

Recreation Working Group
April 4, 2022
Via Zoom

Participants: Lisa Bolton, Carol Harder, Deanna, Becki Ross, Cheryl Barlow, Stephen Williams, Heather Green, Dave Wessel, Wolf, Nick Mustoe, Keri Bieber, Brian Poturalski, Lena Allen, Paul Dawson, Regina Ortega-Leona, Gerrit Boeck, Victoria Allen, Linda Wadleigh, Tami Suchowiejko, Chris Newell, Matt Caldwell, Nathan Ragan, Ellen Parish, Paul Dawson, Ron Tiller

Deanna and Becki: We are keeping people updated on issues. OHV impacts continue.
Ellen: Can you get license plate off of video cameras? Deanna; no, people going too fast. Majority of users have rental cars. Not all rentals have company logos on vehicles.

Becki: I think we could have better cooperation from rental companies, particularly with their location capabilities.

Cheryl...

Gerrit: CCSO – gearing up for busy summer. Staffing will continue to be an issue but new compensation plan courtesy of the County should help with employee retention.

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Brian: We have started looking at OHV use across Sedona and broader area to figure out what we can collectively do for OHV management. We are also working with the City of Sedona re: Broken Arrow neighborhood discussion. We are working on obtaining a facilitator for a stakeholder group.

Intent with rental companies is to have flags that identify which rental company it is. Matt C hopes to have those in place by May. Rental companies go through an educational program prior to consumer rental. Unfortunately, there is a group that doesn't get it – law enforcement should deal with them.

Chat comment from Deanna:

Matt, it's hard to tell the color of the flag post, especially when they are speeding by. Any change they could have different flags? Vortex in Cottonwood has Arizona State flags on their vehicles and they are very easy to identify.

Lisa: We have been recently contacted by Rural Economic/Policy Forum. There will be a meeting in Winslow in early August. They want to have a session on the impacts of OHV use and long term camping on ranches and forest lands.

Lisa: AZ Trails conference scheduled this spring in Cottonwood.
NAzT Summit for Arizona Trails 2022 in Cottonwood 5/6-5/7
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/summit-for-arizona-trails-2022-tickets-302353566657>

Matt Caldwell: Be aware that long term dumpsters can result in anybody dumping anything anytime.
Dumpsters we have used in the past have not been lockable although that would be a good thing.

Ellen: What about cell phone usage opportunities? Matt C would be happy to support. If we are going to do data collection, what are we going to use the data for?

Keri: QR code might be good way to show where dumpsters are located. Could also use geo-fencing in particular areas.

Dave Wessel:

Linda Wadleigh on chat: The Mogollon Rim R.D. plans to continue volunteer OHV Ambassador Program this summer.

Victoria Allen on chat: *Ellen, can you mention the OHV ambassadors that state parks is running? I just heard about it last month, and several new faces on this month's call who may not be aware.* <https://azstateparks.com/ohv-ambassadors>

Ellen to Linda W: If we could get a dumpster funded, do you have a location for it and would your ambassadors be able to support education along with dumpsters?

Linda W: We support this effort and also have some questions – like how often will they dumped and how long will they stay there? Ellen: we are thinking of only 1-2 days. Linda: Last year the district did 3 weekends and were pleased with the amount of contacts.

Paul D: We support this approach and could be open to some of this out at Ashurst and possibly Pine Grove. We have had issue with getting them to place and remove dumpsters in a timely manner, even when scheduled.

Keri: Geofencing can be as big or small as we want. Want to be strategic about location (cell towers), and audiences (typical users, in state, out-of-state). Are working with Appreciate Arizona campaign through Arizona Department of Tourism...Cabelas, Bass Pro Shops, various outfitters.

Matt C: there are several mapping apps. We have worked with onX specifically in Sedona neighborhoods. Ellen: how do we know if it's successful? Matt: there is some concern about people being tracked that closely. Brian: can you do geo-fencing within a small area within a forest that is geo-fenced? Does this just pop up on my phone? Can pop up on All-Trails and similar apps? Is there a cost? Depends on size of area, number of people, there is a cost associated with using an app, or using a text message. Becki: I've never had an app pop up on my phone so what percentage of people does it reach? Keri: you probably have gotten message

but didn't realize it. David W: you would want to know how many people using this road...need to assess the amount of penetration are getting. Deanna: do you have to have the app to get the message? Answer: it depends.

Question: what size dumpster will we get and how will it be funded? Matt: We have had challenges with Waste Management. Am checking with other companies. Tread Lightly will be happy to fund.

Ellen: Locations: one with Mogollon Rim ambassadors, one at Ashurst,
Brian: suggest Mormon Lake Lodge site if possible because there is a significant amount of dispersed camping and Scott has been supportive of providing a dumpster at this location plus there is greater oversight.

Lisa:

Victoria Allen: FS not allowed to ask for donations. Could have a mechanism to leave their zip code and a place to receive donations. By bringing trash here, could avoid future fees.

Wolf: Our volunteers might be able to help but don't have the education. Ellen: we would have a lot of prepared materials from Tread Lightly etc.

Dave W: are there cell signals at Ashurst, Moqui campgrounds. Brian: Ashurst probably. Matt C. check with various providers: Verizon, ATT, etc.

Victoria: Have we considered barrels rather than dumpsters? This would avoid sofas, TVs etc.
Matt C: concern that this can get out of control quickly. They are hard to lift and dump. I prefer to have dumpster rather than barrels. The easier it is, the more repeatable it is. Victoria: important to tell people that this is a temporary dumping site.

Wolf: Backcountry Hunters and Anglers has a "Pack Out" competition in September which is a National competition. This could be a good opportunity.

Dave W: Need to look at 'who needs this most'.

Matt C: Finding balance between targeted area/group and how broad you could be is important. The more targeted you get, the more expense you have. Brian: going broad might be good because there has been a big surge in recreation in the past few years. Keri: suggest targeting the 'new to nature' people.

Ellen:

Ron Tiller (ADEQ) in chat:

I joined late and have not been active with this group. As an FYI, ADEQ, Oak Creek Watershed Council, City of Sedona, Sedona Chamber, and Leave No Trace are signing an agreement to work together on social media messaging regarding litter in the Oak Creek watershed. We will be wrestling with the same issues regarding geofencing, metrics, our target audience, ...

ADEQ will be working with ASU as well to conduct social surveys to measure the effectiveness of our messaging and geofencing.

Lisa: Can we tag team with ADEQ and Wolf on their messaging so that we can share similar messages. This would be a good topic for the next meeting.

Adjourned 12:30