



**UNITED FOUR WHEEL DRIVE ASSOCIATIONS INC.**  
AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION  
[www.ufwda.org](http://www.ufwda.org)

UFWDA e-News September 2008

The UFWDA mainstay publication, Voice, has developed rapidly into something that we can be proud of and has attracted the interest of an increasing number of advertisers. It's the readability that we now need to keep interesting and that's where you, the UFWDA members, come in.

UFWDA needs the stories of your four wheeling adventures, of efforts to ensure ongoing land access and trail projects etc. If you are quick, you may even be able to get your story and pictures in the next edition of Voice! Send it in for consideration. The absolute deadline for material is 25 September.

This edition has the theme of 4x4 Off Highway adventures

Send yours off now to [editor@ufwda.org](mailto:editor@ufwda.org)

UFWDA e-News too needs your help to keep it topical each month. There are hundreds of e-News recipients out there with a wealth of information about the 4x4 world. Help me to keep this e-News interesting. The monthly deadline for e-News items is the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month.

*Peter Vahry*  
*UFWDA international vice-president*

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## **UFWDA Legislative and Legal work**

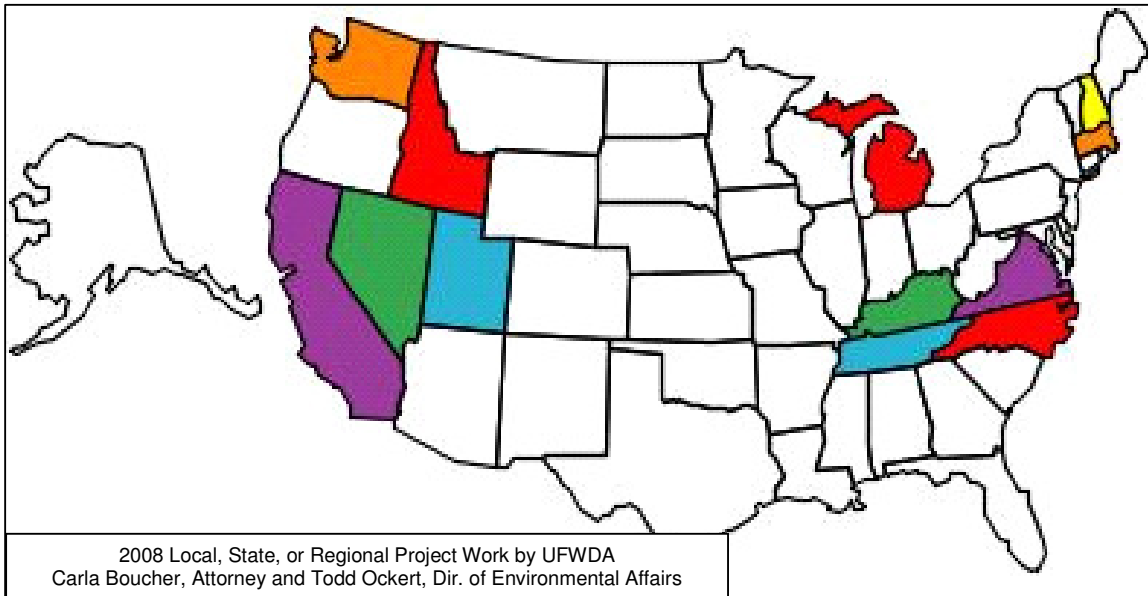
Since the last AGM in July of 2007, legislative and legal work has continued for member clubs, associations, and individuals toward protecting 4x4 access nationally. However, the focus and emphasis on the type of legal work has shifted from one that was predominantly administrative cases, to one that is predominantly court cases.

UFWDA continues to maintain active administrative cases where 4x4 enthusiasts are represented in the early stages of agency land management through final decisions. These administrative cases include transportation planning with the US Forest Service, resource management planning with the Bureau of Land Management, and ORV planning within units of the National Park Service.

Several significant national programs have been addressed, or are on-going matters.

UFWDA officially responded in 2006 to a notice by the US Forest Service that it was formulating a new policy and directives concerning its National Trail Classification System. The trails classification proposal eliminated 4x4 trail information from the classification and design paradigm. The concern with the omission of 4x4 trail design as a class, and the elimination of operation and maintenance considerations was exacerbated by the responses nationally to the US Forest Service transportation management planning (TMP) program. Through TMP projects, 4x4 enthusiasts as well as other motorized recreationists were suggesting that many OHV routes be converted in classification from roads to trails. In cases where the agency would convert roads to trails it would later find itself without operation and maintenance considerations and trail classification paradigms with no reference for caring for 4x4 trails. Thus the UFWDA involvement and high level attention to the proposed policy and directives for the National Trails Classification System.

This issue will continue to receive much attention by UFWDA as the process continues. UFWDA has accepted a by-invitation-only meeting in Montana in September when the US Forest Service will conduct a listening session of user groups who have participated to date on the classification proposal.



UFWDA continues its involvement in US Forest Service implementation of the TMP rule, known as route designation. All of the forests are expected to complete their Motor Vehicle Use Map publication or project completion over the next 20 months. UFWDA works cooperatively with a group of national recreation organizations in order to plan a unified response and to track implementation of the rule on the national level.

The Bureau of Land Management is expected to culminate their attention to ORV use through a route planning or rulemaking initiative sometime in latter 2008 or 2009. That agency will be the third of the three federal land management agencies to respond to ORV management, spurred by the threat of legal action from a conglomerate of anti-access special interest organizations. UFWDA will continue to work cooperatively within the BLM process as it matures over the next 12 months.

Several nationally significant issues have arisen at state or local project levels that UFWDA is involved with.

UFWDA is a named plaintiff in a law suit brought in connection with its partners Southern Four Wheel Drive Association and BlueRibbon Coalition against the United State Forest Service, Nantahala National Forest in North Carolina. This suit was filed in response to a closure order for the Upper Tellico ORV Area, a very popular four wheel drive area for the Eastern United States. The suit was filed by UFWDA, Southern, and BRC on May 22, 2008. Since the filing of the suit, the US Forest Service has issued a project scoping notice for long-term trail management of the area, with comments due from the public in July. UFWDA will join its partners in participating in the public comment period on the project notice and will continue to move forward with litigation.

UFWDA holds the national ORV stakeholder seat on the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational (CAHA) Area federal advisory committee for ORV rulemaking at the seashore. Rulemaking has begun for ORV management at CAHA, of which the committee will draft the preferred alternative under the National Environmental Policy Act implementation of the rulemaking. Activity by UFWDA on the committee is expected to continue throughout the life of the committee which extends until approximately 2010. This work entails extensive study and planning involvement for ORV management at the seashore. Monthly committee meetings will resume in September 2008 and continue through 2010.

*Carla Boucher*  
*UFWDA legislative attorney*

## ANFWDC NEWS



The Australian National Four Wheel Drive Council (ANFWDC) has been operating its Canning Stock Route (CSR) Permit Scheme now for the past 16 months.

[http://www.anfwdc.asn.au/article\\_Detail.cfm?ID=36](http://www.anfwdc.asn.au/article_Detail.cfm?ID=36)

We are very interested in the effects of the increased cost of fuels on permit sales. Our reports show that for the four months from May to August, we are down about 70 bookings against our first 12 months to the end of April 2008, when we had a total of just over 800 permits purchased. Admittedly, the annual rush is just about over, and bookings will be very light from now until next May, but it does not appear that Australian four wheel drivers are giving up on their recreational touring of the classic tracks across our country.

Drivers typically travel considerable distances just to arrive at the start of the Canning Stock Route and of course the amount of fuel that must be purchased for such an expedition, represents a major cost of the trip aside from repairs, servicing, food and the purchases we all seem to make along the way as memorabilia. A 4WD club starting from Sydney must travel just on 4,000 kilometres to Wiluna, the start of the Canning Stock Route, which is then 1,800 kilometres long without any side trips. Just about everyone does side trips, typically adding several hundreds of kilometres to see the notable features near the track. By the time our Sydney based club trip has reached the end of the CSR, we are faced with a return journey of another 4,400 km, giving a total trip length of 10,400 km or 6,500 miles.

Each driver would typically purchase around 1,800 litres of diesel fuel for the trip. Despite the headlines in our newspapers suggesting huge cutbacks in tourism as a result of fuel costs, our early sales of permits seems to indicate that we are a committed bunch of enthusiasts, who will be more valuable than ever to the many small communities from which we purchase our supplies as we do these long trips.

While on the subject of cost of motoring, a couple of unexpected outcomes of this fuel crisis have revealed differences between buying trends of Australians compared to Americans, specifically from USA. Both countries have had a long love of big cars and 4WDs or SUVs as they are called in the USA. Here in Australia, both GM & Ford have actually seen a slight increase in sales of big V8's and an horrendous drop in sales of the big 6 cylinder cars. The latest surveys of new car & SUV sales shows that many drivers dumping big 6's and have bought big diesel SUVs, typically from Mitsubishi, Nissan and Toyota. These are interesting differences to what we are hearing from the USA where Big SUVs are not selling and car buyers are downsizing across all sizes. Interesting trends to consider aren't they?

*Rob Kelly*  
*ANFWDC president*

## New contact telephone number for UFWDA

The new UFWDA administration number is (757) 410-5636

## Victory for Forest Health

Federal investigators recently concluded the Forest Service acted properly in felling hazardous trees in the Giant Sequoia National Monument, bringing to a quiet end a probe loudly sought by congressional Democrats based on complaints filed by Save America's Forests & local group Sequoia Forestkeepers.

The Giant Sequoia Trees are truly monumental, some having been around since before Christ. There is grave danger of them being incinerated due to many surrounding dead & dying trees caused by a hundred years of fire suppression combined with decades of lawsuits filed by anti groups to block active management. Fortunately the Forest Service decided to clear dead trees in a small area around some of the most special Giant Sequoias trees on the Trail of 100 Giants, but even after the project was done, with excellent results, the anti's complained. They claimed Giant Sequoia trees had been chopped down, but investigators found this as well as all their other allegations to be untrue.

Thousands of miles away a federal judge rejected an attempt by the New Hampshire Sierra Club, the Wilderness Society and the Center for Biological Diversity to halt two logging operations in White Mountain National Forest. It came down to wanting the judge to intervene while the anti groups succeeded in making the logging operations unprofitable through delay.

Meanwhile in Humboldt County the owner of the local logging company hiked in to deliver his message to tree sitters who protested logging there for decades. "Come down out of the sky." He told them "The war is over". After he explained the logging companies sustainable plan for renewable tree harvesting, tree sitters abandoned their perches in favor of a truce to allow logging of as much timber as the forest produces each year while leaving the old growth untouched.

Now that loggers & tree sitters have ended the war, perhaps through public pressure anti groups can be persuaded to drop their swords & stop filing lawsuits which are incinerating our forest & wildlife while costing taxpayers billions. Find out how we can promote better stewardship of the land at: <http://www.stewardsofthesequoia.org/SaveOurForests.html>  
The future of our forests are at stake.

*Chris Horgan  
Executive Director  
Stewards of the Sequoia  
Division of CTUC 501c3 non profit*

## BFGoodrich Tires Recognizes Quinn Lakes Trail as Part of the 2008 Outstanding Trails

Renfrew, Ontario. More than 50 off-road enthusiasts and members of the Ottawa Valley Offroaders club gathered on Saturday 23 to celebrate as BFGoodrich Tires named the Quinn Lakes Trail as one of its 2008 Outstanding Trails and awarded the club a grant. Located between Calabogie and Ompah Ontario, the Quinn Lakes Trail is a forest trail that gives the offroader several options depending on driver skill and experience.

The BFGoodrich grant will be used to preserve the trail system and continue conservation efforts for one of North America's premier areas for off-roading.

BFGoodrich Tires, working in conjunction with Tread Lightly!® and United Four Wheel Drive Associations (UFWDA), chose the Quinn Lakes Trail because it provides riding opportunities for many skill levels on varied terrain – rock, dirt, mud and hills.

"The Quinn Lakes Trail offers something for every skill level and combines challenging obstacles with unbelievable views," said Joe Mazur, light truck brand category manager for BFGoodrich Tires. "We're honored to team up with groups like the Ottawa Valley Offroaders to help in the conservation efforts and ensure this area will continue to stay in tact and safe for all future visitors."

The Ottawa Valley Offroaders club is a non-profit, organization and supports Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) recreation within the spirit of Tread Lightly. The club works in conjunction with other area clubs to assist in the maintenance and preservation of existing 4WD OHV opportunities and the creation of new opportunities where possible. "We are very pleased to have the Quinn Lakes Trail included in the 2008 Outstanding Trails program," said John Farley, president of the Ottawa Valley Offroaders club. "As Joe said, this system has a little bit of everything and the club enjoys helping to keep it open for all to use."

Launched in 2006, the BFGoodrich Tires Outstanding Trails program is dedicated to the responsible use, and preservation of, off-road trails while providing aid in the trails' conservation efforts. Over the past two years, the Outstanding Trails program has recognized 11 off-road trails in nine states and two in Canada. The program has also given \$42,000 in grants to clubs and seen more than 1,700 participants in trail events.

The following additional five trails have also been selected as part of the 2008 BFGoodrich Tires Outstanding Trails program:

- BlackCat Trail located on Superstition Mountain near San Diego, California
- Blacktail / Wild Bill National Recreation Trail located in northwest Montana
- Iron Range OHV Recreational Area in Gilbert, Minnesota
- Pritchett Canyon, one of the toughest trails in Moab, Utah
- Beasley Knob OHV trail located near Blairsville, Georgia

To learn more about these trails, visit the Outstanding Trails Web site at [www.bfgoodrichtires.com/outstandingtrails](http://www.bfgoodrichtires.com/outstandingtrails).



Both Tread Lightly! And UFWDA are non-profit organization dedicated to responsible and ethical outdoor recreation. BFGoodrich Tires collaborated with these two groups to select the finest off-road trails, and will continue to work with these organizations on restoration and education initiatives.

#### **United Four Wheel Drive Associations (UFWDA)**

United Four Wheel Drive Associations is the world's leading representative of all-brand four wheel-drive enthusiasts. UFWDA benefits, developed and tested true over the past 30 years, include four wheel drive safety and awareness education; user ethics programs such as adopt-a-road,

conservation volunteer, and volunteer trail patrol; assistance with new club formation; education seminars to aid four wheelers through complex state and federal programs affecting trail access; Internet forums designed to connect members globally and instantaneously; and unrestrained member access to its full-time legislative advocate and nationally-recognized attorney working exclusively for four wheel drive enthusiasts to protect access and prevent road and trail closures. For more information on the UFWDA log on to [www.ufwda.org](http://www.ufwda.org) or call toll free 1-800-44-UFWDA (800-448-3932).

### **Tread Lightly!**

Tread Lightly! is a national nonprofit organization whose mission is to proactively protect recreation access and opportunities. Tread Lightly!'s strategic educational message, along with its training and restoration initiatives are designed to instill an ethic of responsibility in outdoor enthusiasts and the industries that serve them. The program is long-term in scope with a goal to balance the needs of the people who enjoy outdoor recreation with the needs of the environment and it's leading the way to help remedy current and future recreation issues. Tread Lightly! is proud to be recognized by the USDA Forest Service and its partner actively engaged in collaborating to implement solutions to the problem associated with outdoor recreation.

### **BFGoodrich Tires**

Using motorsports as a proving ground for more than 30 years, BFGoodrich Tires is involved in every type of racing, including oval, sports car, drifting, drag, desert, dirt, rally and extreme rock-crawling. BFGoodrich Tires combines technological expertise with vast motorsports experience, delivering a high-performance tire for every type of vehicle. Visit BFGoodrich Tires online at [www.bfgoodrichtires.com](http://www.bfgoodrichtires.com)

## **Building a 4x4 world of information**



<http://offroadatlas.com/>

## **ARRA Washington newsletter**

[http://www.arra-access.com/arra/washingtonnewsletter\\_sep2008.html](http://www.arra-access.com/arra/washingtonnewsletter_sep2008.html)



## Experience Africa "September 2008"

<http://www.graphicmail.com/9324>

## John Stewart viewpoint

[http://www.4x4wire.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=291:collaboration-and-new-beginnings&catid=56:4x4-access-view&Itemid=86](http://www.4x4wire.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=291:collaboration-and-new-beginnings&catid=56:4x4-access-view&Itemid=86)

**ONE TANK OF FUEL**

Help UFWDA protect your 4x4 access!  
Donate the money equivalent of ONE TANK OF FUEL.  
FILL OUT THE FORM BELOW AND SEND IN YOUR CONTRIBUTION TODAY!

**ONE TANK OF FUEL CAMPAIGN**



Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Club/Organization Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Your Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Amount I would like to contribute:  
 \$25  \$50  \$100  \$500  \$1,000  other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Payment:  Check Enclosed (payable to UFWDA)  
 Visa  MasterCard  American Express  Discover Card

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

Please send contributions to United Four Wheel Drive Associations  
14525 SW Millikan Way #22622, Beaverton, OR 97005-2343  
or call 1-800-44UFWDA (448-3932 ) for credit card contributions.

 UFWDA - Getting you further  
down the trail than a tank of gas. 

## Competition influences modification

<http://jeep.off-road.com/jeep/article/articleDetail.jsp?id=546066>

Competitions like the 'Winch Challenges' such as those like the Outback Challenge in Australia are a breeding ground for innovation, just as almost every other competitive events are. The pressurised motors have been popular for a while in these contests and are one of the simpler improvements. A bit more complex, are local adaptations that allow two winch motors to drive a single drum as well as innovations to speed up hydraulic winches.

<http://www.outback4x4challenge.com/challenge.php>

**Three clubs joining forces for one common goal!**

Muddy Buddys Jeep Wrangler Club  
Fat Boys Jeepers & Miami Valley 4-Wheelers

**2nd Annual  
OFFROAD BENEFIT**

**WHEELIN' TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**  
**08 NOV 08**



**U.S. Marine Corps Reserve  
OPERATION:  
Haspin Acres**

**21208 Laurel Rd 765.698.2420  
Laurel, Indiana**

**TOYS FOR TOTS**

**Don't Miss Out!  
JOIN THE FUN!**

Our family friendly event is open to all 4x4's.

United States Marines will be on hand.

Event is from 9a to 5p.

Raffle drawing at 430p

Great Raffle Items!  
Additional tickets are available at the event tent.

Admission is \$10.00 plus a minimum \$10.00 new unopened toy.

**Come, help make a difference!**

Admission: \$10.00 and a minimum \$10.00 new unopened toy donation.

Park admission is good from 11-08-08 from 7AM until 11-09 at 9AM

The admission and donation will get you 1 free raffle ticket and 1 free dinner.

Food courtesy of Sara Lee's/Kahns and Kroger, Connersville, IN.

**All proceeds to benefit the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve  
Toys For Tots Chapters of Indiana & Ohio.**

For more information: please contact Muddy Buddys Jeep Wrangler Club,  
Secretary, Rob Forsha at 937.671.9978

Haspin Acres rules and hours apply for this event.

Muddy Buddy Jeep Wrangler Club, Fat Boys Jeepers, Miami Valley 4-Wheelers and Haspin Acres are not responsible for any accidents, injuries or thefts.

## Digital 4x4 magazine delivery

<http://www.zinio.com/home?ns=usa>

## Revised AAWDC Southern Africa website

At long, long last we have our new AAWDC website. In order for you to see the new site you may have to "hard refresh" your internet browser by pressing the keys "control and F5" together.

The website address is <http://www.aawdc.org.za>.

*Isla Blasa*  
AAWDCSA Administrator

## AAWDC SECRETARY TAKES CEMENT INTO LESOTHO

The AAWDC Secretary Nico Pienaar, took 23 vehicles into Lesotho on 8 – 10 August. The objective of this trip was to deliver cement, blankets, clothes, Bibles, food and stationery to a little place called Letsobeng. The mission was completed and 10 tons of cement and other goods were delivered on 9 August 2008.

From a 4 wheel drive vision, some lessons were learnt:

Never put fancy mag rims on a 4x4 and go into the bush. We lost a rim on one of the vehicles as a stone punctured the tyre and the fancy rim disintegrated.

When in convoy, stay in convoy. After unloading, we turned around. When we stopped to ensure that all the vehicles got up a very bad patch in the road, three vehicles decided to start running ahead. Not a major problem as this was the only road, if you can call it that. But then, around a corner down a very steep downhill, a vehicle coming the other way and pulling a trailer with 3 cows on, had got stuck and was busy working its way over a cliff. The convoy leader could not get to this vehicle to help, as these three vehicles were blocking the road. They then battled to get out of the way to let the other vehicles through, who could recover the poor bloke with the trailer and the cows on it. At least it was action, but also brought the point home that in front runs the leader, with a vehicle that can recover i.e. winches, ropes and experience.

Always re-fuel. Generally we, coming from big cities, think that fuel is available at all places. When the convoy leader says fill up, then fill up. We had some vehicles that were running low on fuel, although it had been made clear that fuel is scarce in Lesotho.

We had a great weekend, saw places that very few people have seen, did not see snow really, only patches, did not get cold and did not break our vehicles.

*Nico*

## The Land Cruiser Club Southern Africa contributes towards a sponsorship for a new field vehicle for the Desert Lion Project in Namibia.

The Land Cruiser Club Southern Africa (LCCSA), in collaboration with the WWF LIFE Program in Namibia, raised funds for the procurement of a new field vehicle for the Desert Lion Conservation Project (DLP) in Namibia.

The vehicle was delivered to Dr Philip Stander of the DLP in Walvis Bay, Namibia, on 28 June 2008. The previous field vehicle for the DLP was a 1983 Toyota Hilux acquired by Dr Philip Stander, who runs the DLP, in May 1983 when he served as a ranger in the Etosha National Park.

“Hagar”, as the Hilux was known, had a colourful history of working in a wide range of conservation projects in Namibia over the past 24 years. Having logged over 500,000 km of hard fieldwork, “Hagar” was fast approaching the end of its useful service life. The proposal to raise funds for a new DLP field vehicle was met with overwhelming support from LCCSA members.

Adolf Hüster of the LCCSA approached Dr Stander in January 2008 with a proposal to raise funds for the procurement of a new field vehicle. In early February 2008 the WWF LIFE Program in Namibia had also secured a grant of USD 35 000 towards a new field vehicle for the DLP. When the LCCSA learnt about this development, discussions with the WWF ensued to combine the two initiatives. By combining the two initiatives, sufficient funds could be accrued to not only procure a late model vehicle, but also to equip it with accessories and equipment that would greatly enhance its suitability for DLP fieldwork.

By early April 2008 the LCCSA members and other contributors had managed to raise the target amount. This is however not the end of this project. The LCCSA and DLP have forged a long-term relationship through this vehicle sponsorship. The Club will remain involved with Dr Stander’s project. The DLP has many other needs as well, which the Club will assess with a view to support in the long run. More information on the Desert Lion Conservation Project can be obtained at [www.desertlion.info](http://www.desertlion.info)

*The photograph below is of Hagar the HiLux, the now retired field vehicle.*



**The deadline for contributions to UFWDA e-News is the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month. Send materials to [e-news@ufwda.org](mailto:e-news@ufwda.org)**

**A revised deadline for UFWDA Voice is **25 September** [editor@ufwda.org](mailto:editor@ufwda.org)  
Get your stories and 4x4 activity reports in now!**

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