

WYOMING SNOWMOBILE

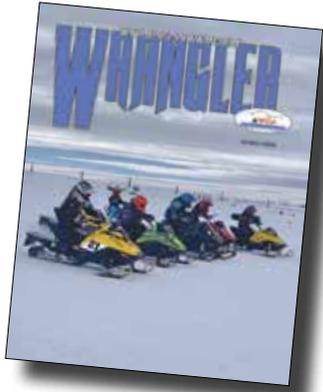
# WRANGLER



MARCH 2025



# On The Cover



The Wind River Youth Snocross Circuit.  
Courtesy Pinedale Snow Explorers

# Incoming WSSA President

**JAY SLAGOWSKI**

Hello again, fellow Snowmobilers! I hope you all have been out enjoying the great snow that late February and early March delivered to most of our riding areas across the state. As I mentioned in my last letter, I was able to attend the ACSA Mountain Riding Summit hosted by the American Council Of Snowmobile Associations and Wyoming State Trails.

It had been a few years since I had ridden over in the Bighorn's, and I had almost forgotten the endless mountain meadows and awe-inspiring plateaus in every direction. On the first day's ride, me and a couple of my newfound battle buddies from Nebraska and Oregon were like kids in a candy store exploring in every direction, and the snow just seemed to get better and better with every turn that day.

The evening festivities included a great dinner provided by The Elk View Inn followed by fundraisers and games all to raise money for ACSA student

scholarships, youth riding programs, and protecting snowmobiling across all of the snow belt states.

We finished up on day three with another ride to all new locations that showcased everything that Wyoming and the Bighorns have to offer including stops at several local safety shelters sponsored and maintained by our Wyoming clubs in the area. It was cold, windy and not so nice as our first day and all of the amenities provided at those shelters were much appreciated by everyone in the group. There were a lot of goggles, gloves and neck gator's drying out next to the warm woodstoves and eating a forgotten/ frozen lunch from my tunnel bag was much easier to accomplish inside out of the wind. Thanks to the Bighorn Mountain SnoMads, Bighorn SnoGoers and 307Riders for putting in the work at all of the Safety shelters in your areas. All of the riders from other states were very impressed and grateful.

Then on March 7 it was off to Rock Springs to attend WSSA Fun Days



Hosted by The Sweetwater Snowpokes. Friday night included check-in/get your swag bag, pizza for dinner and catching up with friends and family after a full year gone by.

Many of us capped off the night with "the bus tour" that includes a fully chauffeured bus ride around the local area to showcase and support all of the local pubs, restaurants and Bars that make significant contributions to the Sweetwater Snowpokes. I've found it best to have a predesignated battle buddy for this event as well and be sure not to have too much fun at one location. Pacing yourself and "making every gate" is the best strategy.

We got a little sleep then set out Saturday morning on a fully guided UTV ride with 25 machines in tow. The ride was led by local club members and utilized about 90 miles of the local roads and trails in the area leaving Rock Springs to Big and Little Fire Hole recreation area to the lazy banks of the Green River and then on to a fantastic homemade chili lunch. A big shoutout goes to Dan and Vivian Shedden for organizing the fantastic food and accommodations at the lunch stop.

Throughout the day, there was 6-10 inches of snow covering most of the area we rode, and the ground remained frozen all day. I would have to say it was the least mud and dust I have ever encountered on a SXS ride with that many machines and it was pretty sweet if you were inside a cozy heated cab like I was, but there were many in the group that honored the true tradition of snowmobilers that just put on their bibs and onesies and did it in open cabs all day, proving their true cowboy toughness to the fullest. Everyone had big smiles at the end of the day regardless of what they rode in, and I personally had a great time.

Saturday night we were treated to a fantastic steak dinner, followed by our annual Wyoming State Trails awards, WSSA awards, Raffle ticket winners as well as all of the individual club awards. Congratulations to all of the hard-working people that received awards and The Sweetwater Snow-

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# Outgoing WSSA President

**BRENDA MILLER**

Happy Spring! Mother Nature can't seem to make up her mind with this goofy weather, negative temperatures for days in a row, then 40-60 degrees for a few days, then how about a dump of 15 inches of snow in Rock Springs right before the Wyoming State Snowmobile Association Fun Days? (Almost reminds me of the same weekend three years ago.)

Thank you, Sweetwater Snowpokes, for a super fun and successful "Fun Days"!

It was great to catch up with everyone that I haven't seen since this fall. It was also great to talk to those of you that I haven't seen since the last Fun Days and to meet new people and to share information about what we do as an organization. On Friday evening when Bert Miller introduced Chris Floyd, I had no idea what the two of them were up to. However, it was an honor to receive a pen from Governor Mark Gordon that he used to sign HB0004 into law.

I know that hosting "Fun Days" can feel like a thankless task, it is a lot of work but in the end all the hard work is so worth it! Once again as a group we

raised a great deal of money to go to Wyoming Cares, Access Wyoming, and our Scholarship program. It was great to be reminded that our scholarship program is second to the Hathaway Scholarship in the state of Wyoming. This is something that we need to be super proud of.

Congratulations to all the WSSA award winners! To those of you who were the recipients of the Wyoming State Trails awards, you are all so deserving. I love to see the surprise on your face, especially when or if you are working in another room while your nomination is being read, and someone has to come find you. Vivian, you were so surprised and that made your award that much more special. Taylor, I know 100% what you mean when you say that receiving the Ron McKinney Trails Stewardship award is something special.

We had a great meeting on Sunday as well. Lots of great discussion, and the "task list" will be great so that we as officers, directors, and committee chairs don't let things fall through the crack and then bring ideas up again at our meeting in the fall. I especially thought the conversation with Blaine Matthews and our Outreach program was super productive and I am anxious to see where this will take our association. I'm also excited to see the other ideas we talked about put into place.

As an organized snowmobile association, we will

continue working with our partners in the Forest Service, Wyoming State Trails, Trails Work Consulting, BLM, Wyoming Trails Council, and AMPL. We will also continue to keep an ear to the ground for any legislation that may be detrimental to our trails, riding areas, or access to our public lands.

While it seems that the season is coming to an end, we still have the Hill Climb in Jackson at the end of March hopefully I will see some of you there. I also hope that we have at least another month of riding before the flowers start blooming.

There are other events that WSSA will be attending in the next few months. We will be going to the DC Fly-In in April and to the International Snowmobile Council which will be in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island Canada this June. We will have reports for you this fall on both events.

I would like to thank everyone for your support and friendships these past four years as your president. The WSSA family holds a special place in my heart. Have a good time out there Spring riding and have a Safe and Happy Summer!

Welcome to the WSSA new officers Jay Slagowski – President, Todd Taylor – Vice President and Sunny Madden – Secretary/Treasurer. Our association is going to be in good hands. While this is my last article as the President of WSSA don't worry, I'm not going anywhere.

## President: *continued from page 2*

pokes for winning the WSSA club of the year. You all are Rock stars in everything you do for snowmobiling in Wyoming.

All of the fund raising from the silent auction items was a huge success and the WSSA scholarship auction was as competitive and successful as ever raising over \$35,000.00 for our Wyoming student club members. I'm so proud to be a part of this organization and am always blown away by the generosity from all of the clubs, businesses and individuals that contribute to our student scholarship program, The Access Wyoming fund and multiple charities during our fund-raising events. Thank you all so much!

We will be staffing the WSSA tent at the 48th annual World Championship Hill Climbs in Jackson Hole March 21-23, hosted by The Jackson Snow Devils. They put on a heck of a show and if you're attending, please come say hi while you watch your favorite racers tackle the hill at Snow King Mountain. We are super excited this year due in part from our WSSA outreach program and some matching funds from a contingent of our Wyoming Clubs and businesses, the WSSA will officially be partnering with our first recipient of our WSSA outreach program.

Blaine Mathews is a Wyoming native who grew up riding snowmobiles in Pinedale and most recently resides in Crowheart Wyoming in Fremont County. He is well known abroad in the Back Country riding circle and is one of the top riders on the RMSHA Hill Climb Racing Circuit. Blaine shares production in his own social media Vlog "The Jay And Blaine Show" with regular posts on YouTube, Face-book, Instagram and the X platforms. He is a current member of the WSSA and has agreed to partner with us in promoting memberships in our local clubs and supporting the WSSA. He is passionate in our mission of working to protect public access and promoting snowmobiling for future generations. So, if you happen to see a Skidoo with the #230 on the side at the hill climbs, that's our guy! give him a high five and a big thanks for the partnership.

One of the last items of business in Sunday's directors' meeting was to graciously accept the resignation of one of our long-standing district representatives. Lou Grunewald of the Casper Snow Gypsies has served the Casper club and the WSSA through eight different presidencies in the association, totaling over 32 years of service to our mission. He was one of the founding members in developing our student scholarship program and the Access Wyoming legal defense fund. In his tenure as a district representative, he has championed many local and state lobbying efforts to protect access, written hundreds of comment letters to land management agencies and volunteered thousands of hours of his time to the sport of snowmobiling. Lou, above all else became a great friend and mentor to me and I will truly miss his presents at our meeting table. Good luck and godspeed old friend, you have set a gold standard in your service to the WSSA

Finally, to close out this issue and our season, I can't thank all of our clubs, sponsors and partners enough for everything you do for our cause and I'm looking forward to working with you all to keep snowmobiling strong and prosperous for many years to come.

Get out there and ride and always look ahead.

# RIDE SAFE

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## SO YOU CAN RIDE AGAIN

This message brought to you by the American Council of Snowmobile Associations  
[www.snowmobilers.org](http://www.snowmobilers.org)





# Directory

www.snowmobilewyoming.org

## Wyoming Clubs

**307 Riders** – 307rsc@gmail.co, PO Box 5150, Gillette WY 82717

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

**Big Horn Sno Goers** – bighornsnogers@gmail.com, PO Box 641, Worland WY 82401

**Casper Snow Gypsies** – snowgypsies@gmail.com, PO Box 3301, Casper WY 82602

**Cody Country Snowmobile Association** – codysnowmobileclub@hotmail.com, PO Box 1745, Cody WY 82414

**Dubois Sno-Katers** – dubois.snokaters@gmail.com, PO Box 1064 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, PO Box 5344, Etna WY 83118

**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

**Snowy Range Snowmobile Club** – srsocwy@gmail.com, PO Box 1930, Laramie WY 82073

**Star Valley Sno-Skippers** – svsnoskippers@gmail.com, PO Box 1273, Afton, WY 83110

**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



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**Program Support and Contract Manager: Josh Milek** – joshua.milek@wyo.gov, Office: (307) 335-2670, Cell: (307) 349-4778

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**Eric Eiserman** – eric.eiserman@wyo.gov, Cell: (307) 330-7038

On the web at: wyotrails.com

# WSSA Secretary/Treasurer

## SUNNY MADDEN

Hello everyone! I am very excited and honored to be asked to return to the Secretary/Treasurer office. I had a nice break for the past two years, but I'm excited to get back to work and be more involved with WSSA again. The new mailing address for WSSA is PO Box 695 Laramie, WY 82073. My email is wssasunny@gmail.com and my phone number is (307) 360-7609. Please reach out with any questions or new club information.

It will probably take me a bit to get back into the swing of things, so please bear with me while I work to get raffle

checks mailed out to clubs and everything updated.

Thank you to all the members of the Sweetwater Snowpokes who did an amazing job planning Fun Days. We had a blast on the side-by-side ride and won some awesome items at the silent auction! It's always so fun to get to see everyone from around the state and catch up.

I'm looking forward to the Fall Meeting which will be September 6th in Lander. Anyone can attend the meeting and it's a great way to stay informed.

Also, Fun Days will be in Cody next year! I hope you all have a great spring and summer!

## District 1

### JUSTIN MADDEN

Greetings! I hope everyone is getting quality riding time in. The snow has been decent all things considered on the Snowy Range. WE HAVE A NEW PARKING LOT! The Ehlin Parking Lot is a part of a pilot program with the Forest Service and State Trails. It is very conveniently located just past Centennial and has a well-groomed trail leading to the top of the moun-

tain. A quick five-minute ride will get you to the goods. Every time we have used it this season it has been well used by both snowmobilers and non-motorized recreationists. This is a three-year pilot program that will hopefully lead to a bigger parking lot higher up the mountain. Hope everyone continues to get new spring snow and can get out there and enjoy it.

Thank you to the Sweetwater Snowpokes for putting together another fantastic Fun Days.

See you at the Fall Meeting!

## District 9

### GEORGE PRYCH

Fun Days 2025 - what a weekend! Thanks to all the clubs, members, district reps, and WSSA officers for coming to Rock Springs and making Fun Days fun and an absolute success. Our committee worked very hard to plan a most memorable and fun weekend for all. With a very talented and diverse group, we were trying to put together one of the best weekends for the season. Every event was planned around our very special WSSA membership. Speaking about fun, the full bus on the Friday night speakeasy run was full of song and dance (more song than dance) and all had a good time! Right? Next morning with a few bloody marys, a group of adventurous UTVers headed out to the backroads of Sweetwater County. They plowed through a few drifted roadblocks to a chili feed at the American Legion in Green River. Hats off to all who sponsored and prepared the lunch! Everyone made it back without too many problems! Saturday night started off with stories of the ride and a large selection of very special silent auction items. Dinner was excellent and the Old Chicago staff really worked hard to take care of us. Thank you!

The schnapps bottle auction raised \$35,800! I believe that is the sec-

ond highest amount for a Fun Days event, and total money raised was over \$50,000! Congratulations and hats off to all the bidders; you all are special. Next, what about those awards! Congratulations to the members who received club awards for the continued support of their clubs and all the work needed to keep their clubs viable; Taylor Jones received the Ron McKinney State Trails Stewardship Award; Vivian Shedden received the Pioneer of the Year award from Wyoming State Trails - all special members for all the years and effort they put into keeping our access open and our clubs going. Congratulations Greg Grassell for your Groomer of the Year award; you are much appreciated as are all groomers. For the first time ever, the Snowpokes earned the title of Club of the Year!

The WSSA meeting brought about some changes in new officers with Brenda Miller stepping down as president after 2 terms. Thank you, Brenda! Congratulations to our new president Jay Slagowski and to our new vice-president Todd Taylor and to Sunny Madden who was appointed to the secretary/treasurer position. We have a very talented group watching over us. With that said, thank you, Lou, for your years of service to the WSSA. I'm sure we will see you at future meetings. For those we lost, memories forever!

## Officers

**President: Jay Slagowski** - (307) 330-6763, jslagowski66@gmail.com

**Vice President: Todd Taylor** - (307) 413-1914, summitxm14@gmail.com

**Secretary/Treasurer: Sunny Madden** - (307) 360-7609 wssasunny@gmail.com

## Appointees

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**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:**

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## District Representatives

**District #1 - Albany, Goshen, Laramie, Platte: Justin Madden** - 307-760-3167, maddenjustin17@gmail.com

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**District #3 - Lincoln (North), Teton:**

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**District #4 - Sheridan: Rick Young** - PO Box 172, Dayton, WY 82836, 307-461-0186, mtswin@hotmail.com

**District #5 - Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park: Bert Miller** - 4330 Pat O'Hara Mountain Dr., Cody, WY 82414, 307-899-3419, b.miller1962@hotmail.com

**District #6 - Campbell: Brandon Klemm** - 2202 Big Lost Dr., Gillette, WY 82718, 605-949-2151, bdklemm@hotmail.com

**District #7 - Fremont South: Bruce Kamminga** - 101 West Main St., Riverton, WY 82501, 307-240-4686 brucekamminga@yahoo.com

**District #8 - Converse, Natrona: Janet Grenseman** - jangrenseman@hotmail.com

**District #9 - Sweetwater, Unita: George Prych** - 108 2nd St., Rock Springs, WY 82901, 307-382-2879, asp911@ymail.com

**District #10 - Johnson, Washakie: Tony Niswender** - 2501 Little Powder River Rd., Gillette, WY 82716, 307-660-8720, niswender@collinscom.net

**District #11 - Crook: Jeff Moberg** - PO Box 645, Sundance, WY 82729, 307-290-2009, jeff@sundancetimes.com

**District #12 - Fremont North: Trent Slagowski** - PO Box 962, Dubois, WY 82513, 307-455-2250, trentslagowski1@gmail.com

**District #13 - Sublette**

**District #14 - Lincoln (South): Susan Johnston** - PO Box 5344, Etna, WY 83118, 307-690-0770, zeus0527@msn.com

# District 5

**BERT MILLER**

Hello all,

Up here in the Cody country we received some decent snow to play in, approximately 60" !! Now let's talk about Fun Days in Rock Springs. Yep, just like a few years ago the snow gods came in with close to 15" of snow on Friday. As we all travel from different areas in Wyoming the weather made things a little interesting driving. BUT we all made it!

Fridays meet and greet was a hoot. We enjoyed visiting and catching up with all our friends across the state. Then came the Bus ride, if I remember right, we left the hotel at about 8 p.m. and made several stops at different bars. Not sure where the time went but when we got back to the hotel it was almost 12:30. Wow, what fun. We were all pooped.

Saturday the Fun ATV ride: Pete and Taylor rode the trails and mapped out the route earlier in the week. Well as I mentioned, mother nature sent them snow, so that changed the looks of the route. Pete was our leader, so we saw some of the country twice LOL. The ride was great, and we saw some beautiful country. I think we traveled close to 100 miles.

Saturday evening: The steak dinner was wonderful, and the hotel did a great job. Congratulations to all the award winners. And congratulations to the winners of the State Trails awards with WSSA - The Ron McKinny Trails Stewardship award went to Past WSSA President Taylor Jones. The Pioneer award went to Vivian Shedden. We are all so proud of you two, it is beyond words, congratulations! And congratulations to Greg Grassel on receiving the Wyoming State Trails Groomer of the Year award.

We also had an award that was not on the schedule. Deputy Director Chris Floyd informed me that he had 3 bill signing pens from Governor Gordon's signing of House Bill 0004 that he wanted to award. How do we do this?? I asked Taylor to help me out on organizing the awards, he did a great job! I did not tell him he was one of the recipients LOL. These folks worked their tails off for months working on House Bill 0004 (the sticker fee increase). Thank you, guys, for all your hard work!

Sundays WSSA meeting was very good. We focused on many different issues and plans. Including a funded Outreach sponsorship Program to get the word out- Why you should become a club member and a WSSA member. We sponsored two snowmobile riders/influencers, Blaine Matthews and Jay Mentaberry. We wish them the best on the Jackson Hill climb. Spread the word boys.

Congratulations to WSSA's new President Jay Slagowski, Vice President Todd Taylor and Secretary/Treasurer Sunny Madden we are in good hands. A big thank you to Brenda Miller our past President, Jay Slagowski Vice President, and Mandy Nichols Secretary/Treasurer. You guys have done a great job steering the WSSA ship through 4 years of interesting and demanding times. GREAT JOB!

Fun Days will be in Cody next year, the weekend of March 6-8. Hope to see you there.



Trails Manager Forest Kamminga, Taylor Jones and WSSA President Brenda Miller.



Trails Manager Forest Kamminga, Vivian Shedden and WSSA President Brenda Miller.



Deputy Director Chris Floyd, Trails Manager Forest Kamminga, Senator Stacy Jones, WSSA Vice President Jay Slagowski, President Brenda Miller, Past President Taylor Jones.

# WSSA Scholarship

SHANNON GLANDT

A huge thank you to the Sweetwater Snowpokes for hosting such an amazing Fun Days this year in Rock Springs. Your hard work paid off and it was an incredible event! Thank you as well to all our clubs and club members who donated to the WSSA's 2025 scholarship program via the Schnapps bottle auction. Because of your kind and generous support, we are providing 7 scholarships this year, between \$1,250 and \$4,000, for a total of \$20,000.

CONGRATULATIONS to:

- Kyenne Weeks – 307 Riders
- Rebecca Campbell – Powder River Sno-Buffs
- Lorin Jones - Sweetwater Snowpokes
- Madison Rosencranse – Cody Country Snowmobile Club
- Gracie Hardeman - Jackson Hole Snow Devils
- Heven Mackler – Casper Snow Gypsies
- Jake Burchard – Top of the Rockies

The 1st and 2nd place essays are included within the Wrangler.

We are proud to announce 155 scholarships worth \$250,650 have been distributed to our students over the past 17 years (and so many more were given prior to this as well). A heartfelt thank you is extended to everyone involved who has made this happen over the years.

If anyone has recommendations for an essay topic for next year please email me your ideas!

Have fun the rest of the winter and I'll see you next year in Cody!

## First-place essay

KYENNE WEEKS  
307 RIDERS

Snowmobiling has long been a cherished winter pastime in national forests, drawing enthusiasts from across the United States and even neighboring countries. Its societal and economic impact on the region is undeniable, with local businesses heavily reliant on the influx of visitors who travel to experience the forest's well-maintained trails, breathtaking landscapes, and versatile terrain. Snowmobiling supports the local economy and fosters a sense of community. Managing these areas through travel, maintenance, and mapping is vital to ensuring the designated trails stay that way and relevant. The national forest public affairs officer Sara Kirol has worked many years within the forest service and has worked with the planning and arranging of public trails, she has interviewed with me before this year's conversation and is an excellent source of information as well as a wonderful respondent. When asked her general thoughts on snowmobiling Kirol stated "Snowmobiling has been a popular activity in the national forest for generations. It's an important part of our recreation base and a significant contributor to the local economy. Many businesses depend on snowmobilers who travel from all over, and so do the land officials" Local lodging facilities, restaurants, and part stores are just some of the few that see an increase in revenue during snowmobile season.

Managing snowmobile trails in such a diverse and expansive environment presents unique challenges. Fortunately, the majority of snowmobilers respect designated areas and adhere to established guidelines. As public affairs officer Sara Kirol noted, "Most snowmobilers understand the importance of staying on marked trails and respecting closures. The few who don't are the exception, not the majority." These comments highlight the cooperative nature of the

snowmobiling community and forest service. The national forest strives to balance multi-use recreation on public lands by implementing minimal closures. These closures are strategically designed to address specific needs, such as protecting wildlife habitats or accommodating non-motorized recreational activities like backcountry skiing in the winter and mountain biking during the summer season. For example, snowmobile season in this forest is typically December 1st through April 15th but is reliant on snowfall and wildlife habitation.

A significant topic of discussion involves balancing snowmobiling with environmental conservation efforts. Restrictions on motorized use are implemented primarily to protect wildlife and manage recreational conflicts. For example, critical winter ranges for elk and deer are off-limits to motorized vehicles during specific periods to minimize stress on the animals. Similarly, some zones are reserved exclusively for non-motorized activities, ensuring that all recreational users can enjoy the forest in their preferred way. "These restrictions are not about limiting snowmobiling; they're about finding a balance," Kirol emphasized. This careful balancing act underscores the ongoing efforts to harmonize recreation and conservation. Neither party wants one or the other to be unable to enjoy the public lands.

Currently, the focus is not on trail closures within this national forest, "At this time, no plans exist to expand nor restrict snowmobile access in the forest." According to Kirol. Instead, efforts focus on maintaining the existing network of trails and improving resources for snowmobilers. One such initiative is the development of an over-snow vehicle use map, which would clearly outline rules and designated areas for riders. If one went to the forest service page looking for trail information there is a category labeled Forest Orders—when looking at the contents, they are very intricate and detailed, someone who has never worked with them before or looked over them would have a hard time navigating and reading through it. "The map will help us clarify where people can ride without creating confusion," Kirol shared. "And will provide a mapping service that is much easier for the public than our forest orders." This tool aims to enhance accessibility to information without significantly altering the current system, providing both seasoned riders and newcomers with clear guidance on trail usage.

Education and awareness play a pivotal role in ensuring that snowmobiling remains a safe and sustainable activity. Experienced riders and club members tend to be well-versed in travel management rules, thanks to resources like the Wyoming State Trails Program's maps and trail markers. However, new riders or those unfamiliar with the area may struggle to navigate these guidelines. "Some of the newer folks don't realize the impact of riding off-trail," Kirol noted. Strengthening education initiatives and improving signage could help bridge this gap, ensuring that all participants understand and respect the rules. Some of these impacts of riding off trails include environmental damage to vegetation, disruption of habitats, damage to private properties, and more potential for accidents due to unmaintained or unknown terrain.

The financial foundation of snowmobile trail maintenance relies heavily on the trail sticker program. Funds generated from this program support trail grooming, patrollers, and maintenance efforts, as well as grants for trail construction and improvement. "Without the sticker fees, these trails wouldn't exist," Kirol remarked. This funding underscores the importance of continued investment in trail systems to support the growing demands of recreational snowmobiling. It's important that not only snowmobiles get off-road permits through the forest service

but also summertime ORVs such as side-by-sides, four-wheelers, and dirt bikes. When purchasing trail permits and stickers, there is an opportunity to donate to the search and rescue programs. Which is highly recommended and an asset when navigating new recreational areas.

Volunteer efforts are another crucial element of snowmobiling in a National Forest. Clubs and individuals often contribute to tasks like maintaining warming huts, cutting wood, and cleaning trails. "We rely on our volunteers, but getting people to commit is increasingly tough along with lining up schedules," Kirol admitted. The forest service and snowmobile clubs share a common difficulty— the lack of younger volunteers and younger generations' involvement. Encouraging broader involvement and creating more accessible volunteer programs could enhance the sustainability of these essential efforts.

To conclude, snowmobiling in the national forests is more than just a recreational activity—it is a vital part of the economy, and part of that economy goes into managing and maintaining the trail systems. While challenges such as finding volunteers and managing motorized use persist, ongoing efforts to preserve and enhance the trail system and education and volunteer initiatives will ensure that this cherished pastime continues to thrive for future generations. I believe respectful correspondence, hand-in-hand efforts, and communication are the best way forward for forest service and recreational land users, leading to the future of trail management.

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## Second-place essay

REBECCA CAMPBELL  
POWDER RIVER SNO-BUFFS

Snowmobiling and travel management are essential to both the snowmobiling community and the federal organizations that maintain trails and forests. Trails offer people a chance to enjoy these beautiful spaces while preserving the integrity of the land. To learn more about the relationship between snowmobiling and conservation, I reached out to Bradley Seat, a trails coordinator with the U.S. Forest Service. Through an email interview, I asked him the following questions:

1. What are your thoughts on snowmobiling?
2. What are your thoughts on travel management?
3. What are your thoughts on multi-use on public lands?
4. How does snowmobiling impact wildlife and vegetation in the areas you manage?
5. What are the challenges involved in maintaining trails for snowmobiles?
6. How do you balance recreational snowmobiling with conservation goals?
7. If you could change one thing about snowmobiling policies or practices, what would it be and why?

Mr. Seat's thoughtful answers gave me valuable insights into how snowmobiling can coexist with conservation. Below, I'll share what I learned and how

# Big Horn Sno Goers & ATV

LYNDA SCHATZ

Big Horn Sno Goers & ATV have had an awesome winter season with plenty of new powder, until the last warm spell... There is plenty of snow, however as it is, many riders have found our slice of heaven! Yes, The southern Big Horns have had some amazing snow! You will have to leave the beaten path to find new and untracked powder.

We had our Big Horn Sno Goer & ATV Poker Run Saturday, March 1. Thirty some people came out to play. A few did not know we were having a fundraiser ride, the Ross families from Cody, were happy to join us. We had a few riders from the Casper area as well. We also had a gained a few new members! Thank you, Ryan Gossens of G-Man Construction/ Lovell Garage Door and Dan Madden Farms for joining us. We look forward to riding again with you soon.

As we watch the forecasts, we do our own snow dances! Let it Snow! It is too early to end our season!




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## Top of the Rockies

JUSTIN FRITZ

Hello fellow sled and volunteer enthusiasts! The storm cycles have been treating Alpine and her surroundings well throughout Febu-buried and we have been out enjoying nature's gifts. Our rides have taken us from Salt Pass to Elk Mountain to Cliff Creek and back again. If your travels bring you to Alpine, we can always find a club member to show you around. Feel free to look us up!

Aside from riding, our membership has helped with the Town of Alpine Casino Night and Winter Jubilee, co-hosted Bingo with the American Legion, assisted with SAR, volunteered at our local food bank, and countless other community events. It warms my heart to see Top of the Rockies members involved in everything our community has to offer.

HB0004 has passed and has been signed by our Governor, hooray! For those who are not familiar, HB0004 was proposed to increase registration fees for over snow vehicles and was put forth by Wyoming State Trails with the full support of WSSA. The last time we saw a fee increase was over 10 years ago. The cost of fuel, snow cats, and labor have all risen in that timeframe and our costs as users, needed to rise with them.

Two big thank yous are in order. First, thank you to everyone who worked on HB0004! When a change needs to be made and it literally takes an act of congress to make that change, it takes a village to make it happen. Special thanks to Forrest and his crew at State Trails! Secondly, thank you Sweetwater Snowpokes for hosting WSSA Fundays! This event is not easy to host, and you folks always do a great job!



## Jackson Hole Snow Devils

COURTNEY HODGES RUDDAT

Happy March from the Jackson Hole Snow Devils! February was a bit warmer than we want in our snowmobile world, so we held our February club ride in Etna, WY with the help of the Ottobre Family. Even though we had a big warm-up and lost some snow, our members were still able to find a way to have some fun! The Snowmobile Rodeo was the best way to spend the February club ride, everyone had a blast and memories were made.

Luckily the thaw hasn't messed with our big event that takes place in March! The Snow Devils have been busy putting our final touches on the 48th Annual World Championship Snowmobile Hill Climb. The Greatest Show on Snow is coming together nicely, we just hope for another good snow storm to top it off. We have raffle tickets available on our website this year benefiting the Charles Reid Schouboe Memorial Scholarship fund. This year is the first year we have the opportunity to offer two large prizes, a 2024 Ski-Doo 850 Hill Climb Edition from Jackson Hole Snow Devils & Ski-Doo, as well as a 2025 Ski-Doo Neo 600 from Rock Mountain Power Sports. We also have a Traeger Grill donated by Teton Rental, 2500 W Generac Generator donated by Jenkins Lumber and a \$500 Gift Card donated by the Jackson Hole Snow Devils.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the event to enjoy some fun in the sun and watch the best of the best compete to be the King. As always, we are always looking for more volunteers to help put on the event and sign-ups are available on our website [www.snowdevils.org](http://www.snowdevils.org) or visit the media trailer behind the pits if you are around and would like to help! See you all soon at Hill Climb!



# The Pinedale Snow Explorers/Altitude Off Road

**TERA ADAMS**

Ready, Set, Race! The Pinedale Snow Explorers/Alti-



tude Off Road club has had a busy winter hosting the Wind River Youth Snocross Circuit and the 25th Anniversary of the 100 One Lunger vintage snowmachine race. Club President, Kendra Jackson states, "The Wind River Snocross Circuit and the One Lunger 100 races are more than just sporting events; they are celebrations of winter, community, and the enduring passion for snowmobiling. The Snow Explorers/Altitude Off Road club has created a legacy of fun, excitement and inclusivity that continues to inspire and bring joy to participants and spectators year after year."

The Wind River Youth Snocross Circuit began in 2024 and is enjoying a successful second year. There are 120 CC and 200 CC classes averaging around 3-5 racers per class in the 120 CC division and 10-12 racers per class in the 200 CC division. The racers compete on a course that incorporates jumps, turns and obstacles providing a fun day for racers, families and spectators alike.

The 100 One Lunger race originated in the year 2000 and sported five sleds. The rules were simple, each sled had to be manufactured in 1973 or before, fan cooled and no jack shafts. As the years have passed the manufactured year has increased to 1980 and older due to the hardship of finding the older sleds. To celebrate the 25th anniversary the "OG Single" class was added back with the original rules in addition to the "Single Class" and the "Twin Class". The "OG Single" class had five sled entries, the "Single Class" contained 8 sleds and the "Twin Class" hosted 12 sleds. The race consists of 100 laps around the course, providing that the sleds actually stay intact for all laps! Also included are a race for the little ones on 120 CC and 200 CC sleds and a Junior Vintage class. Due to the unique nature of this event many are drawn in from around the State of Wyoming and beyond to participate.

In addition to racing the club also sponsors several snowmobile rides that appeal to riders of all ages and abilities. The Wyatt Sheppard Memorial Ride, Alpine Overnight Ride, Family Ride to



Dollar Lake and the Crooked Creek ride are available to the community as a fun way to develop friendships and create memories.

# Big Horn Mountain Snomads

**JIM ADAMS**

Our season here in the Northern Big Horns has been great—much better than last year. As the season comes to a close and we start thinking about flowers, green grass, and OHVs, I wanted to share some photos from the past year.

The Snomads organized UTV rides and set up booths at public events, including a drag sled with timing lights to measure reaction times. We hosted a guided UTV ride every month from June to September. Firewood was cut, and roads were cleaned.



In addition, we held bingo fundraisers and vintage rides, along with monthly outings that included backcountry introductions, lodge hops, and a poker run. We also cooked hamburgers for the Wyoming Cares fundraiser. It was a lot of fun, and I look forward to doing it all again. Thank you to everyone who contributed to one or more events!



# Sweetwater Snowpokes

## Snowpokes Youth Ride

JOEY CLARKE

Over the past few years here at Sweetwater Snowpokes we have been working on a "Junior Snowpokes" program. Mostly having the youth attend our normal meetings year round, until now. Our older youth members decided to put together a youth specific ride with intentions of getting NEW youth involved. Sweetwater Junior Snowpokes teamed up with Rocky Mountain Powersports and Wyoming State Trails to provide kids who have never had the chance to ride a snowmobile with snowmobiles, gear, and guides to go for a rip! On Sunday February 9th the Junior Snowpokes accompanied by Blaine Mathews and Jay Mentaberry took 5 first time out riders aged 11 to 16 up to the mountains to learn what it's like out on the snow! Big thanks to everybody who volunteered time and supplies to make this happen! Needless to say we have some new future riders on our hands!

CHRIS LAPORTE

The Sweetwater Junior Snowpokes participated in the International Snowmobile Ride Day on Sunday, February 9, 2025. It was amazing to see how many folks enjoy riding their sleds rather than watching football on Super Bowl Sunday. The ride was advertised on social media networking with many Wyoming snowmobile clubs and the Wyoming State Snowmobile Association spreading the word. Thirty riders from four different clubs, Sweetwater Snowpokes, Top of the Rockies, Jackson Hole Snow Devils, and Rev it Up Girls, accompanied by two local professional riders Blaine Mathews 230 and Jay Mentaberry 411 met at Horse Creek staging area near Daniel, Wyoming. Their purpose? A ride with five youth selected from Sweetwater County who were riding for the first time on loaner machines donated by Rocky Mountain Powersports.

It was a beautiful sunny morning in the parking lot where the Bridger-Teton Avalanche Center forecast was reviewed. The BTAC beacon course was available for all to test out their skills in the parking lot. Gear and beacon checks were done, and we divided into groups of different skill levels. Everyone left the lot together putting on quite the parade of machines. Passing the Are You Beeping checkpoint for one last reassurance beacons were functioning, the groups headed to the backcountry all to the same lunch destination at the Blind Bull safety shelter.

The youth group was a focused break-out party to bring in new young riders to the sport. This has been an idea of the Snowpokes for years, but several younger Snowpokes took the initiative to make it happen. Partnering with Rocky Mountain Powersports and Wyoming State Trails, Joey Clarke, Ryan Heikes, Collin Vermillion and Morgan Buckendorf led five Sweetwater County youth: Benton, Karson, Kody, Easton, and Lenor on an experience of a lifetime. The group was accompanied by two local professional riders, Blaine Mathews 230 and Jay Mentaberry 411. The group rode a groomed trail to the upper elevations where they were taught how to ride in powder in the meadows, climb a decent hill and some even ventured into the trees. Conditions were good with recent snow giving fresh tracks to all. There were a few stucks, minor bumps to the sleds but mostly skills built, fun had, and new sled heads made.

The five youth guests had some of the best in the business with Jay and Blaine putting on quite the show of skis in the air and whips over jumps along with the talented Snowpokes riders showing their skills encouraging the kids and helping along the way.

The Youth Group met up with the rest of the club's riders at Blind Bull for lunch. The cabin was packed with some parents and other Snowpokes club members who had the fire blazing and lunch being made in a portable pizza oven. As gear was hung to dry, and everyone warming up and filling their bellies, stories and tall tells were told of all the fun had along the way there. While at Blind Bull some of the adult club members and out-of-state visitors demonstrated that it was not all just fun. Firewood was restacked from the woodshed to the woodbox inside the cabin. The approach to the outhouse was dug out for easy and safe access, building air vents were cleared of wind-blown snow, and trash was collected to be packed out. It's the volunteers like numerous Wyoming snowmobile clubs that make the warming hut and limited infrastructure in the snowmobile backcountry available for all to use.

After everyone told a tall tale of how good they had done on a snowmobile, the crew took a group photo in front of the Blind Bull cabin and headed back different routes to the staging parking lot.

Upon returning to the parking lot, there was a quick debriefing of what we saw in the backcountry and how it was relevant to the Avi forecast we discussed at the trail head tailgate. Then more stories told of all the fun had. The Snowpokes provided hot chocolate and s'mores for all while everyone loaded their sleds and socialized about the day. It was a day for the record books and hopefully the first annual event for our club. International Snowmobile Ride Day was an amazing success for everyone who participated in our group. Great day with friends and family and bringing new riders' especially youth into the great sport of snowmobiling.

BLAINE MATTHEWS

@jaymentaberry411 and I recently had the opportunity to join the @sweetwatersnowpokes on their first "Youth Ride." Intentions of getting new youth involved in the snowmobile industry, it was a hit! Such a rad time seeing kids ride for the first time and absolutely crush it! I definitely see new sledders in the future! Thanks to all who made it happen!



# Fun Days 2025

ANGELINA PRYICH

Oh! Where to start? Months of planning meetings, talking to potential sponsors, worrying if anyone will register... and planning for rides, meals, decorations. Well, we did it!

Congratulations to the following winners of the Snowpokes club awards: Joey Clarke, male snowmobiler; Koryn Heikes, female snowmobiler; the LaPorte Family; the LaPorte Girls (Mackenzie and Cambrie), youth snowmobilers; Greg Grassel, groomer;

and Kendall Valley Lodge, business. Our dear Vivian received the State Pioneer of the Year award! Vivian is a founding member of the Snowpokes; she's seen many changes over the years. Well deserved! Congratulations to Taylor Jones who received the

Ron McKinney Trails Stewardship award. Many thanks to everyone who traveled to Rock Springs in spite of closed roads due to the snowstorm that came through Thursday night! Another SxS ride in 8" of snow. Lots of fun at the banquet, good food, great service by the servers and the auctions.

Lots of money raised for the scholarship fund and for Access Wyoming. Huge THANK YOU to our club members for everything you contributed, to Rick Lee and Veldon Kraft. Lots more photos are available on the Snowpokes Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Snowpokes/>.



Ready to ride



Fun ride



Vivian Shedd

## Fun Run at Kendall Valley Lodge

ANGELINA PRYICH

The snow conditions for our Fun Run (aka poker run) were less than great but some folks found a bit of powder until a rock found them! Some A-arms, some aches and pains - as usual! All machines have recovered as well as their drivers. Well, almost. Human takes longer than snowmobbule!



Taylor Jones



"Oh yeah!"

# Lander Snowdrifters

CAL ANACKER

Hello from the Snowdrifters,

As another season gets ready to wrap up, the snow has been building on the south end of the Wind Rivers. Since mid-February the snow and riding conditions have improved considerably.

The Club held a Presidents Day's ride to

the Blucher Creek and Big Sandy Openings area via the CD Trail.

At the March, meeting nominations for the President and Vice-President positions were taken, with elections to be held at the upcoming April meeting. We hold our monthly meeting at the Oxbow Restaurant the second Thursday of the month.

Remember to support those businesses that support our Clubs.

**Presidents Day ride**

# This is the final Wrangler of the season - See you in the fall!



## 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



# Club Award Winners

## 307 RIDERS

Male Snowmobiler of the Year: Cody Huesby  
 Female Snowmobiler of the Year: Shy Sanburn  
 Snowmobile Family of the Year: Sanburn Family  
 Youth Snowmobiler of the Year: Landon Weeks  
 Snowmobile Business of the Year: Black Water Environmental

## BIG HORN MOUNTAIN SNOMADS

Male Snowmobiler of the Year: Chad Adams  
 Female Snowmobiler of the Year: Susie Novak  
 Snowmobile Family of the Year: Adams Family  
 Youth Snowmobiler of the Year: Jacob Joeph  
 Snowmobile Business of the Year: Peak Power Sports – Sheridan WY  
 Snowmobile Groomer of the Year: David Young

## CASPER SNOW GYPSIES

Male Snowmobiler of the Year: Shawn Reed  
 Female Snowmobiler of the Year: Janet Grenseman  
 Snowmobile Family of the Year: Wayne and Susie Reed  
 Youth Snowmobiler of the Year: Jackson Jacobs  
 Snowmobile Business of the Year: MacArthur Company

## CODY COUNTRY SNOWMOBILE ASSOCIATION

Male Snowmobiler of the Year: Greg Mathiowetz  
 Female Snowmobiler of the Year: Jamie Alexander  
 Snowmobile Family of the Year: Lucas and Lauren Lamb Family  
 Youth Snowmobiler of the Year: Kaden Bales

Snowmobile Business of the Year: Beartooth Rides & Guides

## JACKSON HOLE SNOW DEVILS

Male Snowmobiler of the Year: Stephan Fodor  
 Female Snowmobiler of the Year: Stacey Saunders  
 Snowmobile Family of the Year: Brock Carr Family  
 Youth Snowmobiler of the Year: Preston Saunders  
 Snowmobile Business of the Year: Teton Performance  
 Snowmobile Groomer of the Year: Chris Betzinger

## LANDER SNOWDRIFTERS

Male Snowmobiler of the Year: Mack Miller  
 Female Snowmobiler of the Year: Joni Miller  
 Snowmobile Family of the Year: Anacker Family  
 Youth Snowmobiler of the Year: JJ McCoy  
 Snowmobile Business of the Year: Jim Spriggs Construction  
 Snowmobile Groomer of the Year: Steve Niles

## POWDER RIVER SNO-BUFFS

Male Snowmobiler of the Year: Scott Roberts  
 Female Snowmobiler of the Year: Tara Troutman  
 Snowmobile Family of the Year: John and Tammy Pownell  
 Youth Snowmobiler of the Year: Alexie Bock

## REV IT UP GIRLS

Female Snowmobiler of the Year: Cat Roberts  
 Female Snowmobiler of the Year: Frankie Valley  
 Snowmobile Family of the Year: Caristel and Justin Johnson  
 Youth Snowmobiler of the Year: Kaydence Johnson

Snowmobile Business of the Year: Kodiak Mountain Resort

Snowmobile Groomer of the Year: Riley Lloyd

## SNOWY RANGE SNOWMOBILE CLUB

Snowmobile Business of the Year: Elite Oil Field Services, LLC

## STAR VALLEY SNO-SKIPPERS

Male Snowmobiler of the Year: Frank Hemel  
 Female Snowmobiler of the Year: Patricia Veronda-Naumoff  
 Snowmobile Family of the Year: Blake and Darbie Ritchie  
 Youth Snowmobiler of the Year: Ryder Heap  
 Snowmobile Business of the Year: AJ's Discount Liquor

## SWEETWATER SNOWPOKES

Male Snowmobiler of the Year: Joey Clark  
 Female Snowmobiler of the Year: Koryn Heikes  
 Snowmobile Family of the Year: Laporte Family  
 Youth Snowmobiler of the Year: Laporte Daughters  
 Snowmobile Business of the Year: Kendall Valley Lodge  
 Snowmobile Groomer of the Year: Greg Grassel

## TOP OF THE ROCKIES

Male Snowmobiler of the Year: David Burchard  
 Female Snowmobiler of the Year: Larissa Maine  
 Snowmobile Family of the Year: The Kahmanns  
 Youth Snowmobiler of the Year: Lilly Fisher  
 Snowmobile Business of the Year: Broulim's Alpine  
 Snowmobile Groomer of the Year: Riley Lloyd

## Scholarship: *continued from page 6*

it changed the way I see these issues.

When I asked about his personal thoughts on snowmobiling, Mr. Seat said he feels fortunate to ride snowmobiles for work, describing it as a rewarding experience. I completely understand that feeling. For me, snowmobiling has always been special because it's a family activity that brings us together and allows us to experience nature in a unique way.

When discussing travel management, Mr. Seat emphasized its importance in balancing public enjoyment with the preservation of natural resources, "Travel management is a great system for managing multiple natural resource concerns while allowing the public to access their public lands." (Bradley Seat, personal communication, January 17, 2025). I couldn't agree more. Without designated trails, people might create their own paths, leading to unnecessary damage to the environment. Managed trails give everyone the opportunity to enjoy the land while keeping it intact for future generations—a win-win for nature and snowmobilers alike.

I was particularly curious about Mr. Seat's take on multi-use public lands, as conflicts between different user groups seem inevitable. The example Mr. Seat gave was, "So maybe fishermen are going to want peace and quiet and clean streams for aquatic life, but off-highway vehicle users want to drive through stream crossings and access remote parts of the forest. In these situations we have to provide a variety of landscapes where some are open to motorized vehicles, and some areas like Wildernesses are only open to non-motorized travel, even excluding bicycles" (Bradley Seat, personal

communication, January 17, 2025). This approach makes so much sense to me—everyone deserves space to enjoy their passions without clashing with others. By providing dedicated zones, we allow more people to feel welcome while protecting the serenity of each activity.

When I asked about the impact of snowmobiling on vegetation and wildlife, Mr. Seat introduced me to the "12-inch rule," which requires at least a foot of snow to minimize damage to plants beneath snowmobile trails. He admitted that Wyoming's relentless winds can make it difficult to maintain this standard in some areas, but the rule remains a crucial safeguard. I had never heard of this rule before, but it struck me as a simple yet effective way to protect fragile ecosystems.

On the wildlife side, Mr. Seat mentioned stories of riders following ungulates in hopes of collecting dropped antlers. He also noted that the noise from snowmobiles generally deters animals from popular areas. While it's somewhat comforting to know that wildlife avoids these zones, I was horrified by the idea of people chasing animals for antlers. Such behavior is not only disrespectful but harmful. Riders who engage in this should absolutely face consequences—nature is not ours to exploit.

The balance between conservation and recreation is another challenge Mr. Seat addressed. He explained that certain areas, "We balance conservation efforts with recreational snowmobiling by requiring snowmobiles to stick to particular areas, and only during certain times of year. For example there is a big part of the southern Snowies that is closed to snowmobiles this time of year. I believe that is to offer crucial winter range for Elk." (Bradley Seat, personal communication, January 17, 2025). I think this is an excellent strategy.

With input from wildlife experts, land managers can predict where animals will be during critical times of the year and protect those areas. This seasonal closure is a clear example of how conservation and recreation can work hand in hand when managed thoughtfully.

When it comes to maintaining snowmobile trails, Mr. Seat shared that the Forest Service partners with the State of Wyoming. The state handles grooming and signage, while the Forest Service occasionally monitors non-motorized trails with usage counters. This partnership struck me as a fantastic example of teamwork. Both organizations contribute their expertise, ensuring that trails remain accessible and sustainable. Interestingly, Mr. Seat mentioned that there are no policies he would change in his forest, which suggests that the current systems are working well.

Reflecting on this interview, I gained a deeper appreciation for the intricacies of snowmobiling and travel management. These trails are about so much more than recreation—they're vital to preserving Wyoming's natural beauty. Policies like the 12-inch rule and seasonal wildlife closures show that conservation and enjoyment don't have to be at odds. Instead, with thoughtful planning and cooperation, both goals can be achieved.

Ultimately, Wyoming sets a high standard for how to manage public lands responsibly. By balancing the needs of nature and recreation, the state creates opportunities for everyone to experience its breathtaking landscapes while ensuring that future generations can do the same. For me, this interview was a reminder of how lucky we are to have these spaces and why it's so important to protect them.

REFERENCES: Bradley Seat, email to Rebecca Campbell, January 17, 2025

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WESTERN SNOWMOBILE

### TOP OF THE ROCKIES

3 RIVERS MOTEL  
ALPINE ADVENTURE RENTALS  
ALPINE STANDARD  
BANK OF JACKSON HOLE  
BETTER MONDAYS  
BOX Y  
BRIDGER ANIMAL HOSPITAL  
BULL MOOSE SALOON  
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RYNO PERFORMANCE LLC  
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# Rev It Up Girls

CAT ROBERTS AND  
COURTNEY BANCROFT

## Our 2025 winter season is sadly coming to an end!

Don't worry though, it's not over till the fat lady sings! So, let's get the band back together and enjoy the last of this amazing winter season we have had! In the last month our Rev It Up Girls have rode in some pretty amazing places with some pretty spectacular ladies and we can't wait to see what the rest of the season has in store!

## Rev It Up Girls Montana, where you at?

The Montana chapter had their January ride at the Kings Hill area. It was bitter -14 at the start of the ride. Six determined women braved the cold. The snow was good for some playtime in the meadows and the warming hut was a welcome reprieve. It sounds like this ride really made an impression on a new member, and everyone was happy to welcome her to the club!

February 21-23 we had a fun filled weekend in Island Park. We worked on skills on Friday and Saturday we went to the Elk Lake Camp and enjoyed a great meal and a beautiful ride. We had over twenty ladies join us from across the country for the weekend and we found some great spots to play and learn in! We look forward to this ride again next year! We also had the pleasure of having BlackDog Pursuits Photographer, Dylan Davis tag along and take incredible photos of all of the girls. If you are looking for someone to take some incredible photos of you in the backcountry definitely check him out!

## Rev It Up Girls Wy-Idaho whatchu got goin' on?

This winter sure has been enough to keep us on our toes, from 50 degrees to -25. We have made the most of it

and have found some great riding conditions despite the fluctuations. We have been able to explore lots of areas to search near and far for the goods, and it has been a blast.

Our local club ride for January was up the Grey's River out of Alpine. Lots of soft meadows were found and many of the ladies got to work on getting back into winter shape. Some of the crew joined as a day ride, but many got to spend the night at Box Y lodge. Those lucky ladies were able to ride in Blind Bull after a luxurious night in the backcountry.

Our third Women Snowmobile retreat was a fantastic time down off the Salt River Pass. It was held at the end of January into the beginning of February. The retreat started with sun and warmth and rolled into wind and snow. Over twenty women joined in on the fun; many of which got to stay at the Kodiak Resort just outside of Afton. Cheyenne Rasmussen was there to give skill demonstrations and lots of helpful tips. With the help from many of the more advanced riders, we got to see so much improvement in every level for the attendees!

## Who should join us on a club ride?

What kinds of women riders are a good fit for joining a club ride? Women who are interested in learning how to safely get into the backcountry. Women who have ridden trails and want to learn how to ride off trail. Women who rip wheelies and want to make friends and explore new terrain. Women who are learning new skills and want a comfortable environment to get stuck and try again. Women who like adventure!

We are very fortunate to have so many talented and wonderful ladies to make this all happen. We are often able to divide into smaller groups by ability so that everyone gets a ride that is a good fit for them. In these smaller groups there are talented women that like to encourage and help when they can to get everyone enjoying themselves while they explore. It may take a village to raise a snowmobiler, but this is our community effort.

Snowmobiling is work!

We all know how hard this sport can be and are here to help dig you out just the same way someone helped us along our journey. Not only is riding with the club an absolute blast it can also help build a sense of community. Getting stuck and unstuck is what it's all about, and if you come ride with us you can do it all!

For more information go to our Facebook or website. Our 2025 Summer and 2026 schedule will be available by June 1.



# Star Valley Sno-Skippers

MEGAN SAINZ

February was another busy month for the Star Valley Sno-Skippers, and we've got plenty to share!

We kicked off the month with a club ride on a cold, stormy day. It definitely wasn't for the faint of heart, but those who joined reported back with saying "deep powder and a good time overall."

Next up, we've been gearing up for the WSSA Fun Days Event—always a highlight of the season! One of our favorite parts is putting together a raffle basket for the event, which wouldn't be possible without the incredible support of our local businesses. A huge thank-you goes out to Star Valley Ski-Doo, Salt River Motors, Mountain Oasis Spa, Silo Floral, The Giftery on 89, and Patricia Naumoff. Your generous donations helped to make our WSSA basket a success! We love attending WSSA Fun Days and supporting what this event stands for, from its scholarship program to keeping public access open. The Star Valley Sno-Skippers have thrown their name into the hat and have high hopes to host 2027 WSSA Fun Days.

This season, we're also thrilled to announce the launch of our own local scholarship. We've already received some great applications and essays from Star Valley students for the 2024-2025 season. It's amazing to see this program come to life, and we're looking forward to watching it grow as a way for the Sno-Skippers to give back to our community.

We ended February with a maintenance day at the Poison Meadows Warming Hut. With all the snow this year, it was time to shovel off the roof. Thankfully, we had a great turnout of members, and with many hands pitching in, the work flew by. The sunny day made it even better! Afterward, we roasted hot dogs over the fire and even made time to play in the deep snow on our way out.

The Sno-Skippers have had a fantastic season so far, and we're determined to finish strong. We'll wrap things up with another community cornhole tournament and an end-of-season potluck and awards party for our members. As warmer days are coming and the snow is melting, we're already looking forward to all the planning, dreaming, and excitement that will lead us into another incredible snowmobile season next year!



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