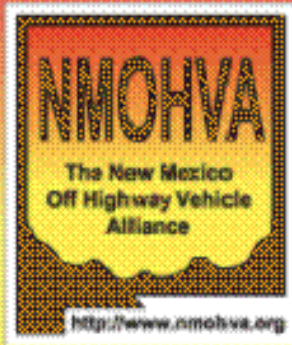


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# New Mexico Off Highway Vehicle Alliance



## *NMOHVA Member Newsletter*

March

2010

### Upcoming Events

Mar 5 - City of Gallup OHV  
Facility Programming Meeting  
Mar 27 - NMOHVA Annual  
Meeting  
Mar 31 - State OHV Program  
Advisory Board Meeting

See the [NMOHVA Calendar](#)  
for event details and  
contacts.

Do you have an event to share?  
Contact NMOHVA at [pres@nmohva.org](mailto:pres@nmohva.org)  
for a listing in the newsletter.

### Did You Miss Us?

It has been two months since the last NMOHVA newsletter but we hope you don't feel like NMOHVA was under-communicating. We purposely skipped the February newsletter as February 1<sup>st</sup> fell right in the blizzard of regular legislative updates that we sent during this year's session. And with legislators back in Santa Fe for the special session, there may be more updates to come.

This year is shaping up as a busy one as our membership will be faced with numerous Forest Service Travel Management documents, continued pressure from the anti-OHV crowd, the economic fallout, and other challenges. Where should NMOHVA be spending its calories? We want to hear from you!

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of the NMOHVA Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. The meeting really is a big deal as it offers one of the best chances for our membership to work directly with the Board in deciding where you want NMOHVA to spend it's energy in the coming year. It is also your opportunity to select the Board members that will to execute the plans we develop together.

We hope to see everyone on the 27<sup>th</sup>!

Mark  
President

## NMOHVA 'Rocks' at the Chile Challenge

For the 18<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, four wheel drive enthusiasts from across New Mexico and far beyond gathered for some early spring fun among the rocks and scenery of southern New Mexico. Considered one of the premier 4WD events in the nation, the Chile Challenge attracted around 250 vehicles for four days of trail riding, camaraderie, and fun. This year marked the first time that the event was held primarily within the boundaries of the new Prehistoric Trackways National Monument. The event obviously predates the Monument's creation last year but the event's future is threatened by potentially more restrictive management of the area. The legislation creating the Monument allows 'current uses', but that doesn't guarantee the event. The BLM can write the new management plan to ban OHV use entirely or refuse to issue the needed event permit each year. NMOHVA recently submitted Scoping comments on the management document for the new monument and is working with the Las Cruces Four Wheel Drive Club to ensure that this stellar event continues long into the future. NMOHVA takes an active role in the event by co-sponsoring the Friday night Ice Cream Social, raffle prizes, and manning an information booth at the event's popular vendor's show.



## Department of Game & Fish Reaches the Public with Its (Off) Road Show

David Chester is the OHV Program Manager at the New Mexico Department of Game & Fish. He is making good on his commitment to bring the OHV Program to the public. On February 12-14, David and program assistant Nicole Knight manned the Game & Fish booth at the Bob Gerding Outdoor Adventure Show. This national hunting and fishing show was staged at the fairgrounds in Albuquerque this year.

To attract parents and children, David arranged to have an ATV simulator in the booth. The booth was fitted out with the Adventure Trail posters from the National Off Highway Vehicle Conservation Council (NOHVCC) and a Tread Lightly banner. David and Nicole provided handouts on responsible riding and New Mexico safety regulations.



This past weekend (Feb 26-27) David went to Roswell for the annual expo at Champion Motorsports. The expo presented another opportunity for getting the message out to OHV users about the new OHV regulations. The OHV program was created in 2005 but there was little public outreach before Game & Fish took over the program in 2009 and David came on board. Most New Mexicans still don't know there are new OHV regulations. We're pleased to see these efforts from David and the Department. NMOHVA supports their work in making the state's OHV Program successful.

## Don't Miss NMOHVA's Annual Meeting!

NMOHVA's will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 27 at Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church from 9:00 am - 12:00 noon. The church is located at the corner of Moon and Academy (8600 Academy Road NE) directly south of the Albuquerque Academy. We will be meeting in the Adult Education Building (Room 407) on the south side of the church's campus.

The Annual Meeting is an excellent opportunity to work directly with NMOHVA's Board of Directors. We'll review the accomplishments of this past year, elect/re-elect members of the Board, and brainstorm NMOHVA's major programs for the coming year. A free pizza lunch will follow the morning's business meeting.

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