
MOUNTAIN-EARS

LARIMER COUNTY FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE CLUB

March Club Trip

This Month's Club Trip is to Cherokee Park. We will see if we can make it all the way to Tiesiding. Please meet at our new trip meeting place. North King Soopers College & Willox. We will leave at 9:00am Sunday Mar. 23rd.

New Trip Meeting Location

We are moving our Trip Meeting Location because Albertsons is closing. So we will move accross the street to the North King Soopers parking lot at 1842 N. College Ave.



February Club Trip

Under cloudy skies, eight Mountaineer and guest vehicles met at our new gathering place in the King Soopers parking lot on North College Avenue. While waiting, someone checked the weather in Laramie as that was close to our destination which was the Happy Jack Recreation area for our annual kids sledding day and chili cookout. Leaving

Club Dues 2014

The \$45.00 club assessment for dues is payable between January and March membership meetings. This amount not only keeps you current with the Mountaineers, but \$30.00 of it goes to the Colorado Association and Colorado Off-Highway Vehicle Coalition to keep you in good standing with them also. If the dues are not paid by the March meeting, you will be dropped from all three rosters.

Guests at Last Meeting

Justin Dauwe

Jason Marooney

CJ Stone

Scott Frier

Denny Riead

Rodney Fogland

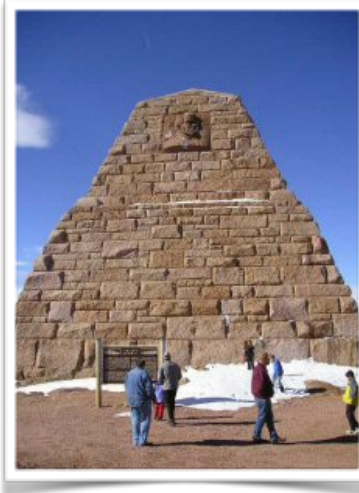
Fort Collins, the roads were dry and it was clear sailing until we got to the Granit Canyon cutoff where we encountered snow packed roads and icy conditions all the rest of the way to our turn off, the Pumpkin Vine Road. The Pumpkin Vine had gotten anywhere from two to six inches of new snow on it overnight.

Once we had gotten out into the open high prairie, the wind was starting to whip up a few drifts along the way. It was just enough snow to give Bob & Michelle a challenge as they were driving their little front wheel drive Cadillac. This was especially true when we came to a long uphill starch just before you go through the big culvert under the Union Pacific tracks. Bob was huffing and puffing and sawing the steering wheel back and forth but he was able to make the hill an inch at a time under his own power. Road finding was difficult at times but we all

Summer Trip to Buena Vista

This year we are going to be spending a week in Buena Vista and running the trails in the area. We will be spending the week of June 22nd through 28th in Buena Vista because the altitude is higher and the trails should be open in late June. The RV park is about 1.5 miles north of Buena Vista at 30430 North Highway 24 (800) 954-8481. Just like we do in Moab we will be meeting each morning at City Market in Buena Vista to leave for our trips. City Market is on the south end of town at 438 Highway 24.

made it to the Ames Monument unscathed. Wyoming State Parks had built a new road into the monument and Craig pulled in to let everyone take a look at it. The 60 foot high monolithic pyramid was built in 1882 by the Union



Pacific Railroad to commemorate the highest point (8,247') on the original transcontinental route. The tracks were eventually moved a couple of miles to the south. When it was time to leave, Bob's little Cady was high centered in a drift but it only took five minutes to dig it out. Then Jake and Cara got their 4WD diesel pickup stuck and Jim D. had to snatch them.

We got onto slushy I-80 and made to the Lincoln Memorial rest area for a warm potty stop. We finally got to Happy Jack where we busied ourselves

Editor's Note

Just a reminder, I could use some Member's Rides, Email the info and a picture to newsletter@montainees4x4.org

If you take pictures on our club trips and want to share them, please upload them on our Facebook page. (I can use them in the newsletter)

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paying the area fee, loading the sleds with the cooking pot, firewood and kids and started our two block trek to the old ski hill. The trees gave us a good wind break for the fire and our comfort. Shane set the cooking pot on the tripod



and started the fire. Everyone poured their cans of chili into the community pot. Several took turns stirring the chili and tending the fire while the kids and some of the grown up kids hit the sledding hill. After an hour or so of fun on the perfect snow, the chili was deemed fit to eat and everybody took their lunch break. With full bellies,

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more of the afternoon was taken up by



w a r m i n g
themselves by
the fire and
sledding. By the
time the party
broke up, then

sun had dried the roads for the trip
home. Justin T. got about half way home
when his wheeler started having fuel
delivery problems but he was able to
limp it the rest of the way. It was
another great day of wheeling and fun
for the Mountaineer family!

El Guapo



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Forest Moves Forward on Flood Recovery Efforts

Release Date: Feb 28, 2014

Contact(s): Reghan Cloudman, ARP Flood Recovery Team

FORT COLLINS, Colo.– The September flood caused extensive damage to many roads, trails, and facilities, along with resource damage and other concerns on the forest. Since then the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forest and Pawnee National Grassland (ARP) has continued to assess needs and move forward.

Multiple items of note have occurred since the ARP Flood Incident Assessment Team released its report last November. This initial assessment provided a snapshot of the scope and scale of the flood damage on National Forest System lands.

“There is a great deal of work to be done within the Forest’s flood impacted area and we know that annual snow run-off may result in additional damage,” Lori Bell, Flood Recovery Team Lead, said. “We are doing what we can at this point and know that addressing all the needs will take years.”

A critical item identified in the initial assessment was that due to access issues from

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the flood, a helicopter is needed to supplement ground firefighting efforts. The ARP will have an exclusive use helicopter from mid-June to mid-September. The helicopter will help with response time to fires, along with the ability to support project work when available. This Type 3 helicopter will be similar to the one stationed on the ARP last season, with the U.S. Forest Service providing leadership and working closely with local cooperators for additional staffing support.

The assessment team's work with the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) has led to the approval of nearly \$2.2 million dollars for qualifying damaged roads on the Canyon Lakes and Boulder ranger districts through the Emergency Relief for Federally Owned Roads (ERFO) program. This work will be implemented by the Central Federal Lands group of the FHA once conditions allow and contracts are in place.

Other activities the Forest is involved in since the flood includes working with municipalities organizations on recovery efforts, including power line reconstruction, fill material, debris flow stabilization and dam decommissioning; implementation of a closure order for many roads and trails due to public safety and resource damage concerns; and repair of some

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lower-elevation roads in the flood area.

The forest, working through the Rocky Mountain Regional Office of the U.S. Forest Service, has also received funding to staff a team to help in the recovery efforts. This team consists of a team leader, community liaisons, engineer, hydrologist, recreation planner and reality specialist. Additional positions may be identified as work continues into the spring and summer. This team will work with the forest to prioritize needs and collaborate with partners to share information and resources as appropriate. Some funding has also been identified to start work on other roads, trails, and facilities damaged by the flood.

“Work with our cooperators and volunteers will also be crucial to our recovery efforts,” Bell said.

Visitors are reminded this flood changed the landscape of the forest dramatically. The forest is still full of recreational opportunities, but not necessarily the same as it was before. Use caution in rain affected areas.

Lefthand Canyon Updates

Posted on February 7, 2014 by Sam

Lefthand

Lefthand is in a state of limbo awaiting further evaluation and recommendations from the flood team. Currently the area is officially closed to all use. No one is even supposed to hike in there. This is because the damage to the entrance road is considered a public health and safety hazard. Limited on the ground evaluations have been performed of the area. Here is a synopsis of what's happening:

- Flood Assessment Team is working throughout the near by ranger districts to evaluate and prioritize repairs.
 - o Facilities are the highest priority
 - o Access roads the next priority
 - o Recreational areas and other FS areas are evaluated after those
- The Flood Assessment Team will make a public report out in March-April (info on this meeting will be made public via the OHV meeting)
 - o Forest Supervisor will have final approval on the priority list
 - o It is possible that Lefthand will stay closed until 2016 or altogether!!!

March 2014						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 Patrick Burch	3 Brandon Kapperman	4 Paul Dangler Jeff Paben	5 Tasha Opdyke	6	7 Evan Meyers	8
9	10 BOARD MEETING <i>Michelle Opdyke</i> Kent Schmidt Rosemary McCurry	11 Travis Golly	12	13	14	15 Darren Finger
16 Janice Marolf	17	18	19 CLUB MEETING Kelly Kapperman	20	21	22 Lindsay Weegans
23/30 CLUB TRIP Craig Stumbough	24/31	25 Nate Adams	26 Lori Golly	27 Sheila Mueller	28 Todd McCurry T&R McCurry	29

April 2014						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3 Sharon Kapperman	4 Valorie Miller	5 Christina Eddy Seth Burch Camiren Meyers
6	7 BOARD MEETING <i>Dave Oden</i>	8 Aure Marvin Scott Riley	9	10	11	12
13 Bob Schlepy	14	15 Cassandra McCurry	16 CLUB MEETING	17	18 Jim Dixon	19
20	21	22 Justin Treece	23	24	25 Rich Stengaard	26
27 CLUB TRIP Dave Oden	28	29	30			

Board Meeting: Apr. 7 7:30pm Dave Oden
 May 12 7:30pm Dan Venrick
 Membership Meeting: Mar. 19 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins
 Apr. 16 7:30pm Knights of Columbus, 121 N. Meldrum, Ft. Collins
 Club Trip: Mar. 23 9:00am **King Soopers Parking Lot N. College & Willox**

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**Larimer County 4WD Club, Inc.
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