
Trail Riders of Houston



Newsletter

August 2009



Charter #5424

“Dedicated to the Sport of Off-Road Motorcycling”

Volume 42

Issue 8

Editor: Lucas McElroy

August 2009

President's Report

By: Tommy Fabregas

Hello everyone from your Prez. Tommy,

First, I'd like to thank Danny McMillan and Mike Farris both for stepping up to chair Caney Creek. They're doing a great job getting it organized. This is a big event for our club and we need every TRH member to help with this race -- from arrowing the course to working on race day, there's a job for you. The race is just weeks away and We Need Help!

Along with Caney Creek, we have several great rides coming up:

- * Lumber Jack Family Enduro on Aug. 9 at SHNF - Robert Applegate, Chair
- * Caney Creek on Aug. 13 at SHNF - Danny McMillan, Mike Farris, Co-Chairs
- * Family Enduro on the East side on Sept. 27, SHNF - Mike Bartay, Chair
- * Terlingua on Oct 24 at Big Bend, Texas - Jack Jennings, Chair
- * Family Enduro on Nov. 22 at Kelley Pond - Mike Farris, Chair

Plus, Juliet is having a Skull Creek work day this weekend and welcomes all willing hands -- as you can see we are not lacking for things to do!

All of these events need help to make them a success. If you'd like to pitch in for course setup or on race day, please contact the event chairman or me at 713-818-6458, and I will see that the chairman gets your info.

Danny Erdeljac will be attending a meeting with Texas Parks and Wildlife to discuss some new opportunities for the OHV community in Houston. Any interested TRH member is welcome to join in

-- details are listed below. It's the same night as our monthly meeting, but may be worth the detour.

And last, Skull Creek has a new policy for new members. This will include 12-mo. 6-mo. and 3-mo. terms. We'll discuss the details at Monday's meeting, hopefully this new policy will clear up some of the confusion on membership timeframes.

Please remember to join us (or Danny Erdeljac) this Monday, Aug. 3. Everyone stay hydrated and be safe. See you at the races.

Happy Trails! Your Prez.,
Tommy Fabregas

2009 Family Enduro Series Schedule

<u>Round</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Chairman</u>
#1	March 29 th	Skull Creek	Tommy Fabregas
#2	May 17 th	Skull Creek	Mark Littlefield
#3	August 9 th	Sam Houston NF	Robert Applegate
#4	September 27 th	Sam Houston NF – East Side	Mike Bartay
#5	November 22 nd	Sam Houston NF – Kelly's Pond	Mike Farris

WE NEED YOUR INPUT!!!

If you would like to see the land adjacent to Rio Bravo MX Park become an Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Park, please attend this important meeting!

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is updating the 2005 Land and Water Resources Conservation Plan during a public input meeting. Join us **Monday, August 3rd** and help us spread the word about the positive, wholesome and family friendly sport of Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) recreation. This is our chance to make sure that OHV parks are a priority issue for Texas Parks and Wildlife.

The Rio Bravo MX Park family is proud of its diverse group of members and we'd like to encourage you to support the OHV community by participating in this public forum. Please dress neatly and show the community the quality of families involved in this sport.

Please join us Monday, August 3rd , 2009 from 6:30 – 8:00pm
Houston Garden Center
Hermann Park
1500 Hermann Drive
Houston, Tx 77004

For more information, see attached document (Printable Version PDF File) from Texas Parks and Wildlife (Section 2, Page 5 of 11).

The riders of Tejas should point out that Texas has more off-highway vehicles than any State other than California and very few venues located on public lands to legally ride on. When it's legal to manufacture, to own and to operate OHVs in Texas, but there are too few legal venues located on public lands, it creates resource protection problems for land owners & managers and it's not safe or fair for the riding public in Texas. The Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) has been given legal mandates from the Texas Legislature from Senate Bill (SB) 155 (in 2003) which closed the river beds of Texas to riding and when the Legislature created the Texas OHV Program at TPWD with SB1311 (in 2005). TPWD has been given these mandates from the Legislature but OHV recreation is not even included in the Department's Land and Water Resources and Recreation Plan.

Talking points:

1. TPWD was given mandates from the Texas Legislature to provide managed OHV recreational facilities in Texas under SB 155 (in 2003) and SB 1311 (in 2005). How is TPWD currently meeting those mandates?
2. Why is managed OHV recreation not included in the current TPWD's Land and Water Resources and Recreation Plan and will it be in the revised plan in the future?
3. Why does TPWD not provide OHV recreation venues to the riders of Texas in any of the existing State Parks?

4. Why does TPWD not provide OHV recreation venues to the riders of Texas by creating dedicated State OHV recreation areas as most of the other states do?
5. What is TPWD doing to provide legal and safer trail riding and camping facilities to the family groups of riders in Texas ?

Here's the schedule for the TPWD Land & Water plan public input meetings.

At the meeting please point out the current plan does not contain provisions for TPWD managing OHV recreation as a Department priority. Family oriented OHV recreation needs to be in the plan.

Land and Water Resources Conservation and Recreation Plan

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is currently in the process of updating the 2005 Land and Water Resources Conservation Plan. The goal of the Land and Water Plan is to guide the agency in conserving the state's natural and historic heritage and in providing public access to the outdoors. It serves as a tactical document that guides planning, operational and budget decisions. The revisions to the plan will reflect current conservation challenges and the changing landscape in Texas.

Texas Conservation and Recreation Forums (TxCRF) have been established in twelve planning regions around the state with a Department staff member serving as the official point of contact. The points of contact are coordinating suggested revisions to the Land and Water Resources Conservation Plan submitted by the respective forums. (See list and map below.)

The Department will be hosting a series of public meetings around the state beginning July 20, 2009 to present the proposed changes to the plan and to solicit public input (see list below, exact locations and times to be announced). The draft Land and Water Resources Conservation Plan will be posted on this site prior to the public meetings. In addition, the Department hopes to provide an opportunity for the public to participate in an online public comment process. Please revisit this site in July for more details.

Draft Outline: Land and Water Resources Conservation and Recreation Plan

- [Printable Version](#) (PDF 82.7 KB)
- [Online Public Comment](#)

Public Meetings

All meetings to be held 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Austin — Monday, July 20

TPWD Headquarters — Commission Meeting Room
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, Texas 78744

Mission — Monday, July 27

Bentsen Rio Grande Valley State Park — Conference Room
2800 S. Bentsen Palm Drive (FM 2062)
Mission, Texas 78572

Houston — Monday, August 3

Houston Garden Center
Hermann Park
1500 Hermann Drive
Houston, Texas 77004

San Antonio — Monday, August 10

***Please bring your parking ticket to the meeting for parking validation.**

Central Library Auditorium
600 Soledad
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Arlington — Monday, August 17

Arlington Convention Center
1200 Ballpark Way
Arlington, Texas 76011

Midland/Odessa — Monday, August 31

Sibley Nature Center
1307 E. Wadley
Midland, Texas 79705

Lufkin — Thursday, Sept. 3

Ellen Trout Zoo
402 Zoo Circle
Lufkin, Texas 75904

Amarillo — Tuesday, Sept. 8

Amarillo City Commission Chamber
509 S.E 7th Ave.
Amarillo, Texas 79105

El Paso — Monday, Sept. 14

TEA, Region 19 Education Service Center
6611 Boeing Drive
El Paso, Texas 79925

Tentative LWRCRP Update Schedule

- **Draft outline** — April 2009
- **Solicit outline comments** — April–May 2009
- **Finalize outline** — May 2009
- **Solicit text and measurable activities** — May–June 2009
- **Draft document** — June 2009
- **Solicit draft comments via:**
 - **Forum meetings** — April–September 2009
 - **Web site** — July–September 2009
- **Public meetings** — July–September 2009
 - **Austin, TPWD Headquarters** — Monday, July 20, 2009
 - **McAllen** — Monday, July 27, 2009
 - **Houston** — Monday, August 3, 2009
 - **San Antonio** — Monday, August 10, 2009
 - **Dallas Area** — Monday, August 17, 2009
 - **Midland/Odessa** — Monday, August 31, 2009
 - **Amarillo** — Tuesday, September 8, 2009
 - **El Paso** — Monday, September 14, 2009
- **Compile comments, edit/proof plan** — October 2009
- **Produce final LWRCRP document** — December 2009

Forums and Contacts

Forum	Team Leader	Location	
Forum 1	Billy Tarrant (Wildlife Division)	Alpine	billy.tarrant@sbcglobal.net
Alt 1	Mark Lockwood (State Parks Division)	Fort Davis	mark.lockwood@tpwd.state.tx.us
Forum 2	Kendal Keyes (State Parks Division)	Rockport	kendal.keyes@tpwd.state.tx.us
Forum 3	Russell Hooten (Wildlife Division)	Corpus Christi	russell.hooten@tpwd.state.tx.us
Forum 4	Doyle Mosier (Inland Fisheries Division)	San Marcos	doyle.mosier@tpwd.state.tx.us
Alt 4	Amy Hanna	Victoria	amy.hanna@tpwd.state.tx.us
Forum 5a	Vicki Sybert (Wildlife Division)	Lubbock	vicki.sybert@tpwd.state.tx.us
Forum 5b	Cindy Loeffler (Coastal Fisheries Division)	Austin	cindy.loeffler@tpwd.state.tx.us
Forum 6a	Nathan Rains (Wildlife Division)	Cleburne	nathanrains@sbcglobal.net
Forum 6b	Jamie Schubert (Coastal Fisheries Division)	Dickinson	william.schubert@tpwd.state.tx.us
Forum 7	Rebecca Hensley (Coastal Fisheries Division)	Dickinson	rebecca.hensley@tpwd.state.tx.us
Forum 8	Ricky Maxey (Wildlife Division)	Karnack	ricky.maxey@tpwd.state.tx.us

Forum 9 Aron Flanders (Wildlife
Division)
Forum 10 Laird Fowler (State Parks
Division)

Sulphur Springs
Lubbock

aron.flanders@tpwd.state.tx.us
laird.fowler@tpwd.state.tx.us

Planning Forums Map

[Download](#) ↓ (PDF 1.2 MB)



Editor's Corner

For this month's editor's corner, here's a couple of great motorcycle blooper videos.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bG05y2PJbfA>

<http://www.ebaumsworld.com/video/watch/80625591/>

July General Meeting Minutes

TRH Meeting July 6, 2009

Minutes of June meeting approved by members present.

Former member and longtime TRH supporter Sam Malinaggi is with us tonight. He is in Texas on vacation from Australia.

We also have two guests who are interested in the club visiting with us.

Robert Applegate will chair the next round in the Family Race Series. The Lumberjack Enduro will be at the Northwest Trailhead in the National Forest on July 19th. He will need help arrowing on the 12th and checkpoint and road crossing help on the day of the event.

Jeff Wilson is planning a Tag Team Hare Scramble at Skull Creek on August 16. He thinks each team should have an A, B, and C rider, and take turns on a 10 mile loop with a C rider split. Maybe offer a 1-day TRH membership to the public so there wouldn't be insurance issues. He said details are still being worked out.

Danny McMillan has volunteered to be co-chairman for Caney Creek, and Chris Gilbert has offered to help him. The event will be in the newer start control format.

Terlingua Dual Sport Ride is securely back in the hands of TRH...Chris Hardy and Steve Smith have cancelled their event and agreed to not infringe on our traditional ride. Our team will be going out again soon to work on the course and visit with the sheriff and others. Long time supporters Randy and Barbara Nimitz have volunteered to be in charge of day two.

We have received a thank you note from the National Forest Service for TRH participation in the National GO Day event at Double Lakes campground. Robert Applegate, Becky McElroy, Greg Draper, Luke McElroy, and Rena Townsend manned our booth and visited with Forest Service personnel and guests all day.

Our insurance is due for renewal at the end of July.

Juliette Peters is our newly elected Park Director and she wants to have a work day at Skull Creek the weekend before Jeff's Tag Team event. Please bring a lawn mower to use in the campground, along with your normal trail tools. Kirk offered to repair the club's mowers.

Danny Erdlejac said that Rio Bravo now has over 200 members. The pavilion is up, offering much needed shade. They will host a dealer challenge event this coming weekend. The first night race is set for August 29. Danny is offering a \$20 discount on membership fee to TRH members. He is still working on getting access to additional property.

Al Agreda has made and donated to the club an awesome, large banner for the Family Race Series. Thank you very much, Al!

Danny Mac said he will need some "wise" help for Caney Creek.

Vaughn is making a new version of our tri-fold brochure which has become out-dated. He has made up a flyer for Terlingua which includes a pocket full of take-away cards. These will be placed in

dealerships.

Shelli has white TRH shirts and caps for summer wear, and stickers and decals.

Greg says club membership is 77 Skull Creek and 88 regular members.

Luke has the newsletter under control.

Lee said the database is in good shape and needed modifications have been made to the website.

Ed has mileage 15 miles for the morning loop of the upcoming Family enduro beginning at the northwest trailhead.

Sam intends to return stakes he recently bought because they are too wide and too expensive. He'll find the kind we need from another source.

During a general discussion many good suggestions were offered for increasing club membership. We will try to implement as many as possible.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Rena Townsend.

Sam Houston National Forest

Be sure to call the Sam Houston National Forest service to check PMT trail closures before venturing that direction. The toll free number is (888-361-6908) or long distance (936-344-6205).

TRH Skull Creek

WARNING! WARNING! WARNING!

The sand piles on the south end of the campground are OFF LIMITS!!! This means that all kids, adults, and bikes must stay out of the sand pile area. This is not a request but a hard rule. Violators will be asked to leave the property and potentially lose their Skull Creek membership. The gravel company continues to complain that our children are continually putting themselves, TRH, and the gravel company at risk when people are in the sand pile. When leaving the campground to the west, please use extreme caution and situational awareness due to the gravel trucks and operations being conducted.

As always we ask that you ride with care and pay attention to the area that you are riding in. They are still working the sand dune areas and the terrain changes on a daily basis. If you invite guests to ride at Skull Creek please inform them of the dangers and stress that they obey all the Park Rules. **Please ride with care and have fun at Skull Creek!**

New TRH Skull Creek Motorcycle Riding Park Guest Pass Rules

The TRH Board of Directors has adopted a new set of Guest Pass rules for Skull Creek. The most significant change was to add a clause that limits an individual to the use of a maximum of 3 guest passes (total for the year) before he or she is asked to join the TRH as a Skull Creek member. It's each Skull Creek Member's responsibility to adhere to and/or enforce the Skull Creek rules. Please report violations to the Skull Creek Park Committee or post them on the website. See Below:

Web Site: <http://WWW.TRH-CYCLE.ORG>

Membership Rules for the TRH Skull Creek Cycle Park

TRH Skull Creek Cycle Park Guest Policy

Each year a member will be given four (4) guest passes which may be used until the beginning of the next year's membership renewal date on January 1st. A guest is defined as a person who rides a motorcycle at the TRH Skull Creek Cycle Park. A non-riding guest is considered a family visitor, like a parent, relative, or friend who comes to the park with you but does not get on a motorcycle. A non-riding guest does not require a guest pass but is required to sign a release form. All guests and visitors are subject to all the rules and regulations of the TRH Skull Creek Cycle Park and are the responsibility of their host/member. A guest or visitor must be accompanied by the host/member while they are at the TRH Skull Creek Cycle Park.

Guests will be allowed to ride at the TRH Skull Creek Cycle Park a total of three (3) times per year. After an individual uses a third Guest Pass, he or she will be asked to join the TRH Skull Creek Cycle Park. A guest may use the passes from more than one member but may only use an aggregate total of three (3) per year. After a third pass is used, a membership request will be sent to the individual and he or she must join the TRH Skull Creek Cycle Park if he or she wishes come back for subsequent visits to the Park. Violators/abusers of this rule will be asked by a TRH member to leave the property or be forcibly removed by the local authorities.

Guest requirements: All guests/visitors shall complete and sign a TRH Skull Creek Cycle Park release form. A \$10.00 fee per guest rider per visit and the appropriate guest pass release form shall be put in an envelope in the Guest Pass lock box in the TRH clubhouse at Skull Creek.

We want you to be able to ride with your friends but please do not abuse the Guest Pass privilege.

Members get top priority and we respect the fact that members pay the full membership fee each year and perform trail work and upkeep. Do not give a non-member, guest or visitor the gate combination.

We will allow a Skull Creek Cycle Park member to beg, buy or barter for another member's guest pass(es) if the other member does not plan to use it or them. This will allow some flexibility for members to invite guests (potential members) even if he has no passes left for the year.

For specific questions not answered in this policy, please contact the TRH Hot-line at 713-910-3131

The Following Dealerships Support TRH

(Some offer discounts to TRH members)

Columbus Cycle Shop
Charlie Marshall
1004 Mentz Road
Columbus, TX 78934
800-807-9910

Cycle Shack North
Carl Hope
830 S. Frazier
Conroe, TX 77301
281-353-1705

**Goe Kawasaki,
Harley-Davidson**
Mark Sherrill
1350 S. Hwy. 288B
Angleton, TX 77515
800-460-8274

Houston Motorcycle Exchange
Tommy Fabregas
1326 N. Durham
Houston, TX 77008

Honda of Houston
12655 West Rd.
Houston, TX 77041
713-467-2426
www.hondaofhouston.com

K's Yamaha-Suzuki-Polaris
17802 Highway 59N
281.446.7165

Northwest Honda
Ronnie Lunsford
10102 North Freeway
Houston, TX 77037
281-447-3476

Sportcycles of Houston
Wes Sealy
9111 FM 1960
Houston, TX 77070
281-894-7450

Wild West Honda
Frank Reaves
22515 Katy Freeway
Katy, TX 77450
281-392-8850
www.wildwesthonda.com

Pasadena Honda
2901 Spencer Highway
Pasadena, TX
713.941.5920

**Texas City Cycles –
Kawasaki**
1119 6th Street North
Texas City, TX 77590
409.948.4969

JM Racing
22820 I45 North, Unit 3K
Spring, TX 77373
281.353.7729

Houston Motorsports South
11941 SW FRWY
Stafford, TX 77477
281.530.8600

Gene's Polaris Country
12525 I-10 East @ Mont
Belvieu
800.544.0694
www.genespolaris.com

**Houston Yamaha
Motorsports North**
Bob Harvey
9550 W. FM 1960
Houston, TX 77070
281-890-2020

Texas Yamaha South
1660 FM 528
Webster, TX 77958
281-338-1636

“SWAP SHEET”

Several Used Bikes Street & Dirt: Call for details! Tommy Fabregas @ 713.818.6458	
2006 CRF450x - ASV levers (brake and clutch), Devol radiator guards, Hammerhead case saver and long shifter, JD Jet kit, Boyesen quickshot accelerator pump cover, CRF exhaust with forest approved Pro-billet spark arrester end cap (stock pipe/exhaust included), new brake pads, bike tender, spare parts (tire/air filters and misc. bearings). Asking \$4,400. Call Mitch Fane - 713.859.0600.	
Used Utility ATV wanted! If anyone has any good ones for sale, contact Lucas McElroy (832) 244-7088 pixelante083@gmail.com	

For any Newsletter or Swap Sheet changes, modifications or ideas please email them to the TRH website: www.trh-cycle.org attn: Luke McElroy
Any items you want to be included in the Newsletter should be emailed as an attachment in Word or OpenOffice document format to pixelante083@gmail.com

Looking for new property!!!

We are actively looking for a new club property similar to the Skull Creek lease. If you know of someone out there that would be interested in this type of deal, please let the board of directors know. We love the Skull Creek property lease and plan to stay as long as there are a few trails to ride but the club is looking to expand our horizons. The best thing that could happen is the opportunity to have two lease properties to choose from on any given weekend.

Need more Fun Days

We would like to be putting on more fun days for you! The problem is that we need you to volunteer to help us. I know we are all busy but some of us are heavily involved in the Family Enduro series and can't manufacture more time and \$\$\$\$ to put on additional events. We need you to help us with that. We'd like to hold some "fun" hare scrambles or novelty events at Skull Creek but we need you to help us. Wouldn't it be neat to have at least one event each month that you could go ride for fun? Talk to any of our BOD members and we will do our very best to accommodate any ideas that you might have. There are plenty of dates open for internal club events so let's do some! WE NEED YOU!

Call Before You Haul

As always the TRH hotline @ 713-910-3131 will provide you with the latest course conditions and weather situations before you drive to our events.

August 3rd, General Meeting!

Please come to the August 3rd General Meeting to get an update on TRH activities, get your monthly dose of dirt bike bench racing, discuss past and upcoming rescheduled TRH events and issues, and spend time with your off-road riding buddies.

Web Site: <http://WWW.TRH-CYCLE.ORG>