

MINUTES of
STATE RECREATIONAL TRAILS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SRTAC)
of
ARIZONA STATE PARKS
MEETING of May 21, 2010

Tonto Natural Bridge State Park, Payson, AZ

Steve Jakubowski, new manager at TNBSP, welcomed the group and gave some background information about the park.

Chair, Kent Taylor – Welcomed the group.

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL at 10am

Kent Taylor, ASCOT – Citizen At Large (NM)

Maureen Decindis, ASCOT - Maricopa Association of Governments (NM)

Hank Rogers, OHVAG - Apache County ATV Rough Riders Club (M)

Pete Pfeifer, OHVAG - American Motorcycle Association (M)

Bruce Weidenhamer, ASCOT - Volunteers for Outdoors Arizona (NM)

Lisa Gerdl, ASCOT - Take A Hike (NM)

Jim Horton, ASCOT - Citizen At Large NM

Tom Fitzgerald, ASCOT – Central Arizona Project (NM)

Anna Pfender, ASCOT – Arizona Trail Association (NM)

Linda Slay, ASCOT – Arizona Horsemen’s Association (NM)

Bob Biegel, OHVAG – Mesa 4-Wheelers (M)

Heather Wasgate, ASCOT – City of Phoenix (NM)

Mary McCullen, ASCOT – City of Payson Parks & Recreation (NM)

Nick Lund, ASCOT – TRACKS, Pinetop-Lakeside, AZ (NM)

Bill Gibson, BLM-Arizona State Office OHV Travel Coordinator (M)

Dan Shein, ASP Resources and Public Programs Section Chief

Annie McVay, ASP State Trails Coordinator

Robert Baldwin, ASP RTP Program Manager

B. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS

C. OLD BUSINESS

1. Approval of Minutes from the May 15, 2009 Meeting – motion to accept, second, unanimous approval

D.1. Presentation of Arizona State Parks Administered Trail Funds. Staff will present an overview of the Arizona State Parks administered trail funds.

Robert Baldwin- Provided an overview of the status and uses of the trail funds available to State Parks. First he discussed the Trails Heritage Fund. See Agenda Item D1. Attachment A shows the status of recently awarded Trails Heritage Fund projects that were either completed for cancelled.

Kent Taylor- Do Heritage Funds now go to State Fund?

Robert Baldwin- Yes.

Annie McVay- Discussed uses of AZ Trail Fund. See Item D1. The goal of the Arizona Trail Association was to use the funds to complete the trail. No funds were appropriated this year and the trail is about 35 miles short of fully completed. The money that was received was used for acquisition of right of way, trail construction, and restoration in fire damaged areas. Attachment B show a full breakdown of the uses of the fund.

Robert Baldwin- Discussed the Recreational Trails Program funding. See Item D1. Attachment C shows the uses for the non-motorized portion. Attachment D shows the uses for the motorized portion. Attachment F shows history of use of RTP funds.

The State Parks RTP Trails Maintenance Program was developed in 2001 to use the nonmotorized portion of the RTP fund. It was unique in that we put trail maintenance crews on State contract and paid them directly to do the work for the project sponsors. Projects sponsors would typically be allocated \$40-50k for trail maintenance. In some cycles we were able to offer project sponsor up to \$75k to spend on the trail crews. We are completing the fourth cycle of the program. We are waiting to see what will happen

to the RTP in the next transportation bill before we will know how much money we can offer for more trail maintenance projects.

Also in 2001 we started using the RTP funds for competitive motorized grants and the Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Fund was used for high dollar agreements with our land managing partners to help them continue to provide motorized opportunities. See Attachment D.

Jim Horton- Has the new OHV legislation helped increase the funds available for trails?

Robert Baldwin- Yes, it has almost doubled (gas tax portion and sticker portion) the money going into the fund. However, with the condition of the state budget, the legislature continues to tap into the fund. We haven't had full use of the fund since before 2001.

Hank Rogers- They (the legislature) hasn't touched any of the new sticker money.

Robert Baldwin- Correct. However, the fund is one pot. When the legislature takes money out of the pot, it is considered to be from the gas tax revenues. This allows us to emphasize to the interested users that their contributions are being returned in on-the-ground projects. New project selection is an issue on the agenda this afternoon for the OHVAG group. We are required under the new OHV legislation to report to the legislature in September 2011 on the uses of the fund, so we need to get some projects completed by next summer. That was one of the conditions in this application form, that the project could be completed quickly.

We have redesigned the project funding process so that projects can be submitted at any time (as opposed to a yearly grant cycle) and will be funded periodically. This will help the project sponsors get projects going on their schedule.

Mary McCullen- Is there a deadline to have the funds spent in the current trail maintenance cycle?

Robert Baldwin- Yes, those funds were allocated under the condition that they have to be spent by August of 2010. That gave the project sponsors about two years to use the money. This is not a federal requirement. It just helps us keep track of the money so we know what we can offer for the next cycle.

Kent Taylor- Is it true that the RTP money may go away after September? What is the status of that?

Robert Baldwin- We have received authorization for all of the 2010 money under a continuing resolution, but we do not know what will happen in 2011.

Maureen Decindis- My understanding is that the only non-motorized money we have is the RTP money and it has been used exclusively for the trail maintenance program, but we will discuss possible other uses today.

Robert Baldwin- Correct. That is one of the agenda items for today and one of the purposes for this annual meeting, to get your input on how best to use the money.

Linda Slay- The only way the Heritage Fund can come back is for the legislature to reinstate it.

Robert Baldwin- Citizens can initiate a referendum to get the issue on the ballot for public vote. The only way to protect it from legislative appropriation is to have it pass by more than 60% of the vote, then it falls under the voter protection act and cannot be redirected by the legislature.

Annie McVay- A few weeks before the legislature cancelled the State Parks portion of the Heritage Fund they voted to continue the lottery for another ten years. That would insure that State Parks \$10m share will be available for use in the general fund. The Arizona Heritage Alliance has protected the fund from misappropriation on over thirty attempts until this year. They are weighing their options to see how the fund can be reestablished for State Parks and protected in future years. You can submit to their email list to be kept informed of their activities. (www.azheritage.org / mail@azheritage.org)

Dan Shein- I might also mention the donations fund that they (the legislature) took money from, I'm sure you read about that, they put the money back. So they can move the money in both directions when they want.

Robert Baldwin- The money was left to State Parks in a lady's estate. They were accused of being grave robbers and they didn't like that moniker.

D2. Discuss the Arizona State Parks Budget and Impacts on Trail Related Funds. Staff and Committee will discuss the budget cuts at Arizona State Parks and the impact on trail related funds and grant programs.

Dan Shein- First off on behalf of State Parks I want to thank you for your commitment to and continued support of State Parks. We really appreciate the fact that you are still hanging in and representing your interest and you all provide us an opportunity to connect with your communities. Thank you for continuing to be volunteers. You definitely make a big difference.

I am going to address two areas: the budget and the agreements we are forming with communities to keep parks open. To date we have actually lost nearly \$4m in revenues

to the Heritage Fund and will not be receiving any of the funds we would normally get from January through June which is another \$5m.

The Growing Smarter Fund is going to the ballot in November. This fund was set up in the late 1990's to provide funds at 50/50 match to purchase open space from the State Land Department that had been designated for conservation only use. Phoenix and Tucson areas have been the main recipients of these funds and we have recently received an application from Coconino County. There is a balance in the fund currently over \$100m. The ballot action would allow the legislature to sweep that balance and put it in the general fund. State Parks uses the interest on that money as part of its operating budget. Obviously, if the fund gets swept a significant revenue source will be lost. Also of great significance is the fact that the Growing Smart Fund money and the equal match are going to the beneficiaries of the State Land trust, primarily education. So that money is being recycled back into state uses. In the last cycle \$80m was paid at auction by Scottsdale and Pima County. We have applications that we are processing now to distribute some of the money before the vote in November. Annie McVay is overseeing that program under our new distribution of responsibilities.

The employee incentive of approximately 2.5% that we have received over the last two years is being discontinued. Also the legislature has instituted a furlough program for the next two years. Basically, all state offices will be closed on six designated days each year. The parks and other essential services are on a different schedule, but the combination of the two measures reduces state employee salaries by 5% for the next two years.

Kent Taylor- Is the ballot issue to sweep the fund or eliminate the fund?

Robert Baldwin- The legislation expires in 2011, so the last payment to the fund of \$20m will be made in July. If the ballot issue to sweep the fund fails, the balance in the fund will be used as intended until it is gone.

Maureen Decindis- Are you finding that the local jurisdictions have the money to meet the match these days?

Annie McVay- We have three applicants that could be awarded in September and the State Land Department is working to facilitate the auctions before November so that the money can be spent. The auctions will be worth about \$70m to State Land.

Anna Pfender- You say there is over \$100m in the fund now and these applications will spent about \$70m.

Dan Shein- Correct.

Bruce Weidenhamer- Where does Arizona fall in relation to the other states in funding for trails based on population? And parks funding? Typically Arizona ranks 41-48 in spending on these things. So why are they cutting in areas where we are already underfunded?

Annie McVay- I can't give you any numbers on those issues, but if you look at the report from Governor's Task Force on Sustainable Funding for State Parks, Arizona is very low on the list for funding state parks. The Morrison Institute study is referenced. You can access that study on our website. As far as trails are concerned, Arizona has been very proactive in establishing funds to support trails. Other states have looked at our programs.

Dan Shein- At this time I want to run through the MOU's and agreements that we are using to keep parks open. At this time Jerome is closed. Oracle is closed.

Jim Horton- McFarland is closed.

Dan Shein- Yes, and we are looking at an agreement with the Town of Florence who want to use the park as a visitor center and part of their Main Street Program. It is pretty amazing that these are the only closed parks when we announced in January that twenty parks would be close by June 3rd. So you want to thank the elected officials in these communities for stepping up.

Alamo State Park will be assisted by the Town of Wickenburg and LaPaz County.

Tonto Natural Bridge State Parks is being assisted by the City of Payson.

Red Rock State Park will be assisted by Yavapai County and the Red Rock State Park Benefactors.

Roper Lake State Park is receiving support from Graham County.

Homolovi State Park has received a proposal from the Hopi Nation that we are reviewing.

Yuma Quarter Master Depot and the Prison are being operated by the City of Yuma.

Riordon Mansion is being operated in conjunction with the Arizona Historical Society.

Picacho Peak State Park is in discussion with the Town of Eloy.

Tubac State Historic Park is being operated through an agreement with Santa Cruz County and the Tubac Historic Society.

Lyman Lake State Park will be open through Labor Day by agreement with Apache County.

Tombstone State Historic Park is being operated by the Town of Tombstone.

Fort Verde State Historic Park is operating under an agreement with the Town of Camp Verde.

Lost Dutchman State Park is being supported by the Friends of Lost Dutchman. It will be closed over the summer while they do some construction and reopen in the fall.

Hank Rogers- The water company at Lyman Lake is contributing as are SRP and the power plant. The towns of Eagar, Springerville, and St. John are considering what they can do.

Dan Shein- Once again if you refer to the Morrison Institute report on our website it states that the parks generate \$260m in revenue to the local communities and approximately \$20m in state tax revenue. The parks are an economic engine in the local communities.

Annie McVay- I would like to add that it is amazing what the local communities have done to keep our parks open, but I don't want to leave anyone with the impression that things are fine with State Parks just because the parks are being operated by someone for a year. Lost Dutchman is an amazing example of how the community came together to raise \$26k within a couple of months. But I don't think they will be able to continue to raise money if this emergency crisis does not end soon. The fact remains that "we" are only operating nine of "our" thirty state parks and that isn't okay. This is only a stop-gap measure while we are fighting for a bigger solution. When it hits the papers that we are still open, the people forget and think everything is fine and go on their way.

Hank Rogers- What are you doing as far as trying to get yourselves permanent funding?

Annie McVay- The Governor's Task Force is going to start meeting again to evaluate what happened with the license issue and get geared up for the fall. I believe we will revive the license plate issue. But right now State Parks is working on short term solutions to keep the agency running.

Dan Shein- California and Iowa are looking at initiatives to fund natural resource issues. You can go to their website and review what they are doing. They are looking at restructuring agencies with a natural resources base. There are other states nationwide like, New York and New Jersey, who are taking a big hit in their park systems because of this economy. We are all struggling to find a dedicated funding source that is reliable. Our partners cannot rely on us even when we have awarded funds to them.

Hank Rogers- I think it is critical that we inform our legislators who are up for reelection this fall that we want our state parks funded.

Bruce Weidenhamer- How close would the state parks system come to being self-sustaining as if it were treated as a private business using its gate fees and other income?

Dan Shein- That was the intention when we created the Enhancement Fund but the money was being put into the fund then the legislature was telling State Parks how we could use it. It was set up to use 50% of the money for operating and 50% for capital expenditures. But by having the legislature appropriate it we lose control.

Robert Baldwin- State Parks at one time initiated a strategy to try to earn \$11m in Enhancement Fund revenue. That would still be only about one third of the total operating budget for the agency.

Kent Taylor- If you read the Morrison Institute report it does a good job of describing the challenges to the state parks system. Obviously, there are some good money making parks. But there are also the natural areas and historic parks that cannot generate enough revenue to cover their operating costs.

Annie McVay- And State Parks has other programs

D3. Discuss the Federal Recreational Trails Program. The Committees will discuss the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Fund and provide guidance to State Parks Staff on implementation and expenditures.

Annie McVay- This program is a very small percentage of the entire federal transportation bill that is funded with federal gas tax revenue. About \$1.2m-\$1.6m comes to Arizona. The SAFETEA-LU legislation was extended for one year and the fate of the next legislation is not known. We have been using our non-motorized portion to fund the trail maintenance program. This was a good compliment to the Heritage Fund money that was used to develop new trails, trailheads, and support facilities. Now with the loss of the Heritage Fund we may want to consider expanding the use of these fund. When we try to give this money to agencies in grants for new projects, they tend to take a long time to get the projects completed. And when the money sits, it appears we don't really need it and don't have projects to spend it on. It also comes with all the federal compliances the cities and counties did not have to do for Heritage Fund money. When we use the money for the trail maintenance program it is used on existing trails which have a lower level of compliance.

If we went to a grant program it might appear that we are favoring federal agencies who are adept at doing the compliances. It could add a lot of time to completion of the

project as compliances are completed. Another benefit to the trail maintenance program is that we have the trail crews on state contract, so we pay them directly. We don't have to go through the process of establishing an agreement with each entity that gets the maintenance money.

Robert Baldwin- Please look at Attachment E in the bottom right hand corner. Those are the amounts currently available. For non-motorized projects we have \$1.28m to distribute. That is about the amount we have distributed in the previous trail maintenance program cycles. At \$50k per project that would fund about 26 projects. Not everyone requests that amount because they have to come up with match and sometimes getting enough non-federal portion of the match is difficult.

Fifty thousand dollars will pay for about 10 weeks of trail maintenance work. That's a lot of work depending on the condition of the trail. It pays for a lot of brushing and tread work, but doesn't go as far when you have to replace drainages and build rock support walls.

Mary McCullen- You have been talking about the trail maintenance program and using the money only for existing trails. Is there any consideration for using the funds for new trails?

Annie McVay- I'm sorry if that wasn't clear, but we are here to consider how to use the \$1.2m and it can be used for new trail grants, but that is not as easy as it sounds.

Robert Baldwin- We did open up the trail maintenance program to construct of new trail as reroutes or new links to connect existing trails. We limited the length of the new trail segments. And again, new trail on undisturbed ground requires a complete NEPA assessment.

Hank Rogers- We (interested users in Apache County) discovered a program through the forest service and applied for a \$50k grant to do NEPA studies to put a restroom on one of our OHV trails. We also got another grant for \$70k to do some trail work in an area that hadn't been touched in years. I'm not sure if the work had to be done on the forest, but those opportunities are out there. Check with your local forest supervisor's office and ask about RAC grants. I will get the information to Bob to share with you.

Mary McCullen- So the trail maintenance money can only be used on federal land?

Robert Baldwin- No, the RTP money can be used anywhere. Let's review the program info in ITEM B.3 on page 3 at the bottom. Mr. Baldwin went on to review the information printed in the item regarding status of the fund and money received for 2010 (see Attachment E) and how the fund is currently be divided up.

The purpose of this meeting is to get your input into how you want to see the funds used. Do you want to offer grants for new trail construction? Or should we just open up the trail maintenance program to all construction of larger segments of new trail? The consensus has been that we don't need new trails. There are plenty of trails out there and adding some connecting loops would make them more usable.

Kent Taylor- I think in the 2010 trails plan maintenance was one of the highest priority items for the second or third time in a row.

Jim Horton- It doesn't make sense to keep adding trails when we can't maintain the ones we have.

Nick Lund- Aren't the projects that received the Heritage Fund money and were cancelled, aren't they pretty much ready to go (like the Black Canyon Trail project)? Couldn't they receive these monies to continue work?

Mary Decindis- Could this pay for the development of the Central Arizona Project trail? Could we call this maintenance and use it to build trail?

Robert Baldwin- We do at this time have the program set up to build short segments of new trail. If you want to change that you can.

Mary Decindis- There is an easement that goes along the CAP that needs maintenance. Could this fund pay for that? This is ground on federal property.

Annie McVay- Is it available to the public? What kind of work would the crew be doing?

Tom Fitzgerald- Mostly drainage and weed clearing.

Mary Decindis- Ideally they would be putting down the decomposed granite on the path.

Tom Fitzgerald- And putting stabilizer on it.

Robert Baldwin- The trail crews are not equipped to do bulldozer work and haul in material.

Mary Decindis- I would urge the committee to go forward with our focus on maintenance. It is the most efficient way to get the money spent.

Tom Fitzgerald- I agree that maintenance is the best use of the money, but due to the lose of the Heritage Fund and the effect that has on local communities, maybe we allow funds to be used for trails that are established like the Black Canyon Trail. I think its important that we realize these projects could use this money whether it's new construction or maintenance.

Mary Decindis- So, the sponsor would have to prove they are capable of going through the (NEPA) process, providing the match, and completing the project.

Bruce Weidenhamer- You mentioned earlier that there is sometimes a problem in getting the match on the volunteer side. Can you talk a little bit about what kind of problems are causing this. Is it that there isn't a volunteer organization supporting this or they aren't getting the people to show up?

Robert Baldwin- Typically, a ranger district or BLM office will have local groups that do maintenance work on a regular basis. Or they may sponsor a Boy Scout group or American Hiking Society group to come in on special occasions. When they apply for the maintenance funds, they know how much they need in matching funds. Part of the match is their staff time, but they are required to have the non-federal component that the volunteers account for. If they are not getting the hours they need, they may go to the groups and ask them for some help. If they just don't get the group support they need or don't have an active volunteer coordinator, they may have problems getting the match.

Hank Rogers- Sometimes the federal agencies have such stringent requirements for training that it's more work than it's worth.

Robert Baldwin- Most of the federal entities have a person in charge of volunteers. They coordinate the work events and track the hours. For the trail maintenance program the volunteer work has to be done on the trails they have identified in their project area during the approved project period. They can't just count any work done anywhere in their district at any time. When the project sponsors apply I advise them to include enough trails in the project area so the volunteer can work on trails with good access that don't need major repair. Then let the paid crew can hike in and do the difficult work. They are aware of the need to accrue the volunteer work during the two-year cycle of the program.

Bruce Weidenhamer- It's a shame that the hundreds of volunteer hours that ASCOT accrues during the year can't be applied to some of these projects that are short of match.

Annie McVay- For these projects the match has to relate to the scope of work approved for the project.

Kent Taylor- So I gather we are talking about what to do with the non-motorized portion of the funds.

Annie McVay- Yes, we want to know if you want to continue the trail maintenance program as it is, do you want to open it up to the possibility of funding other projects.

Kent Taylor- I think Tom Fitzgerald had a good idea in making the funds available to the Heritage Fund projects that got cancelled by the Parks Board. We have enough to fund some of those projects and still put some trail maintenance money on the ground.

Robert Baldwin- Attachment A shows the projects that were cancelled with a balance available. Depending on how many of them want the money, that amount would be set aside from the \$1.28m and the rest would be available for trail maintenance.

Annie McVay- We need to make the RTP money available to any of the cancelled projects who want it.

Linda Slay- We could also say that a specific amount of the non-motorized money is available and then see who wants it and give it out based on the percentage of unexpended money each of the interested projects.

Jim Horton- Do you have any idea of the amount we are talking about for the cancelled projects?

Robert Baldwin- It looks like about \$400k. And about \$1.28 is available.

Bruce Weidenhamer- If there is something we (ASCOT/SRTAC) can do to reverse the "bad karma" thing that's gone on with these projects, that's what I'd like to do.

Robert Baldwin- Mary McMullen had a project that was cancelled, how would you feel about this action?

Mary McCullen- Our project was different in that it never got started. But, I think if we had invested a lot of volunteer hours and time we would feel very good about the chance to be funded again. We weren't able to get started because we lost our match money. The projects on the list (Attachment A) got started and got some work done.

Robert Baldwin- Remember, these projects were funded at 50% match. We reduced the match to 25% a couple of years ago but never awarded any projects at that match. Match for these federal funds is only 10%. But, that comes with meeting the NEPA requirements.

Tom Fitzgerald- So, not all of these projects may want to pursue the funds if they cannot do the NEPA studies.

Jim Horton- Do we know if some of them have continued with the work with other funding sources?

Tom Fitzgerald- I make a motion that we open up RTP fund to those projects that were originally awarded Heritage Fund money and were started and then cancelled by

the Parks Board in the amount that they had remaining and continue to use the remaining balance for trail maintenance projects.

Jim Horton- Second.

Kent Taylor- Mr. Baldwin can you make it clear which projects we are going to offer the money to.

Robert Baldwin- Looking at Attachment A, it is any of the projects which do not indicate they have been completed and show a balance available.

Anna Pfender- The ones that say cancelled by Parks Board action in the last column?

Robert Baldwin- Right.

Annie McVay- Tom's motions stated that the projects had to have been started.

Heather Wasgate- Again for clarification, it is only the projects included on pages 1-4 of this attachment (A). The amount we're talking about is about \$450k when you subtract the expended amount from the awarded amount.

Kent Taylor- Call for the vote. FOR: Unanimous OPPOSED: none.

Annie McVay- I think we monopolized the hour. Are there any issues with the motorized program that you want to discuss?

Robert Baldwin- From the motorized point of view, the projects listed in Attachment D were all funded with RTP money, so the legislature does not have an effect on them. This afternoon the Off-Highway Vehicle Advisory Group will discuss how to distribute the \$977k available for motorized projects.

Robert Baldwin- Back to the trail maintenance money. In the last cycle we offered \$50k for each project. Do you want to reduce that amount to make it go further?

Bob Biegel- How close did we come to using all the money in the last round of trail maintenance projects? Did they all get \$50k?

Robert Baldwin- Not everyone requested the full \$50k and of those that did, not all will spend it all. Also, we had some awarded projects that did not spend any of it.

Hank Rogers- Is \$50k a reasonable amount to offer?

Robert Baldwin- It represents about 8-10 weeks of work by our contracted trail crews. The money is hitting the ground. It seems the same people are applying each time. In the previous cycles we didn't have anyone who applied and did not receive funds. We do have a selection process in place when we get more applicants than we have money

for. We make an effort to distribute the funds around the state and where areas don't apply, their share is distributed to the other areas. So, the \$50k seems like a reasonable amount? (general acceptance).

Bruce Weidenhamer- If we do end up in a situation where we do have more applicants than funds, we might want to come up with some separation criteria like: amount of fund received in the past, severity of the problem, or amount of use. That might be a way to give priority to really bad situations or people who have never used the funds before.

4. Discuss the Recent Activities of ASCOT and OHVAG.

Pete Pfeifer- We are seeing an increase in funding from the required user "sticker". Some people are still reluctant to buy the sticker because they don't think the funds will be used for what they are intended. It is murky in my mind as to whether the funds are being swept. I think in the future the sticker revenue will do a lot of good.

Hank Rogers- Another thing that is important is that Game & Fish is moving forward with hiring their additional law enforcement people. They will be writing tickets if you don't have a sticker. We also have good laws in place to required ATV riders under 18 to wear a certified protective helmet and if you are riding double on a machine designed for one passenger, you will also get ticketed.

Peter Pfeifer- The fines are pretty hefty: cross-country travel \$450, riding double \$250, reckless use \$500.

Bruce Weidenhamer- Just for my personal information, how much of a split is there in your community as to "this is an ATV only trail and we don't want 4-wheel drives on it", and motorcycles don't want ATV's on their trails. Is there an internal split in your communities?

Bob Biegel- Cross usage between 4-wheel drives and ATV/motorcycles is not an issue if the trail is identified as 50" or less because in most places a jeep would not fit. ATV's and motorcycles share because there are not many single track (motorcycle only) trails. Both ATV's and motorcycles appreciate having the jeeps out there to haul them in when they crash or get hurt.

Nick Lund- I'd like to comment on a relatively new group that was formed in the Show Low area, the White Mountain Open Trails Association. I am very impressed with their folks. They are actively trying to get their neighbors to stay on the trails; not ride when it's wet, muddy. They did an amazing clean up which covered about 40 miles of trail. They completely filled three of the large walk-in dumpsters with mattresses, sofas, dead

animal carcasses, etc. They assign groups to cover specific sections of their trail and they go out regularly and pick up trash.

Bob Biegel- Is that considered trail maintenance when groups go out and clean up trash?

Robert Baldwin- Yes, that would be considered mitigation of environmental damage.

Kent Taylor- Thanks for the updates from our motorized friends. Does anyone from the ASCOT group have anything?

Linda Slay- We have been working on the north end of the Black Canyon Trail and we're less than a mile from the Prescott National Forest boundary. We've been using some heavy equipment and getting a lot accomplished. There are still a few gaps in the middle, but a lot is getting done.

Kent Taylor- Thanks to the committee for getting the workshop together for tomorrow. For those who don't know, it was on, then it was off, then it was on again at the last minute and these guys worked very hard to make it happen. We did something cool on the website this year. There are pictures from the ASCOT members of their favorite trails and a description of why that trail is significant to them.

E. CALL TO THE PUBLIC. No comments.

F. ADJOURNMENT - Motion to adjourn, second, unanimous at 12:13 pm.