (What effects range?)
- How to choose a channel for your group and importance of knowing common radio frequencies

- How to wear your radio for best access and battery life
- How to set up your radio with primary and backup channels
- How to scan for activity
- How to access weather channels
- Types of radios: BCA, Mountain Lab and other handheld radios.

### WINTER EVENTS

- Skills Day and Club Meeting – Feb. 4
- Club Ride – Feb. 5 (Star Valley)
- Skills Day – Feb. 18
- Evening mechanics class on steroids – Feb. 18
- Club Ride - Feb. 19 (Gallatin National Forest, 45 minutes north of west Yellowstone)
- WSSA Fun Days – Mar. 4-6 (Rock Springs)
- Skills Day and Club Meeting – Mar. 11
- Club Ride – Mar. 12 (Star Valley)





# Associates

**Support those who support our efforts!**

## BIG HORN MTN SNOMADS

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#### SNOWBUFFS

RAMSEY ENTERPRISES

### RIVERTON

#### SNO-GOERS

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SWEETWATER SNOWPOKES & ATV CLUB

### SNOWY RANGE SNOWMOBILE CLUB

MADDEN CONTRACT PUMPING, LLC

### SWEETWATER SNOWPOKES

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ELK RENTALS LLC  
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THE 307 REAL ESTATE GROUP, LLC  
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## LANDER

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THE GOOD PLACE  
UNION PASS RENTALS  
WYOMING WOOD PRODUCTS LLC  
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D&L EXCAVATION  
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POWERSPORTS  
JACKALOPE MOTOR LODGE  
KENDALL VALLEY LODGE  
RE/MAX MOUNTAIN REALTY  
ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWERSPORTS/  
PETE'S AUTO

## TOP OF THE ROCKIES

3 RIVERS MOTEL  
ALPINE ADVENTURE RENTALS  
BANK OF ALPINE  
BETTER MONDAYS  
BOX Y LODGE  
BRIDGER ANIMAL HOSPITAL  
BULL MOOSE SALOON  
DRIFTWOOD PIZZERIA  
EARTH CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION  
FIRST BANK  
JENKINS LUMBER  
LCC/ALPINE POWERSPORTS  
NEXT LEVEL RIDING CLINICS  
RUSTIK WYOMING  
SALT RIVER MOTORS  
THREE CANYONS RESTAURANT  
WILD ROVER FREIGHT

Any additions or corrections to the Associate Membership list should be directed to: Sunny Madden, WSSA Secretary,  
P.O. Box 2204, Laramie, WY 82073, (307) 360-7609, e-mail: [wssasunny@gmail.com](mailto:wssasunny@gmail.com)



# Be 307 Aware

Hello all, this is Jim Mitchell; Sublette County Emergency Management Coordinator and Member of Sublette County's Tip Top Search and Rescue and President of the Wyoming All-Hazards Association (WAHA).

Be 307 Aware has received an enormous reach in social media with more than 45,000 views of this page. Here is some history that led us to where we are today:

Back in January of 2021, I answered a call from a friend of mine in Carbon County, Saratoga Fire Chief Pat Waliser. Pat also assists with SAR missions for Carbon County Sheriff Archie Roybal, out of the Saratoga Volunteer Fire Department.

Pat told me that Carbon County was seeing high impact and use in the Medicine Bow National Forest in and around Saratoga and Encampment Wyoming, from all points east as snowmachiners came to the Snowy and Sierra Madre Ranges this winter. These riders/recreationalists were getting hurt, broke down or lost.

As Pat and other SAR members responded to these calls, they found that most were carrying some type of FRS/GMRS radio like the BC Link™ Radio. After some discussion, we found that the 22 channels and associated "Privacy Codes" were a mix of half watt and 2 watt channels. Reviewing these channels we noticed right away that channel 3 with Privacy code/PL tone 07 was a 2 watt channel.

I then had the pleasure to speak with Sheriff Scott Steward of Park County. He is the Chairman of the Wyoming State SAR Council. Sheriff Steward asked that an explanation on how the 307 channel could be used in Search and Rescue missions, be given to the SAR council at their June meeting. Myself, Pat Waliser, Converse County Emergency Management Coordinator Russ Dalgarn and Forrest Kamminga from Wyoming State Trails, traveled to Casper and presented 307 as another tool in the toolbox to work the problem. With the SAR Council's blessing and support, 307 has been designated as a Go To Channel for victims/subjects in an emergency situation when these radios are in use.

In your GMRS/FRS radio Channel 3 with Privacy Code 7 (307) or UHF 462.6125 with Privacy Code 85.4 will be used as a frequency when SAR would enter an area to start looking for the victim/subject.

307 would not be a Radio Channel that would be monitored 24/7 but once the

victim was found to need assistance, SAR personnel could then go to that channel and monitor traffic. Search members would then start periodically calling out on the 307 channel as they continued their search through an area, until the subject heard SAR Teams on their radio and then directed them in to their location.

Recent History:

This method worked wonderfully during a mission earlier this year in Sublette County. 307 was not used, but Tip Top SAR was able to find information from interviewing the other members of their party that they; the subjects indeed had a GMRS/FRS capable Radio and SAR units dialed in the Frequency the subjects had been operating on that day. This greatly reduced the time it took to locate the subjects on that cold, dark and stormy night.

The two subjects had one snow machine stuck in a steep draw and that machine became disabled. One rider tried working his way out, and the other rider walked, following the tracks out. The lead rider with the only running machine was found, by his partner, to have been in an avalanche that buried him to his neck.

The second party dug him out of the snow and they continued to walk in subfreezing temperatures. They just dug themselves into a tree well, knowing they were about to spend a cold night in the mountains, when our team had called out to them on their radio frequency. The subjects were then able to direct the team to their exact location within minutes.

After the meeting with the SAR Council, a committee was formed to move forward. Kelly Ruiz PIO at the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security (WOHS), Deputy Director George Nykun at WOHS and myself worked to get a catch phrase and logo together.

That is how Be 307 Aware was born. This social media page, logo, and information is

comprised of many hours of work to give SAR providers in the state another tool in the toolbox. As all of the counties in the state of Wyoming see increases of recreationalists accessing their respective back country, we continue to get the word out that Be 307 Aware is in use here and another tool that could be used to save a life.

Find out more:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Be-307-Aware-103003218816456>

On the web at: <https://hls.wyo.gov/programs/search-and-rescue>



## Take a Friend Snowmobiling

**ED KLIM**  
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The Go Snowmobiling/Take a Friend Snowmobiling campaign has been supported by the snowmobile community over the years. Snowmobile Clubs and Associations across North America have taken Military Personnel snowmobiling, coordinated Enlightenment rides with land managers, and often just have fun organizing snowmobile rides with friends and family. The trails and riding areas in many parts of North America are amazing and offer great opportunities to take friends snowmobiling and enjoy winter.

The Take a Friend Snowmobiling rides highlight the "wow-factor" and the pure enjoyment that people have when they first ride a snowmobile. First-time snowmobilers can't quit talking about how much fun the ride was. When you take a friend snowmobiling, this may very well be their first time on a snowmobile. Chances are that your normal ride would seem like a marathon to an uninitiated friend. Let your friend enjoy that first day of snowmobiling. Enjoy the ride, make it relatively short, make it simple, and remember that it is always a good idea to feed your guests.

The Go Snowmobiling/Take a Friend Snowmobiling campaign is also joined with the Safe Riders! Campaign. We have a 13 chapter Safe Riders video series that can be found on our website at: <http://www.snowmobile.org/snowmobile-videos.html>.

The chapters are a great tool when introducing a friend to snowmobiling and will help make the ride more enjoyable for everyone.

You should also visit and "Like" our Facebook page before participating in a Go

Snowmobiling campaign. Our Facebook page is [www.Facebook.com/GoSnowmobiling](http://www.Facebook.com/GoSnowmobiling). When looking at the page you will notice that many snowmobilers are posting pictures and their experiences on the page. We have thousands of Friends who visit regularly and it is common for snowmobilers to send out informative posts that are forwarded to hundreds and thousands of snowmobile enthusiasts worldwide. There is a short general survey on our Facebook page, so when you visit the page, consider answering a few simple survey questions. We are constantly surveying snowmobile customers to see how we can better serve you and how we can help you enjoy your snowmobiling activity.

When you consider putting together a Take a Friend Snowmobiling ride, remember that individuals who don't own a snowmobile have a high interest in going snowmobiling. They want to go snowmobiling for the same reasons you do:

- To enjoy the scenery
- To get outdoors to have fun with family and friends
- To go to unique places that they can't reach any other way to see amazing sights
- To have fun in the winter outdoors and be able to go home tired and be ready for a good night's sleep.

So please, go out and have fun, take a friend snowmobiling, and enjoy this wonderful winter. The link to the "Take a Friend Snowmobiling Campaign Action Manual" is: <https://www.snowmobile.org/docs/2022-take-a-friend-snowmobiling.pdf> Please review it and share it with others.

After you take your friend on their first snowmobile ride, tell them to visit the [www.gosnowmobiling.org](http://www.gosnowmobiling.org) website where they will read all about getting started in the wonderful sport of snowmobiling.



# Riverton Sno-Goers

**CHYAUNA DODGE**

Hello all of our fellow snow lovers! A BIG happy new year as we start into 2022 from the Riverton Sno-Goers! We are so glad to be coming into this new year, finally getting fresh powdery snow to play in, and being able to do what we love the most with family and friends.

On a different note, we just want to say that we are grateful for the support of WSSA, and all the different clubs in the state. I enjoy being part of this club, because we are able to have fun community activities to inform people about who we are and what we do as well as, meet new people and make new friends.

Club activities are another thing that we look forward to this new year. I personally love being able to do all kinds of fun activities through the club, as the new youth representative, & secretary, it gives me the opportunity to meet new people, encounter new experiences, and gain more knowledge as I continue to grow. I mean as they do say, "the kids of this generation are the future" so why not help them learn and grow. That's what these activities are all about learning and growing as a person. Being able to bring people together to watch each other grow. That's what it should be all about.

We also have an upcoming snow activity during Presidents weekend on Feb. 18, 19 and 20 up at Crooked creek Dubois. We are still currently working on our new website, until it is finished and up and rolling, as always, you can see more club information, membership forms, photos of our adventures, and our calendar of events by going to [www.facebook.com/groups/SnoGoers/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/SnoGoers/).

From the new Riverton Sno Goers youth representative and secretary: I Hope that everyone has a great new year and be safe out there. Remember watch for trees, stumps, rocks, don't destroy your sleds, there are still 2-3 more great months to come. Most definitely always be aware of your surroundings and watch for Avalanche signs and stay away from avalanche areas. We want to see everyone come home safe and sound!



**TAKE A FRIEND**  
**Snowmobiling**  
[GoSnowmobiling.org](http://GoSnowmobiling.org)



# Dubois SnoKatters

TRENT SLAGOWSKI

## Tips For a Successful Ride

On a typical workweek, I find myself just trying to power through; excited for the upcoming weekend. Throughout my personal experiences, here are a few things I've found to help promote a successful ride. I may not have as much experience as many of you readers, so take it with a grain of salt. My weekend seems to start around Thursday or Friday night making phone calls and sending text messages trying to plan the upcoming ride. Which leads me to the first step.

1. Planning and Preparation. This step starts with finding out who is going, what time, and where to meet. Our group seems to run most smoothly with 3 or 4 riders. The problems that I have faced going riding in larger groups is a lot of waiting and backtracking, trying to keep your powder-hungry buddies rounded up and moving in the same direction. On the topic of preparation, I always try to have my sled in tip top shape before the ride. Nobody wants to be waiting on the dude wrenching on his sled in the parking lot.

2. Choosing the ride. If I know everyone I'm riding with, this is easier, because I know the groups likes, dislikes, strengths, and weaknesses. We're able to choose what terrain we will put ourselves in, whether it's tree-bashing or open-meadow powder. Regardless of the riding level, my goal is to find as much fresh untracked snow as possible. The knowledge of the area we are riding, between myself and the group, helps us find those pockets of untouched snow.

3. Safety. Before I even start planning for a specific ride, I make sure I know the avalanche forecast for the day and check that my probe, shovel, beacon, and float backpack are in tip top shape and that I am comfortable using them. I also like to be aware of the avalanche safety gear and knowledge of my riding companions. You're only as safe as your buddies' gear. Next, I check survival equipment and tools. Don't forget the bailing wire, duck tape and zip ties for those mountain mishaps.

4. Attitude. So, once you've got that all figured out, and all the planning is done, you finally have the chance to put down some tracks. Some things to keep in mind is to stay positive no matter the terrain, riding group, or snow conditions. Even if you're not in your preferred terrain, finding little challenges to help progress in your riding ability and keeping the right attitude is a sure way to have a successful day. So, when you find yourself on the last stuck-fest, with your sled upside-down, in a creek bed, just remember, there's cold beer in the trailer!



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