



Notes from the President

March ~ 2016

The mission of the ISATVA is to focus on six primary areas: Participation, Education, Land Management, Lobbying, Cooperation, and Advancement.

Dear ISATVA Chapter Representatives,

Welcome to March. In Southwest Idaho we are getting warmer weather and riders are taking to the hills! I hope everyone is getting some time outside. This is my March update on what is happening with ISATVA. Please enjoy!

HOUSE BILL 471. This bill can be found at this link – <http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/legislation/2016/H0471.htm>. We have sponsored this legislation to remove redundancies in the code regarding penalties for recreation violations, and to expand the ability to use the motorbike account funds for the purchase of recreational easements and special use licenses. This bill has passed the House. It is pending on the Senate floor and awaiting a vote. Passage is expected.



HOUSE BILL 553. This bill concerns OHV highway use. The bill can be found at this link – <http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/legislation/2016/H0553.htm>. Passage of this bill clarifies that we can travel on highways where the speed limited is 45 or less, within city limits and for 1 mile outside the city limits. It will also allow us to legally cross highways at intersections with public roads. We are awaiting a hearing in the House Transportation Committee. The legislature will be signing off early this year and I am concerned we may not have time to get this bill passed this year. If that happens, we will be back at it next year.

MEETING WITH REGIONAL FORESTERS. In February myself and several other recreation club leaders attended a meeting with the Regional Foresters. One forester oversees all the forests in North Idaho and the other the remainder of the state. We were advised that trail funding re-budgeting was taking place and the result will likely be less trail funding in the Northern Region (North Idaho) and increased funding in the Intermountain Region (South and East Idaho). Precise amounts could not be articulated. Recreation staff funding is expected to remain flat. In light of this we were exploring options and opportunities to ensure trail maintenance continues. Ideas tossed around included adopt-a-trail programs (allows clubs to assume responsibility), good neighbor authority (allowing the state and counties to assume responsibility), and dedicating resource income to localized recreational improvement (would require congressional authority). All of these items were merely discussion points for the time being.



2016 ANNUAL MEETING. Our 2016 Annual Meeting will be held August 19-21, 2016 in the Couer d'Alene area. We are actually thinking it will be based in Wallace – but stay tuned because we are still working on details.



CLUB VISIT. Do you want an ISATVA officer to visit a club meeting? Please just let me know, and when you prefer, and we will get something set up so that we can visit with your members on a face-to-face visit and let them know what ISATVA is doing.

RENEWAL TIME. Many of you have returned your renewals. Thank you. Only a handful are outstanding. The renewal form and instructions can be found at <http://www.idahostateatv.org/publications/ISATVA%20membership%20application%20v9.pdf>.

Thanks everyone, and take care !!

David P. Claiborne, President

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