

WYOMING SNOWMOBILE

WRANGLER



DECEMBER 2023



On The Cover



Getting ready for a night ride - Kids helping with the decoration of the Cody club's Christmas parade float.

Photo courtesy Bert Miller

WSSA President

BRENDA MILLER

I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and brought or will be bringing the new year in with a bang!

Congratulations to all of you that took the time to put a float in your community Christmas parades. Letting folks know that organized snowmobiling exists around the State of Wyoming is fantastic.

I see where some areas started getting more snow after the first of December. Now we just have to keep the snow dance up so that we have a great season.

Scholarship opportunities: Essays are due Feb 1, 2024.

WSSA: <https://snowmobilewyoming.org/2024-scholarship-application/>. We are also doing another video challenge this year. Did you know that WSSA has awarded 140 scholarships worth \$210,650 over the past 15 years?

ACSA: Check out the rules and criteria at <https://www.snowmobilers.org/acsa-scholarships.aspx>.

Also be sure to check with your local club to see if they also have scholarship opportunities.

You all are probably aware that there will be some trail closures in the Snowy Range area this season due to some logging operations. State Trails has been working with the forest service and there will be a new groomed trail to the riding areas so watch for that when you

are riding in that area.

Did you know that the Wolverine was listed as endangered? This was in the ACSA E-News at the beginning of December.

Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is committed to deciding what needs Endangered Species Act protection by the end of FY 2024. The Wolverine was listed as Endangered in 48 states. The listing does not include wolverines in Alaska and Canada, which number in the thousands. This will impact many trails and riding areas. Snowmobilers were not granted any protection in the listing. There will be a 60-day comment period. Snowmobilers will need to get involved in submitting comments. We will work on suggested talking points in the coming days.

Other listings coming? The FWS continues to study Monarch butterflies, which have been teetering on the brink for years. Gray wolves are currently being reassessed by the FWS, as the agency faces intense political pressure from all sides as it decides whether to stick with an earlier, court-reversed determination that the species can be removed from the ESA list. Northern long-eared bats pose problems of their own, with the agency's decision to move the species from threatened to endangered status stirring displeasure from lawmakers of both parties in Minnesota and other states.

There are lots of things that we as snowmobilers can do:

Take the Pledge: Don't forget to encourage the members of your clubs Take the Pledge! We continue to see

many trails and riding areas being closed due to trespassing issues. A reminder to the clubs to Take the Pledge might be helpful. You can find information at: <https://snowmobilerspledge.com/>

International Snowmobile Safety Week is January 13-21, 2024. This is another opportunity to promote Safety and Rider Responsibility. Check out the International Snowmobile Manufacturers Campaign Action Manual located at <https://www.snowmobile.org/docs/snowmobile-safety-week-manual-2023.pdf>

If you have not joined the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA) as an individual there is still time to do that too. While the Wyoming clubs are all members of ACSA, individuals should join as well. Check out their website <https://www.snowmobilers.org/> it is loaded with lots of great information. ACSA E-News: 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.

ACSA 2024 Cash Calendars: The calendars have been slow to ship out this year due to difficulties getting advertisers to contribute to the calendar. We should have them soon. The first drawing will be held February 1 for all the days in January. Be sure to contact any one of the WSSA directors or officers if you would like to purchase a calendar.

See you out on the snow!
Brenda

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WSSA Vice President

JAY SLAGOWSKI

Merry Christmas everyone!

I hope you all are getting to spend some quality time with your family and friends.

Even though they say Christmas is for kids, for most people working for a living, it's the first time after a busy year that we get out on the snow for family rides, winter bonfires and cookouts. Depending on the snow conditions, my family usually puts something together that includes Snowmobiling. Whether it's cutting Christmas trees or pulling the kids around the meadow on a sled, it's always a great day and most times it inspires new plans for more rides and adventures.

Every year I find myself reflecting on the past and becoming ever more grateful for all the things I love and cherish. I am extremely thankful for being able to live in the great state of Wyoming. We are blessed with great snow here and have plenty of room to ride. For all the amazing clubs across the state that

continue to help promote and protect snowmobiling and serve their communities at the same time.

Thanks to all my fellow officers and district representatives in the WSSA. Thank you for your mentorship, comradery and the passion and commitment you show for snowmobiling. The partnerships that have been built to do what we do every winter are nothing short of amazing and have become the benchmark for other states and provinces to strive for. It is truly an honor to work with you and I will do my very best not

to disappoint.

Lastly, don't forget to buy your 2023 registration stickers when you're at the grocery store or corner stop and remember to educate other rider who might not see the need that the revenue from those stickers' funds all our plowed parking areas, trail marking and grooming programs as well as many of those Safety shelters out on the trails.

Get all your gear ready and some fresh gas in those sleds as winter is here and it's time to start riding!

Happy holidays and always look ahead.



Lander Snowdrifters

JIM SPRIGGS

Hi from Lander,
 We are up and going with fresh white. We have gotten two feet and more of fresh powder over the Thanksgiving weekend. We are having our Christmas dinner at 4pm coming up on Dec 9th with the State Trails Crew. This follows our equipment work day at the State Trail Shop starting at 9am. (Thank you Forrest for allowing us somewhere warm to work on the equipment.)
 Mack has completed building and installing a nice helmet/coat rack and benches at the Blucher safety shelter. We have plans to assist Dubois with Fun Days when we get more info. Darci is an awesome club president and a great person. We continue to have great membership turn out at our meetings and great support from our Associate and Business members. It has been a great start to a fun season.



A great partnership for the snowmobiling community



Working hard to support the snowmobiling community

- Keeping trails open and developing new trails
- Supporting trail grooming
- Initiating and supporting lawsuits that threaten access
- Encouraging snowmobiler participation in clubs and associations
- Promoting snowmobiling as a family activity
- Providing safety awareness and education through the Safe Riders! program



Directory



www.snowmobilewyoming.org

Officers

President: Brenda Miller - (307) 899-3431, bnbkids@gmail.com

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District #9 - Sweetwater, Uinta Counties: George Prych - (307) 382-2879, 108 2nd St., Rock Springs, WY 82901, asp911@gmail.com

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District #13 - Sublette County: Alan Lane - (307) 699-7105

District #14 - Lincoln County (south): Susan Johnston - (307) 690-0770

Wyoming Clubs

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Bear Lodge Snowmobile Club - jeff@sundancetimes.com, PO Box 1085, Sundance WY 82729

Big Horn Mountain SnoMads - snomads.wyomingbighorns@gmail.com, PO Box 397, Sheridan WY 82801

Big Horn Sno Goers - bighornsnogers@gmail.com, 1509 Cloud Peak Dr, Worland WY 82401

Casper Snow Gypsies - snowgypsies@gmail.com, 255 W Collins Dr, 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

Jackson Hole Snow Devils - mail@snowdevils.org, PO Box 4276, Jackson WY 83001

Lander Snowdrifters - landersnowdrifters@gmail.com, PO Box 281, Lander WY 82520

Lincoln County Snow Bears - lincolncountysnowbears@gmail.com

Powder River Sno-Buffs - powderriversnobuffs@yahoo.com, PO Box 754, Buffalo WY 82834

Rev It Up Girls - info@revitupgirls.com

Riverton Sno-Goers - rivertonsnogers@gmail.com, PO Box 2115, Riverton WY 82501

Snow Explorers Altitude Offroad - pse1271965@gmail.com, PO Box 2509, Pinedale WY 82941

Star Valley Sno-Skippers - suttonswillride@gmail.com, 16 Tee Mont Dr, Afton WY 83110

Snowy Range Snowmobile Club - membership@srsocwy.com, PO Box 1930, Laramie WY 82073

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

125 Sunflower St., P.O. Box 1429, Lander, WY 82520

Program Manager: Forrest Kamminga - Office: (307) 335-8229, Cell: (307) 212-2821

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

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

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

307 Riders Snowmobile Club



BRANDON KLEMM

Hello all! We are getting closer to winter hopefully setting in. Some of you guys may already have a good start to winter but it's a pretty slow and dry start here in the north east. With any luck that will change soon! We were able to get both of our shelters stocked and ready for the winter season and our club participated in the annual parade of lights festival in Gillette. It's always nice getting a few members together to do this event every year. Typically, we skimp on the theme but make up for it by giving out the most candy! Our club also is in the process of raffling off a 23 Skidoo Summit as well.

As we get closer to the actual days of being able to go ride in the amazing Wyoming mountains or anywhere for that matter make sure to check over all your gear. Alex Sinclair was one of our guides on the fun days ride last year and had us buddy up with someone to make sure you could tell someone to get to your shovel and probe. That's honestly one of the best things I've done on a pre-ride activity and will start implementing that with whatever group I'm riding with! Start doing your snow dances ladies and gentlemen it's time for two stroke cold smoke season!

REMINDER:
Applications for Fun
Days State Awards
need to be turned in
by Feb. 1!

Dubois Sno-Katters



CALLIE SLAGOWSKI

Greeting from the Dubois Sno-Katters! We've had a couple of storms in the last month, but the weather has still been too mild for our family to bring the sleds out of storage. Though some community members have not been deterred! The club has been busy preparing for the upcoming Fun Days. And as for our family, our four-year-old daughter has been practicing in the yard on her KittyCat. She is starting to get some throttle control but has not yet figured out how to effectively turn. But considering her little hands can hardly grab the handlebars, she's been doing great and has been excited about trying. We're all just itching to get up on the hill to ride and we're very much looking forward to seeing you all at Fun Day's come March! I hope everyone has a wonderful season and says safe out there!





District 9

GEORGE PRYCH

Well, the cold is here. Have you got enough snow to ride? Are you getting anxious? Remember that the first snow doesn't have a base and a lot of things are hidden that can damage your machine or you. Be careful! The Snowpokes have pulled the "Are You Beeping?" sign out of storage and set in place in Horse Creek. Thank you to the volunteers. It's a reminder to all to get sleds, vehicles, and avalanche gear checked, updated, and ready.

Thank you to Forrest for reassuring the public that the Snowy Range will be open to snowmobiling this winter although some roads will be plowed for logging operations.

Congratulations to the Pinedale Lion's Club on another successful annual snowmobile raffle. The lucky winner may be too young to ride the machine for now but the whole family is excited for winning it! Nice to see a very young family involved in the sport of snowmobiling; they are our future.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Sweetwater Snowpokes

ANGELINA PRYCH

Last night (December 2) we enjoyed the Rock Springs Chamber Holiday Lighted Parade with over 60 entries. Congratulations to everyone who built a float and rode or walked in the parade. Everyone who braved the cold and the wind (which made it even colder) enjoyed the creativity of every group that participated. The Snowpokes had a great float with reindeer and a red sleigh - oh, that's a red snowmobile! Following behind were several decorated and lighted side-by-sides where everyone could be warm! Hope you enjoy the photos and to see more of the club's float, go to our facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Snowpokes/>. You can zoom in and see Rudolph and other wildlife! Have fun!! Looks like the crew in the photo had a great time. A big thank you to everyone who helped! Is too early to start thinking of ideas for next year's float? May you enjoy a joyful holiday season. Until next year...



Top of the Rockies

CHERYL DICKERSON

November can be a month in between seasons, a period of limbo for outdoor activities depending on snow status, but somehow we still find things to do. Since there wasn't any snow on the ground yet and the Greys River Road was dry, four club members took this opportunity to place a safety shelter at Steer Creek, about 17 miles up Little Greys. After

getting it in place and stocking it with firewood, the club treated them with some food and beverages at the Greys River Saloon. Volunteering perks!

Another fun perk and activity is the Top of the Rockies Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner. This has become a beloved, growing event and everyone in the community is welcome for any

reason. Putting on this event is a labor of love and it wouldn't happen without all the help of our volunteers cooking, setting up, serving, making sure football is on the TVs, putting food deliveries together and of course, cleaning up. Ten turkeys, four hams and 60 pounds of potatoes were just some of the food involved to help create dinner. Club volunteers also made all the typical sides such as stuffing, green bean casserole, salads, cranberry sauce, gravy and of course pies and desserts.

This year we had an astounding 30 volunteers assisting to feed 223 people. Plus, the Alpine Fire Department delivered meals in the Alpine area to those who were housebound or working. My husband and I love being a part of this event. It feels good to be a part of something meaningful and our turkey cooking skills get better every year! It is also really nice to share the day with friends, enjoy a delicious meal and make new friends. It is the ultimate Friendsgiving!



District 5

BERT MILLER

Hi all, well with all the Safety Shelters moved to the mountains and stocked full of wood we should all be ready to start the season. We also have the beacon checkers sign up. We have about 18" on the Beartooth mountains at this point. Our Hwy 212 starts becoming the trail on Dec. 1 and hopefully State Trails will be able to start grooming around the 15th of the December. Let her snow!!



We had our local Cody County Christmas lighted parade, and we had a great time. We want to thank all of you that were able to help decorate the CCSA float and a big shout out to kiddos that were able to help. We all got started at the Denny Menholt Chevy-GMC service building at 10 a.m. and all decorated by 1pm. The parade started at 5:30 p.m. and it was a balmy 17 degrees. We were down main street and back to the shop by 6:30 p.m. We gave out 50 pounds of candy and just made it. We will probably have to get more candy next year. Tootsie Rolls were a hit! Fun was had by all.

Avalanche Awareness training is scheduled in Cody at the Holiday Inn on Jan. 5 for the evening class, we will have food provided. Then on Saturday the 6th we will head up on mountain to do the field training. We will serve lunch on the mountain as well. It is all free thanks to our great sponsors.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of our snowmobiling friends.



Snowy Range Snowmobile Club

SUNNY MADDEN

Fall has flown by in a flash here in the Snowy Range and we have gotten a few small snow storms so far. We were very busy in November working on the new Lake Marie safety shelter. We had two weekends of cutting and splitting eight cords of firewood for the shelter. Then we had a weekend of construction and loading firewood into the trailer. We added three windows, a door, a divider wall for all the firewood to stay behind, installed the wood stove and did some other small maintenance things. Those were some long days but the hard work certainly paid off when we delivered the shelter to the Lake Marie parking lot.

On delivery day we were able to talk to a group of snowboarders who had stopped at the parking lot to hike up the hills and get in some early season runs on the mountain. They had never heard of our club, but Justin and Cody told them all about what we do and how our club takes care of all the safety shelters during the winter. They were very impressed and said they would like to be a part of it! It was great to get the word and gain some new members.

We couldn't have made any of this possible without the overwhelming support of the following businesses. Thank you Elite Oil Field Services for picking up the trailer, putting new tires on it, delivering it to Laramie, and then hauling it up the mountain for us too! Thank you A.D. Martin Lumber of Laramie for donating all of the building materials for the necessary construction on the trailer. Thank you Big Huhnks Excavation for the use of their crane truck to remove the reefer from the trailer and to Snowy Range Equipment Rental for donating materials for building the stairs for the trailer and for the use of their skid steer to install the stairs once the trailer was on the mountain. Thank you to 3C Guiding, Albany Lodge, Borderline Powersports, Elite Oil Field Services, Elway Powersports of Laramie, Fremont Electric, Front Range Powersports, Frontier Cycles, Hyaltitude Contracting, and Madden Contract Pumping for your generous donations to make the trailer a possibility. If you are in Laramie please support these businesses as they are HUGE supporters of snowmobiling!

A HUGE thank you also goes out to every person who took time out of their busy lives to lend a hand in wood cutting, splitting, stacking and shelter construction. You all rock!! Thank you to Cody Schlager for making another kick ass stove to keep everyone nice and warm when they visit the shelter. I've even heard the top of the stove is flat and is big enough to bake a casserole on!

We are all so excited for this winter and are planning to have a grand opening party at the shelter later in the season. Check us out on Facebook for the latest snowmobiling news and events happening in our club. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Snowy Range!



Support those who support our efforts!

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VETERANS PLUMBING
WILD ROVER FREIGHT

MEMBER AT LARGE

JEFF SHANOR

Any additions or corrections to the Associate Membership list should be directed to: Mandy Nichols, P.O. Box 2656, Alpine, WY 83128, (816) 791-3480, e-mail: wssamandy@gmail.com



Casper Snow Gypsies

BECKY THORNE

Hello fellow Snowmobilers from Casper. Still not enough snow to pull out the sleds but we are patiently waiting! November we had our annual Bingo night and had some surprise visitors! Brenda and Burt Miller joined us! We were excited to see our WSSA President and past president join us! Along with the Millers Forrest Kamminga from State Trails joined us too.



It was great to catch up with them.

Casper had its annual downtown Christmas Parade. This year's theme was "Christmas in Toyland". It is always interesting to see how we can bring snowmobiles into it. The crowd loves to hear the sleds run. Thank you to Reed's Wraps for letting us use their shop for the float build and teardown. Thank you to Ignite Customs for pulling our float with their semi! Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year's from the Casper Snow Gypsies!



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Deadline for the next Wrangler will be Monday, January 8

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Rev It Up Girls

EVA KIRCHLECHNER

Hello, Friends!
 Our 2023-2024 upcoming events:
 We are adding Two more rides in Montana so stay tuned!
 December 8-9 Avy Savvy: Etna, WY
 December 15 Skills Building /Meeting: Star Valley, WY
 December 16 Club Ride: Star Valley, WY
 January 5 Skill Building / Meeting: Star Valley, WY
 January 6-7 Box Y Overnight Club Ride
 Jan. 31-Feb. 4 Five-day Retreat: Star Valley, WY
 February 16 Skills Building / Club Ride: West Yellowstone, MT
 February 17 Club Ride: West Yellowstone, MT
 March 1-3 Wyoming State Snowmobile: Dubois, WY



Did you know ...
 Your privilege to snowmobile is being threatened?
 Do you know who's representing your snowmobile interests
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 It's the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA).
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www.snowmobilers.org



March 8 Skills Building / Club Ride: Star Valley, WY
 March 9 Club Ride: Star Valley, WY

We held a Charity Fun Run this fall, to raise extra money for our Women Off-road Wishes program and our Local Food Bank. We ended up giving \$500 to Star Valley Food Bank(s).

First weekend in January is our annual, ladies, overnight ride to the Box Y Lodge. Our spots to participate filled very quickly. Everyone loves the Box Y. We invite ladies to come up Friday, for skills day then we ride up Saturday morning to Box Y stay overnight. A few of just come ride for a day, and few ladies ride the entire three days.

Our FREE annual Avy Savvy and Survival Practical Day is fast approaching. Our goal is to provide information on avalanche safety, beacon searches, survival information in a hands-on fashion. We divide into an indoor portion on Friday night at the Star Valley Community center in Etna, Wyoming on Dec. 8 at 6:30 p.m. and an Outdoor portion on Dec. 9 at 9 a.m. Bring your beacons, probes and shovels. All are welcome. Parents, please accompany your young adults for this event. Questions, please text 307-690-0770, Susan.

Our first leadership retreat for our Board, Officers and our stewards was lots of work and very rewarding. We learned much about each other and how to lead our club forward.

Our new board of Directors: Patricia Naumoff – President, Janice Enos – Vice President, Susan Johnston – Secretary/Treasurer, Eva Kirchlechner – Social Media Director.

Board at Large: Amy Perkins, Kim Ullman, Jadian Pfaff, Natalie Zuech.
 Our Stewards: Bailey Clark, Megan Roy, Courtney Bancroft, Margaret LaPorte, Judi Collins, Cheyenne Rasmussen Hollingsworth.

BIGGEST NEWS!

We have a Rev It Up Girls Montana Chapter starting up. We're tentatively scheduling additional rides on Jan. 20 weekend and March 16 in Montana. Details forthcoming. Go to RevItUpGirls.com for updates.