



# The Dirt Devils Digest

November 2012

A monthly publication of the Dirt Devils  
<http://www.dirtdevils.org/>

## President's Message

As the year draws to a close it is time to plan for next year. December is our run planning meeting. Please, bring your run wish list to the December meeting.

At the October meeting I passed out the Dirt Devil by-laws. At the November meeting we reviewed the by-laws and made a few changes, at the December meeting we will have our final reading and vote on the changes.

I am proud to report that KOPL (Kids on Public Lands) was a success, at the new location they had an indoor kitchen and seating. 90 kids attended 42 boys and 48 girls.

See you on the trail.

Jesse May

## Website news

If you want to unload Jeep parts send me a picture and a brief description and I will post.

Please provide new pictures of yourself along side your rig for the website.

Mike Ortega

[mike@topwebsiteplacement.com](mailto:mike@topwebsiteplacement.com)

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Mike Maneth has upgraded from his Bronco to a hot rod chair with wheels.

From Just Runs

## Truckhaven trails stay open

off highway vehicle group wins historic California environmental quality act lawsuit against state parks:

After nearly 18 months of hard-fought litigation, EcoLogic Partners, Inc. ("EcoLogic") has prevailed in its California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) lawsuit against the California Department of Parks and Recreation ("State Parks") over the closure of recreational vehicle routes in Truckhaven (also known as the "Freeman Property"). On October 16, 2012, Judge Jeffrey Jones of the Imperial County Superior Court issued his final Judgment in the action, finding that State Parks violated CEQA when it approved a "boundary signage and fencing" project without first analyzing whether and to what extent the project would have adverse impacts on natural and recreational resources. As a result of the Court's ruling, State Parks' decision to approve the boundary signage and fencing project has been set aside.

State Parks first approved the project on February 8, 2011, claiming that it was "categorically exempt" from CEQA because it only involved the installation of signs and fences. EcoLogic brought suit alleging that the project had the obvious, if not intended, effect of closing pre-existing recreational vehicle routes - a discretionary action for which no CEQA exemption exists. Both parties submitted extensive briefing to the Court, which held two hearings on the merits of the case. Ultimately, the Court ruled in EcoLogic's favor:

"As is acknowledged by respondent [State Parks], a major component of the project is the closure, or opening, of roads to vehicular travel . . . It is beyond argument that the determination of where roads are is a determination likely to have a significant effect on the environment.

"Respondent's implicit determination that designation of traversable roads and trails is categorically exempt from CEQA review is unsupported by any evidence in the record.

"For the foregoing reasons, the petition is GRANTED." Later this week, the Court is expected to execute the Writ of Mandate setting aside State Parks' decision to approve the boundary signage and fencing project. The practical effect of the Writ is to reopen those trails which were either closed or slated for closure as part of State Parks' decision from February 2011. As the prevailing party in the litigation, EcoLogic will now seek an order from the Court directing State Parks to pay EcoLogic's attorneys fees and costs. For additional information, please contact attorney David Hubbard at (760) 431-9501 or [dph@ecobalance.biz](mailto:dph@ecobalance.biz).

EcoLogic partners is; Off Road Business Association (ORBA), American Sand Association (ASA), and American Motorcyclists Association (AMA) District 37 Off Road. (Additional funding for the lawsuit was provided by; San Diego Off Road Coalition, Tierra Del Sol 4 Wheel Drive Club, and the California Association of 4 Wheel Drive Clubs.) The lawsuit is the first time in California an OHV group has successfully challenged a state trail or route closure.

## Run Reports

### Gold Mountain, Pioneer Town Adventure

Saturday October 27<sup>th</sup> Dirt Devil's hosted an exciting trail run in Big Bear and through the high desert. The trip entailed running Gold Mountain, then passing by Lucky Baldwin Mine, through Jacoby Canyon, and finally the long scenic drive on 2N02 passing Rose mine with some side trip adventures and finally ending at Pioneertown for some excellent eats. Since we were all having fun running the trails during the day we ran a little behind in the late afternoon and decided to skip Pontiac Sluice and save that for another time. This was definitely a day break to sunset run with a great time had by all.



**8:55** – Drivers Meeting to update everyone on the day's adventure and procedures. We had a GREAT turn out, 13 vehicles. Weather was beautiful, probably around 45 degrees at the Discovery Center in the morning, warming up quickly to a very pleasant 70 degrees. In attendance we had Ralph (Ford Bronco), Randy (Jeep LJ), Josh (Toyota FJ), Chuck (Jeep Grand Cherokee), Corey (Toyota Forerunner), Ron (Jeep TJ), Brian (Jeep TJ), Rick (Jeep TJ), Tim (Jeep Rubi), Gilbert (Jeep Cherokee), Don (Jeep TJ), Don (Jeep LJ), yes two Don's and Randy (Jeep TJ).



**9:01** – Head to start of Gold Mountain to air down and prep, we were all line up and ready to go in short order.

**11:45** – After successfully completing Gold Mountain without even a mishap we had a second meeting to discuss our plan of attack for the rest of the day. Four drivers and guests split off to run John Bull. I was expecting the trails to be simple graded roads, but it is more than that.



**14:15** – Arrival at Pioneertown. The legendary Pappy & Harriet's Palace has been delighting locals and travelers alike since 1982, with its mesquite barbecue, live music, dancing and friendly service.



Sitting outside and eating and enjoying lunch.



We were entertained by a local western reenactment troupe, what a treat.

There is also a long history here. In 1946, Pioneertown was founded by a group of Hollywood investors with dreams of creating a living movie set -- an 1870's frontier town with facades for filming and interiors open to the public. The frontier town is still in tack and several went over to experience the shopping, stores and even a live shoot-out on Main Street. We lost another vehicle here as he headed back early as well. So now we are down to 8 vehicles, ready to proceed.



When your belly pan and drive shaft get hung up on large rocks the only option is a winch.

**18:30** – We arrived at Hwy 38 and 2N01 and aired up and enjoyed the view of the full moon. On the way to our final destination we passed about \$1 million worth of Ford Raptors SVT. They were running a dirt rally from Vegas to Palm Springs and Back again. Really nice vehicles for rally racing, doubt they would survive well doing our trails.

**19:00** – All but one caravanned down to Redlands, the one returning to Big Bear. Once at the bottom we split up, three went straight home and the remaining gassed up prior to departing home.

Over all it was an excellent day with no major break downs and with careful spotting got everyone through without any issues. The distance made for a long day, but everyone is eager to run the east side again with visits and stops to more mines and time to explore, I'm sure it will be on the calendar for next year.

Trails routes driven:

- Discovery Center (Start)
- Gold Mountain
- Jacoby Canyon
- 3N03
- 2N02
- 2N70Y (with some fun obstacles)
- Pioneer town
- 2N61Y
  - o A Dirt Devil member had to self-extract, hint-hint Randy, when the lower A-arm and differential got hung up on some rocks, thinking cow-bell here.
- Pontiac sluice (Skipped this time)
- 2N01
- Hwy 38 (End)

General Travel Information (210 & 57 Fwys)

- Total time 15:05 hours
  - Moving 8:40 hours
  - Total round trip 220 miles
  - Average speed 25.3mph (including freeways)
- See you on the next run, Ralph Schorbach, Grant and Buster!

## Adopt A Trail

Nothing new to report.

## Run calendar 2012

### Regular Adopt A Trail meeting place

9am at Rock Road House  
32150 Hilltop Blvd Running Springs, CA 92382  
next to the 76 gas station

## November

22– 25<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving at Calico

## December

### 8<sup>th</sup> Cleghorn San Bernardino Forest

Trail leader: Johnny Cottontail Strege

Location: Cajon pass @ Cleghorn Rd.

Time: Depart 9am

Meet: McDonalds (buy the run leader an egg McMuffin) at the 15 fwy and the 138 (this is the only place to top off your gas tank)

Equipment: Minimum 31" tires, One Locker

Trail Description: This trail has a lot of rocks thus a lot of articulation. The difficult obstacles have bypasses.

Weather: Possible blizzard and/or white out conditions (wear mittens).



one of the difficult sections of Cleghorn

## February 2013

15 17<sup>th</sup> **CA4WDC Convention.** at the Marriott in Rancho Cordova (near Sacramento). Planning is in full swing with the return of a vehicle show, trade show, seminars, entertainment and more.

In addition, this year's Convention will include an election for the association president and treasurer

## April 2013

### Moab, Utah



Typical Moab Utah

April 6 to April 14 2013 is the week for the Dirt Devils Moab Utah run. We will travel to Moab on April 5 and 6, arriving at the Dead Horse State Park Kayenta camp ground on April 6. This will be my base camp for the whole week. Dead Horse State Park is right outside of Canyonlands and has RV hookups and water but no showers. For more information go to '[www.stateparks.utah.gov/parks/dead-horse](http://www.stateparks.utah.gov/parks/dead-horse)'. It would be great to have everyone at Dead Horse State park but other options are available in Moab.

Moab has several hotel/motels and campgrounds. Most of the town campgrounds offer full RV hookups and some provide showers for tent campers. For more information on Moab go to '[www.moab-utah.gov](http://www.moab-utah.gov)' for camping and hotel options.

The plans for the week will continue to firm up as we get closer to April 2013 but here's a draft calendar for the weeks events. White Rim Rd on April 8&9 is the only firm trail. The other days are open for discussion. If you know of other good trails, let me know. All trail runs other than White Rim road are open for discussion

Sunday April 7: Day runs (possible trails: Bartlett Overlook, Hidden Canyon Overlook, White Wash Sand Dunes)

Monday April 8: Back country run on White Rim Rd in Canyonlands National Park. We have back country permits for 9 vehicles. The group will back country camp off White Rim Rd at Murphy Hogback and Candlestick camp sites (no water.) The White Rim trail is mostly easy with a few moderate sections. The journey is over 100 miles with a few side trips to visit dramatic arches, rock formations and descend to the Colorado river.

Tuesday April 9: Complete the back country run on White Rim Rd. and return to Dead Horse State Park campground.

Wednesday April 10: Day Runs (possible trails: Hell's Revenge, Fins & Things) with a trip into down town Moab for supplies.

Thursday April 11: Day runs (possible trails: Bull Canyon, Metal Masher)

Friday April 12: Day runs (Possible trails: Elephant Hill, Lavender Canyon)

Saturday April 13 Break camp and head home

RSVP: Ray Kleinhuizen cell: 714-300-9656, Email: raykleinhuizen@yahoo.com  
Because the number of vehicles on White Rim Rd. is limited, please sign up early if you want to participate in that trail.



A view of the mighty Colorado



One of the White Rim Rd views

## Run template

Research and/or Pre-run the trail route.

Create and Post a Run Announcement

When emailing the run announcement: Please, use the words "Run Announcement" in the Subject line of the message, forward to the webmaster and newsletter editor to be copied and pasted.

1. Date/Time and Place for the Run
2. Description of Run
3. Difficulty Rating scale 1 to 5
4. Run Type: Base Camp, Day Run
5. Directions to Meeting Place.
6. EXACT Departure Time from Meeting Place
7. Required Equipment. Open dif? Lockers?
8. Is Special Equipment Required?
9. Is RSVP Required?
10. Are Permits Required? (Forest Adventure Pass etc.)
11. CB Channel start with channel 4, if to much traffic on channel 4 then switch to 5 and so on.
12. Camping Location/ Directions/ Details/ Facilities/ Fees. Access for motor homes? Very little ground clearance? Deep soft sand?
13. Expected Weather Conditions.
14. Contact Information (Run Leader Phone Number & email address)
15. Please, cover all the needed information in the Run Announcement rather than say "contact me for details".

### Start of the Run:

1. Hold brief driver's gathering before start of run. Include special instructions.
2. Assign vehicle order if there are vehicles with open diffs. Have vehicle with locked diff in front & behind. (If possible disperse vehicles with HAM radios near the front, middle and rear of the line.
3. Encourage drivers to learn the name of the person in front and behind his/her vehicle.
4. Assign "Sweep Vehicle" (Tail Gunner Vehicle)
5. Give 5 Minute Warning before start
6. Begin Run ON TIME or notify everyone of new time.
7. Announce Departure over CB channel 4
8. Start moving slowly
9. Stop at all turns to confirm vehicle behind sees turn
10. Stop occasionally to close up ranks
11. Announce comfort stops
12. Announce Lunch Stop and Length of Stop
13. After returning home forward to the webmaster and newsletter editor to be copied and pasted a Run Report and a few photos. In the subject line write "Run Report"

### Guests

Mike Maneth, Yoli Maneth (daughter) and Chris Wilson aka red.



Michelle & Paul Maxon putt around in a '97 Grand Cherokee with a 4"lift. October & November meetings.

### Novemember meeting



Romeo Rubalcava September & November meeting



Quinn Ford Michelle and Paul Maxon's son. November meeting

### New members



Tim DeBolt voted in as a new member at the November meeting.



Chris Goodman drives a '90 wrangler YJ with a few mods.

### CB radios

The Solder Joint is now located in Signal Hills go to [www.thesolderjoint.com](http://www.thesolderjoint.com) for directions.

Mark Kennedy operates [www.highdesertcb.com](http://www.highdesertcb.com) [mdkennedy1@verizon.net](mailto:mdkennedy1@verizon.net) / 760 949 9917

Ham radios are also very useful and have a much longer range.

## Club info

### Cowbells



Cowbell 3 Randy Huddelston October  
Gold Mtn, Pioneer Town run.

Cowbell 1 John Strege August 2012 adopt a trail

Cowbell 2 John Strege August 2012 adopt a trail

Cowbell 3 John Strege July 2012 earned while playing in the  
4x4 area in Hungary Valley

Josh Bleijenberg Miller Jeep Trail

Roger Mauer June

Bill Smith June (he says he wasn't even playing hard.)

Jesse Strege June got a tug from Mike Ortega

John Strege June broke down on the way to the trail.  
(Cowbell award?)

Randy Huddelston June 2012

Jeff Jernigan June 2012

Terry Pucket March 2012

Eddie Cesena March 2012

Randy Huddelston March 2012

New brown Jesse May

Old Blue Mike Maneth Calico February 2012



1 Old green cow bell.



2 old blue cow bell



3 new brown bell

**The cow bell rules are:** If you get stuck and are unable to move under your own power and need the help of a winch or you get strapped from one of your fellow jeepers then you have earned the privilege of hanging a cow bell from your front bumper. You must leave the cow bell on the front of your rig until another Dirt Devil gets stuck then, you can proudly hand it over.



Proudly displaying the Cow Bell.

## First aid kit tracking

### FA #1 (red, blue backpack)

Mike Ortega August no change  
Feb 2012  
for Adopt a trail runs  
Danny Ward Dec 2011  
Bill Smith

### FA #2 (Orange canvas bag)

John Strege October 2012  
Danny Ward August 2012  
Randy Huddelston June 2012  
John Strege Apr 2011  
Sheldon Neal Jan 2012  
John Strege Dec 2011

### FA #3 (Orange canvas bag)

Roger Mauer  
Danny Ward June 2012  
Ray Kleinhuizen Apr 2012 for Steel Pass run.  
Pete Johnson Feb 2012  
Jesse May Dec 2011

## Banner

John Strege has it.

## Accessories

Available at the regular meetings, see Emi Webber.

Dirt Devil Stickers: \$15.00.

Short sleeve shirts: \$14.00

Long sleeve shirts: \$18.00

Sweatshirts: \$30.00

Hats: \$20.00

## Adopt a Trail

The Dirt Devils Adopt A Trail is Dishpan Springs Trail  
(3N34)

Dishpan Springs Trail can be found in the San Bernardino National Forest near Lake Arrowhead. The Dishpan Springs Trail is one of the toughest and most popular trails in the SBNF.

### The Western entrance:

2N26Y is N34° 16.198 W117° 08.258.

**The T6 Bridge:** N34° 16.106 W117° 07.745.

**The Eastern entrance:** 3N16 is N34° 15.663 W117° 05.116.

## Newsletter advertising

\$25 for ¼ page ad, for 3 issues

\$50 for a ½ page ad, for 3 issues

\$100 for a full page ad, for 3 issues.

A full page ad also gets a Web Link.

## Club officers

President: Jesse May: [jemay.xj@gmail.com](mailto:jemay.xj@gmail.com)

Vice President: Danny Ward: [d4lward@sbcglobal.net](mailto:d4lward@sbcglobal.net)

Secretary: Cheryl May: [jemay.xj@gmail.com](mailto:jemay.xj@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Emi Webber: [emiwebber@hotmail.com](mailto:emiwebber@hotmail.com)

Web Master: Mike Ortega: [mike@topwebsiteplacement.com](mailto:mike@topwebsiteplacement.com)

Newsletter: Ron Webber: [webbermail@cox.net](mailto:webbermail@cox.net)

Hospitality: Emi Webber: [emiwebber@hotmail.com](mailto:emiwebber@hotmail.com)

Safety Committee: Randy Huddelston: [hudd1@pacbell.net](mailto:hudd1@pacbell.net)

Run Coordinator: **Needed**

## Meeting Place

First Tuesday of each month,

6:30pm for Dinner & 7:30pm for the meeting at

Keno's Restaurant

5750 E. La Palma Anaheim

just east of Imperial Hwy and north of the 91 Fwy.