

SIERRA ACCESS COALITION NEWSLETTER

May 8, 2011

Status of Litigation

Sierra Access Coalition has been talking with attorneys to represent us in litigation against the Plumas NF's Travel Management Plan. We are narrowing down the list of attorneys and are currently discussing details with Stoel Rives in Truckee. They have agreed to give SAC a reduced rate since we are a non-profit organization. But litigation is still going to be very expensive, so this is the time to start a serious fundraising campaign for SAC's Legal Defense Fund.

SAC Legal Defense Fund

We are calling on each member of SAC to donate \$50 to our Legal Defense Fund. Thank you to those who have already donated. We understand times are hard so we appreciate any amount that you can donate. Or you can donate your time at the Snowmobile Grass Drags.

Donations can be made on SAC's website at <http://www.sierraaccess.com> using Paypal. Donations can also be mailed to SAC, PO Box 944, Quincy CA 95971. There are also cash donation cans in Quincy at Plumas Motor Supply, Dupont Power Tool, Sierra Cycle, and the Hot Spot. SAC is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization so all donations are tax deductible.

Fundraiser

Our big fundraising event will be the Snowmobile Grass Drags at the Plumas County Fairgrounds on July 23, 2011. Profits from the event will be donated to the SAC Legal Defense Fund. Thank you to Keith Barnett and Kenny Chance for organizing this event and pledging the funds to SAC. These guys are awesome! Please support the event and pass the word on. For more information on this event, see their website at <http://www.quincysledwars.com>.

SAC will run the beer booth at the event. If you are interested in volunteering your time at the beer booth, selling tickets at the gate, or helping at the SAC information booth please email us at sierraaccess@digitalpath.net. We need your commitment now so we can make plans to staff the beer booth. We need help making signs for the event that explain who SAC is and what we are doing. We will also need help the next morning cleaning up at the Fairgrounds.

SAC is also partnering with Plumas County Search & Rescue for a Poker Run on Mt Hough. Some of the funds from this event will be donated to SAC. As soon as a Special Use Permit is obtained from the Forest Service we will get the details for that event out to you.

Raffle Items Needed

As part of the Snowmobile Grass Drags event, SAC will be sponsoring a raffle. This is another way you can help us raise funds. We need donations of items for the raffle. Everyone has something to offer. Raffle items could be a truckload of firewood, a home baked pie, yard work, computer services, etc.be creative!

We need volunteers to go to the businesses in your community and ask them for donations for the raffle. We have donation cans set out around at businesses in Quincy. We also need donation cans set out in the other communities. If you are interested in getting donation cans out in your community, email SAC and we'll send you the paper that can be taped to a coffee can.

We also need volunteers to be in charge of the raffle. This would include help to coordinate and collect items for the raffle, print the tickets, and present the winners with their items at the Snowmobile Grass Drags event.

Forest Planning Rule Public Comment Period

The Forest Service Planning Rule is open to public comment until May 16, 2011.

To read the proposed rule and details regarding how to comment, see https://fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5270250.pdf
When you comment on the rule, please cc: sierraaccess@digitalpath.net

It is VERY important to comment on the rule by May 16, 2011. When the planning rule is finalized it will dictate how all decisions on the National Forests will be made in the future. This includes recreation, hunting, camping and all forest access issues. ***We cannot stress how important this is.*** Public comment will help shape the rules that will govern use of our forests in the future. It's not easy to read the Federal Register copy of the planning rule. If you are short of time, skip towards the end of the document. The beginning of the document is a discussion of the issues that have been brought up. The end of the document displays the resulting proposed rule. That's the important part. Please make comments on this rule.

Travel Management Subpart A and Subpart C

Travel Management Subpart A is the next step in the Travel Management process. The recent decision that was released in November 2010 was Subpart B, which involved all non-system roads in the forest. The next step is Subpart A, which involves the main transportation system roads. Many of these roads may be slated for closure in the future. We will send you more information on Subpart A when the study begins.

Subpart C involves use of Over Snow Vehicles. Alice Carlton, Plumas NF Supervisor, said there are currently no plans to implement Subpart C which would restrict snowmobile use. We will keep you informed if that changes.

Thank you for your support

Over the past 6 years that we have been working on the Plumas NF Travel Management Plan, your support has been overwhelming. SAC is a grass roots organization and we are now recognized across the state as one of the best groups working to preserve access to public lands.

Now is the time for our group to gather our strength to preserve access to public lands.

We need your donations for our Legal Defense Fund.

Thank you for your help.

