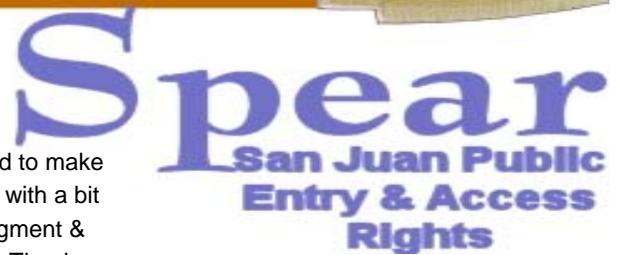


www.Spear4All.com



### SPEAR Volunteers Help to the County

SPEAR members have been volunteering their time to accompany the county trail cat operator, Leonard Jones, when he is out working on the trail system. The county has asked if we could furnish a volunteer to go out with the operator. This can accomplish two things. First is to insure the safety of the operator, and second is to furnish transportation to and from the trail cat.

Heavy flood damage on Piute Pass trail has been repaired, as well as damage on several other trails. Besides trail repair, the trail cat is also being used to build water bars to help control runoff, thus reducing some of the potential flood damage saving both time & expense.

Leonard is a fine operator and does a great job. It is very important that he does not exceed what the county determines as their legal limits. He is also faced with some

difficult decisions as to how good to make the trails. Most riders like a trail with a bit of a challenge. We trust his judgment & appreciate the fine job he does. Thanks Leonard.

If you would like to help out on this or any SPEAR project, contact Harold Frost at 587-2654 or Brent Johansen at 678-2810.

### San Juan Safari Sept 20-22

The San Juan ATV Safari is an incredible three-day adventure that will leave you breathless. ATV enthusiasts will experience three fantastic days of world-class riding with a banquet and entertainment at the close of the event. This annual ATV rendezvous will be something you will not want to miss.

For more information call 1-888-728-2885 or visit [www.sanjuansafari.com](http://www.sanjuansafari.com)

### BLM Expands Wilderness Proposal

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is currently in the middle of their new planning process, but has suddenly come up with a new desire to increase the number of areas they claim has wilderness characteristics.

Let's take a look at what they are adding. For example is Shay Mesa. Much of Shay Mesa was chained by BLM years ago. Although BLM has never followed through, they had planned to burn the chained areas. There is also a spring development that has a buried pipeline associated with it. There are many roads that San Juan County claim as part of their transportation system. There is a huge gravel deposit that may well be needed in the future. Shay Mesa is an important cattle grazing area. It is also popular with deer & elk hunters, as well as deer & elk shed hunters.

If this area is suited for wilderness as the BLM claims, then we had better beware! This would mean our entire country has wilderness potential.

This is not the only new area being proposed. According to the BLM, Upper Red Canyon also meets the wilderness suitability criteria. Although Red Canyon is pleasing to the eye, the imprint of mans work is substantially noticeable. Red Canyon is covered with new uranium mining claims. These claims are important to current and future generations.

There are many other areas the BLM is considering for wilderness. It is up to each one of us to find out what they are proposing and take action by writing the BLM.



Trail cat operator Leonard Jones making some much needed repair on one of our many trails. Some trails receiving work are: Piute Pass, Jacobs Chair, Stevens Canyon, Wagon Wheel, Camp Jackson, and Shay Ridge. Next on the list is Hole in the Rock trail to re-route the existing road in Lake Canyon. The county has applied for a right of way to alter this piece of road and has been approved by the BLM.



**SPEAR**

PO Box 353

Blanding, UT 84511



SPEAR members enjoy a couple of great rides at the July 4 Parade in Blanding and the Pioneer Day Parade in Monticello.

## Special Public SPEAR Meeting September 4

The public is invited to a special public meeting on Tuesday, September 4 at 7:00 pm at the CEU Arts & Conference Center in Blanding. Special guest speaker Evan Lowry will update us on some very important access rights issues.

Our regular meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm. Locations alternate between Blackhawk in Blanding and the Monticello Library. The October meeting will be in Monticello, November will be at Blackhawk, and so on.

Meeting times and locations are also posted on our web site, [www.SPEAR4All.com](http://www.SPEAR4All.com). Everyone is invited.

## Utah State Prison Inmates Involved in SPEAR Map Making Projects

Perhaps you have seen OHV maps put out and distributed by SPEAR. Maybe you even wonder where they come from. These maps are a result of a cooperative effort between SPEAR, Utah State University, and San Juan County. The process to create the final product is quite involved.

Using GPS mapping and GIS data created by SPEAR and San Juan County, a small team of state inmate map creators led by Utah State University Distance Education Facilitator Tyler M. Price creates a great variety of maps for public use.

Price says that this project has been going on for over three years. "We started out with outdated equipment and software, and no training for anyone. We have turned into a skills training, employment, and public service opportunity for the inmates."

Price also explained that through their education in business and other essential university classes, inmates have used the acquired skills to help develop regular improvements in quality of the

maps.

SPEAR has contributed photos of areas where trails run and the inmates have had the chance to see those areas that they help mark & map. The inmates have in turn contributed ideas & suggestions for continued map improvement.

In one case, a released inmate is in the process of setting up his own program in another area and is continuing his educational pursuits toward that direction.

Inmate education through Utah State University does help inmates develop marketable and employable skills which help them find employment upon release. This greatly reduces the chance of re-offending.

SPEAR is proud to be able to work with Mr. Price and this unique cooperative group involving federal, state, county, and educational entities to create access and public service opportunities in San Juan County.

## SPEAR Comments on Wild and Scenic Rivers

SPEAR has prepared and sent in comments regarding the Forest Service proposal to make Upper Dark Canyon (including Peavine Canyon, Chippean Rocks Canyon, Allen Canyon, Hammond Canyon, and lower Dark Canyon) Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Where are those rivers? Does the Forest Service have some sort of magic glasses that can see the rivers but no one else can?

It is doubtful that Congress had dry Allen

and Hammond Canyons in mind when they wrote the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. In fact, 156 actual rivers were listed as Wild and Scenic, and 135 actual rivers were listed for study. Snake river in Idaho, Rio Grande in Texas, the Colorado and Dolores Rivers were specifically listed. Hammond and Allen Canyons, as well as other dry wash bottoms, were never intended to be considered as rivers.

The Wild and Scenic River Act is yet another designation that will allow new restrictions on our public lands to please purists

like SUWA.

The fight never ends, and there is always something new out there to pit against us. This is just one of many reasons SPEAR must stay organized and strong.

If you have any comments regarding this Forest Service proposal please send them to: Catherine Kahlow, USFS WSR Team Leader, Attention WSR, PO Box 66, Kamas, UT 84036. Or email comments to [r4\\_utah\\_rivers@fs.fed.us](mailto:r4_utah_rivers@fs.fed.us). Any comment you make will greatly help our cause.

## Membership and Renewal Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

New Member ( ) Renewal ( ) Family \$20 ( ) Business \$40 ( ) Other donation ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: SPEAR, PO Box 353, Blanding, UT 84511