



# ATV Starting Line

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## February 2010 Events

**Feb 9th— Members Mtg**  
Ironhorse Restaurant—CDA  
Dinner 6pm  
Meeting 7pm to 8:15pm

**13th—ATV Ride**  
**Juniper Dunes**  
**Tri-Cities Washington**  
*See page 3 for details*

**Feb 27th—Sport Ride**  
**Liberty Lake ORV Park**  
*See page 3 for details*

## Eastern WA ATV's

Ride schedule is available on their website.  
<http://www.ewatv.org/>



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## Welcome to our newest Business/Member



Priest River, Idaho  
Cheryl Pumnea

## Welcome to new members

**Ken Young**  
**Joel & Candy Barker**  
**Richard Frank**  
**Rick Dickrell & Holly Lange**



## Hoodoo Mountain here we come...

Twenty eight members loaded up their ATV's / UTV's and headed out for a ride. Jan 30th, 2010 it was a great day to ride to the top of Hoodoo Mountain outside of Blanchard, Idaho.

While the snow was non existent when we started out, there was plenty the higher we climbed.

At times the word white-out came to mind as the snow was blinding, to the point one almost couldn't see the tracks they were

traveling in, along with the blowing snow at times it felt like winter had arrived. Yet the temperatures made for pleasant ride.

With the larger than expected number of riders Brian notified our newest business sponsor of our estimated arrival time from on top of Hoodoo Mountain. As we understand this allowed them the time to call for reinforcements in the kitchen. A plan that worked pretty well, as the food arrived in short order and seemed to please everyone that ordered. While there, they signed up as our newest club member/business sponsors.



With over 74 miles logged during the ride, we experienced some incredible country. The views were hampered by the fog and snow, but this didn't keep us from enjoying the ride.

While the economy has slowed for many, we did see a logging operation has been taking place along the ride. Thank you Feed Mill Beef 'N' Brew for your hospitality and for riding into the future with us as sponsors~ (Lots of pictures available on the [club website.](#))



## Idaho Legislative Task Force (JFAC) made their recommendation

*Supplied by Sandra Mitchell*

Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee 2010 Budget Hearing 2-1-2010

The first report was on the Recommendations of the Interim Committee on Alternative Funding for IDPR (gas tax) and ISP.

Senator Cameron, (R-District 26) who co-chaired the committee said about IDPR funding, and I paraphrase, 'I thought we could find a solution (alternative funding source) but what we found was that the funds belong where they are. I kept resisting but the more I listened the clearer it became—there is a direct connection between the gas tax and OHV use.' (If I am too far off, please forgive me Senator Cameron.) His co-chair, Representative Maxine Bell (R-District 26) agreed. Senator Cameron went on to explain that an RS was written that would postpone the decision on the gas tax until July of 2011.

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**Club President**

Spring must be around the corner! The days are slowly getting longer and sun is shining more. Hard to believe it's still February and no snow to speak of. I guess we should count our blessings as this will allow us more riding opportunities as spring approaches. If you missed the ride on the 30th don't fret as we'll be doing that one again soon. So keep an eye on the website and newsletter for spur of the moment rides added throughout this year. Speaking of that your future rides your leaders met and created the annual event list posted in brief on page 3 and on the website. There will be additional rides, events and maybe a surprise campout during the year so if you submitted a favorite riding spot and it didn't make it on the schedule there is still time to add more.

Don't forget seasonal closures are in affect, with some trails still being groomed in the higher elevations. This is making for a short snowmobile recreation season, and doesn't look like it will change much this year. If you're on a groomed trail you need the appropriate stickers available at the DMV.

So while we've enjoyed a mild winter, lets hope the snow pack in the mountains improves before the season is over or we'll need a rainy summer to keep Idaho green!

I'm happy to hear the JFAC committee presented the recommendation to postpone and return the gas tax as promised.



It would appear the Governor is allowing the ID Dept of Parks & Recreation to restructure it's operation and may not be merged amongst other agencies as previously discussed.

Tom has finished and submitted our grant for traffic counters. Lets keep our fingers crossed and hope we receive the grant requested

Thanks to our ride leaders—board members—officers—committee chairpersons & members for helping making our club what it is today!

Have great & safe February, *Frank*

### ...JFAC made their recommendation *(continued from page 1)*

The committee voted unanimously to send the RS to be printed. It will then be up to the speaker to decide if the bill is sent back to JFAC or to another committee such as Transportation. The bill is on its way!

The committee actually made three recommendations:

- Delay implementation
- Restore gas tax to IDPR
- Find another source of funding for ISP

There were a number of questions asked by the JFAC members including, "why not restore it this session" Senator Steve Bair, (R-District 28)? Senator Cameron (who is now a member of the Idaho Recreation Council and a proud owner of an ATV) explained that the resolution of this matter was tied to the Transportation Funding Committee and that report would not be available until 2011. Interestingly, all of the questions from the committee members indicated an understanding and a knowledge of the issue.

If you ever find yourself wondering why you stay in Idaho, just think of the Idaho Legislature. That is reason enough to stay here! What a fine group of folks, people who listen, care and are willing to admit when they are wrong but when they believe they are right, don't back down. This process has been most interesting and has given us the opportunity to make new friends. Folks like Representative Raul Labrador (R-District 25) who was the first member of the Interim committee who voted for the transportation funding bill to say, "I was wrong" and worked with us to correct the problem. Or, Senator Cameron, who truly believed there was another way but finally admitted the present system worked. For that matter all the members of the Interim committee, Senators, Cameron, Hammond (R-district 16), Lodge (R-District 24), Billyeu (D-District 40), Representatives Bell, Wills (R-District 33), Labrador, Ringo (D-District 17) all welcomed our information and appreciated the contacts from you. These people deserve our respect and our support. In the next few months, you see them, please say 'thank you' and remember this is an election year; we want them all back in 2011 so get involved and make that happen!

Now we'll monitor the progress of the bill and make sure we provide input when appropriate.

Thank you again for all you guys did. You are amazing and another reason why I live in Idaho!

*Sandra Mitchell*

