



## Trail Talk - March 16, 2013

*The purpose of the new Arizona State Park Trail Talk program is to get our motorized public connected to the various agencies and people who have a stake in OHV recreation while promoting riding opportunities funded by the Arizona State Parks Statewide OHV Fund.*

### **Trail Talk #3 - March 16, 2013 at 9:00am**



This month's Trail Talk is being held in conjunction with the State Historic Preservation Office / Arizona State Parks [Archeology Expo](#). Read more about it later in this newsletter. It is a great opportunity to learn about the area's cultural heritage. See some interesting ruins and artifacts, check out the informational booths, and get your kids involved in some of the fun activities!

The program starts at 9am at the Horseshoe Ranch, just east of I-17 on Bloody Basin Road. The road to the ranch is a maintained dirt road and will be passable to passenger cars as long as it is not raining. Last fuel up in north Phoenix or Cordes Junction, depending on where you are coming from.

An archeologist guided trail ride up to one of the many cultural sites will immediately follow the Trail Talk. This trip is appropriate for stock high clearance 4x4 vehicles, side by sides, atvs, and dirt bikes/dual sports.

#### **Recommended minimum equipment:**

Vehicle mounted recovery points, full size spare tire, tires appropriate for dirt road travel.

Plan on being on the trail or at the Expo for the whole day. Bring food, water, sunblock, and appropriate clothing.

Click the map to launch the online map



## Statewide OHV Program Update



*Jeff Prince is the Statewide OHV Program Coordinator at Arizona State Parks. He is a licensed landscape architect and native to Arizona. Jeff enjoys exploring the Arizona backcountry with his 4x4, motorcycle, mountain bike, kayak, and hiking boots. Some of his more interesting OHV adventures have included a East/West traverse of the border with Mexico and a North/South traverse starting on the Camino del Diablo and ending at the Grand Canyon.*

I'm proud to announce that the [Arizona State Parks OHV Program](#) is firing on all cylinders after a significant tune up since I was hired in October. I'm really enjoying all of the challenges and opportunities involved in running a statewide program here in my native Arizona. One of the most enjoyable aspects of this job is getting out in the community and meeting you, my fellow OHV enthusiasts, and hearing your concerns about OHV recreation and sharing what the OHV program is accomplishing to address those concerns.

Would you like your voice to be heard? If so, be sure to take advantage of the **Trail Talk** program described earlier in this newsletter. Folks who attended have shared some really great ideas and tell me they appreciate the opportunity to be involved in their government. They are not alone, check out [what NOHVCC said about Trail Talks in their newsletter this past month](#). NOHVCC is the National OHV Conservation Council, dedicated to responsible OHV recreation. Check them out at [nohvcc.org](http://nohvcc.org). Their site is filled with useful information on everything from starting an OHV Club to providing materials on how to build sustainable OHV trails and facilities.



*Trail Talk #2 in the Middle Gila Area*



*Dealer ride in the Middle Gila Area with the OHV Ambassadors, BLM, and AZ State Parks*

What was your Statewide OHV Program Coordinator doing in February?  
Here are the highlights:

- Traveled to Lake Havasu to attend a BLM public meeting, shaking hands with over 100 local OHV enthusiasts and agency people so they know who their guy is at Arizona State Parks.
- Toured the Middle Gila area with some of our local dealership staff so they know about places to send their customers and how the OHV Program is helping solve on the ground problems.

- Held Trail Talk #2 at the Middle Gila area, helped the [OHV Ambassadors](#) install a kiosk, and then had a great trail ride of Box Canyon with the group.
- Met with the [Arizona ATV Trail Riders](#) to talk about the OHV program and answer their questions. If you are looking for an ATV or Side x Side club to join, these folks are friendly and well organized!
- Attended our [OHV Advisory Group \(OHVAG\)](#) February meeting and offered staff assistance.
- Held the first OHVA Perks class on Introduction to GPS as a reward for our hardworking volunteers



*Kiosk installation with the amazing OHV Ambassador crew!*

February was short on days, but not on activities as you can see. I invested some of my limited personal time in a few non OHV things this month by doing some volunteer work with the Future Farmers of America and the Maricopa County Master Gardeners. Even busy guys like me manage to find some time to put back into the community in a variety of ways. If you are looking for ways to make a contribution, I hope you will consider joining our [OHV Ambassador Program](#). Being an OHV Ambassador shows the public that motorized recreationalists are responsible stewards of the lands we all enjoy.

Finally, I want to know what you would like featured in future OHV newsletters. What issues would you like more information on? Are you interested in learning more about launching an OHV club and partnering with an agency to get on the ground projects built? Has your organization accomplished something for OHV recreation that you would like to share with our community? I'm happy to discuss your involvement in a future newsletter!

Get out there and enjoy the low desert while you still can, summer is right around the corner! If you have some OHV news or events you would like to share or have featured in this newsletter, get in touch and we will make it happen.

Happy trails,  
 Jeff Prince  
[jprince@azstateparks.gov](mailto:jprince@azstateparks.gov)



*Pete Pfeifer has been an American Motorcycle Association member for 20 years. He is a dedicated member the Arizona State Parks Off-Highway Vehicle Advisory Group. Pete loves adventure riding and camping with his wife, Beth, and Scottish terrier.*

## **RideSmart - The Backcountry Tire Shop**



*Having the right skills keeps scenes like this from ruining your ride - Photo by Pete*

### **Be Prepared**

Since we live in the desert flats can be a common occurrence. Here are some tips to help with the process of getting back on the trail. First, carry a tube in a Ziploc bag with talcum powder inside, the powder will help the new tube slide into a tire. Carry a tube that will fit in either wheel. Carry the proper wrenches to get the axle out and at least two tire irons for slipping the tire on and off the rim. Lastly, look for a safe spot off the trail and in the shade to start the process.

### **Wheel Removal**

Raise the bike off the ground with a rock or stump that will support the bike's weight evenly. You will need to have access to the wheel you are working on without the bike falling. Please be careful when balancing the bike on rocks or stumps, you don't want a flat tire to become a medical emergency!

Loosen the nuts that secure the wheel to the front forks, slide the axle out, and then drop the wheel out of the forks. If you are working on the back wheel, loosen the nuts that secure the wheel to the swing arm, slide the chain off, and then slide the wheel out.

*If your bike lacks a proper center stand, one can be improvised  
photo © Allen Kelley*

## Tire and Inner Tube Removal



Decide where your work area will be and place a small rag down to keep dirt and rocks out of the hole the axle slides through. Loosen the rim lock on the tire, if there is one, and break the bead away from the rim. Then

place a tire iron or similar lever under a section of the



tire's rim. Slowly lift the lever up so the bead of the tire is visible. Place a second lever a few inches away and lift the bead over the rim. Work your way around the tire until it's off the rim. Lift the tire and remove the tube. Carefully inspect the inside of the tire with your fingertips for anything that could have punctured the tube and caused the flat. You want to make sure whatever punctured the tube is removed before installing the new tube.

*Pulling the tire off the wheel is made easier with the right tools  
photo © Allen Kelley*

## Inner Tube, Tire and Wheel Replacement

Inflate the inner tube with a small amount of air & push the valve stem through the hole in the wheel. It helps to drill this whole a little bigger and use tape around the stem to keep dirt out once it's inserted. Use a little water or carry a small can of WD-40



to lubricate the tire bead when putting it back on the rim. Lay the wheel down & slip a part of the tire bead under the rim. Use your knee to keep this part of the tire in the center of the rim while using tire irons to spoon on the rest of the tire. If you have disk brakes use a small screw driver to open the brake pads. Slip the chain on the sprocket, install the wheel on to the bike & pump the brakes. Inflate the tire to the recommended pressure & then lower the bike to the ground.

*Throwing down (rather than in) a towel*

*makes the job easier  
photo © Allen Kelley*

*Editor's Note: Big thanks to Pete for writing this helpful article! I also owe adventure rider and flat tire aficionado Allen Kelley for saving the day with his great photos! I hope you guys both enjoy some long distance, flat free riding! Speaking of which...check out [Pete's article](#) on riding the Camino Del Diablo. - JP*

**Featured Partnership - State Historic Preservation Office**



### **Arizona Archaeology Awareness and Heritage Month**

The month of March has been designated as Arizona Archaeology Awareness and Heritage Month (AAHAM) by proclamation of the Governor. For the entire month of March 2013, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)/Arizona State Parks (ASP) coordinates activities throughout the state for the annual celebration of AAHAM. Almost one hundred events have been scheduled for this year. Organized by location and subsequently by date and time, the AAHAM Listing of Events Brochure is an invaluable guide to exploring Arizona's past.

The Archaeology Expo is the centerpiece event of the AAHAM, drawing together museums, historical societies, tribes, agencies, parks, and archaeology organizations from across Arizona. One of the main goals of the month long celebration is to provide opportunities for the public to appreciate the collective past and understand the importance of protecting these fragile and non-renewable resources. Combining education with entertainment, the responsibility for the protection of cultural resources is emphasized. The Archaeology Expo provides a special opportunity for visitors to learn more about the importance of preserving archaeological sites and historic places, interesting facts about the history and prehistory of Arizona, and how the public can become stewards of the past.

The Expo is free and open to the public. It is located at the historic Horseshoe Ranch on the [Agua Fria National Monument](#), north of Phoenix, on Saturday, March 16, 2013, from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. Arizona Game & Fish Department and the Bureau of Land Management are co-hosting the event. Free prize raffles will occur throughout the day. For more detailed information, contact either Kris Dobschuetz, SHPO Archaeological Compliance Specialist at Arizona State Parks/SHPO (602-542-7141) or by e-mail at [kdobschuetz@azstateparks.gov](mailto:kdobschuetz@azstateparks.gov) or Ann Howard, Deputy SHPO, at Arizona State Parks/SHPO (602-542-7138), or by e-mail at [ahoward@azstateparks.gov](mailto:ahoward@azstateparks.gov).



## **The Importance of “Context” in Archaeological Sites**

Part of protecting and preserving archaeological sites and historic places involves understanding how archaeologists and other researchers study the past. Similar to private investigators gathering evidence, archaeologists piece together past activities by studying artifacts and features. Through analysis of the placement and association of nearby artifacts, archaeologists can make inferences about the types of activities that occurred in a given area.

Without the archaeological context (the location of the artifacts relative to each other, to archaeological features, and to the natural environment), critical components of the story are lost. As an example, let us examine a broken piece of black and white pottery. Information obtained from the isolated pottery piece suggests that it was part of a jar crafted by a prehistoric individual residing in western New Mexico in the late AD 900s. This information, while interesting, will take on a whole different meaning when the original context of the artifact is evaluated. Now, imagine the same pottery piece in the bottom of a trench excavated through a late prehistoric Hohokam village in the Phoenix Basin. In its context, the piece of pottery becomes evidence of contact, of trade or some type of interaction, with people living in western New Mexico. Taken out of this important context, the sherd is just a pretty black and white piece of broken pottery.

Since most archaeological sites and historic places are located in open air, natural processes such as wind and water erosion often cause disturbance in the archaeological record. Animals and plants also cause havoc on archaeological sites. Borrowing from the earth sciences, archaeologists have been able to tease out the differences between manmade placement of artifacts and natural processes that have moved and/or displaced artifacts. All disturbances to an archaeological site, whether natural or man-made, affect what can be learned from the site.

Therefore, when enjoying the great outdoors, it is important to stay on preapproved trails, as archaeological sites can be easily damaged by foot or vehicle traffic, artifact collection, trash dumping, and other activities associated with travel off of designated trails and roadways. It is also illegal to disturb archaeological sites on state and federal lands; this includes artifact collection.

### **Archaeological Site**

An archaeological site is the physical remains of past human activities that are at least 50 years old or older. Archaeological sites can vary greatly in age and physical manifestations and include anything from a few dozen pieces of pottery and chipped stone flakes, or isolated features such as a hearth, or more formal sites as represented by a multi-room two-story pueblo or a ranch dating to the historic period.

## **Upcoming Events**

March 14-17 [Desert Dual Sport Days](#) - Southern, AZ

May 17-19 [Overland Expo](#) - Flagstaff, AZ

October 13-17 [NOHVCC/INOHVAA Annual Conference](#) Orlando, FL

Would you like to promote your OHV event open to the public?  
Email [jprince@azstateparks.gov](mailto:jprince@azstateparks.gov) to make it happen!





Arizona State Parks  
[AZStateParks.com/OHV](http://AZStateParks.com/OHV)