

# Ravalli County Off Road User Association

January 2026



RCORUA <https://www.rcorua.org>

**This is the clubs email address:** rcoffroaduserassociation@gmail.com  
**Please use it for any correspondence!**

Check out our Facebook page: Ravalli Off Road (RCORUA)

Calendar of 2026 Upcoming events:

**Meetings are usually held at the BRR Groomer Shed, address is  
663 Grantsdale Road Hamilton.**

Please check your email, our web page or Facebook for updates on meeting dates & rides or call a board member!

## RAVALLI COUNTY OFF ROAD USER ASSOCIATION 2026

### BOARD MEMBERS:

**President:** Paige Boyer 406-369-3645

**Vice President:** Frank Valentino 406-396-1848

**Secretary:** Debbie Hyatt 406-360-9052

**Treasurer:** Marsha Waliser 406-360-1808

### **At Large Board Members:**

Mike Doll 406-381-3875

Walt Smith 406-369-0332

Nathan DeBoer 406-361-5970

Marsha Waliser—**Newsletter Editor** —mwaliser2292@gmail.com

# 2025 BUSINESS SPONSORS

<b>AL'S CYCLE</b> 619 HWY 93 North Hamilton Russ and Kim Englund www.alscycleyamaha.com	406-363-3433
<b>BITTERROOT ADVENTURES, INC.</b> 345 Rye Creek Road Darby, MT Brent, Mike and Dave Nelson	406-821-4844 406-821-3366
<b>BITTERROOT RIDGE RUNNERS</b> P.O. Box 265 Hamilton	
<b>BITTERROOT TRUCK OUTFITTERS, LLC.</b> P.O. Box 60 Hamilton D.J. & Tamara Lengyel www.bitterroottruckoutfitters.com	406-375-5074
<b>DJ'S ELECTRIC</b> P.O. Box 18 Hamilton D.J. Lengyel 406-961-1972 or 406- 363-1972 www.djselectric.com	
<b>DONALDSON BROTHER'S READY MIX, Inc.</b> 477 HWY 93 North Hamilton Charles Donaldson	406- 363-3600
<b>FIVE VALLEY HONDA &amp; YAMAHA</b> 5900 HWY 93 South Missoula Lloyd Eckley www.fivevalleyhondayamaha.com	406-251-5900
<b>HAMILTON INSURANCE</b> 518 South 1st Ste. A Hamilton Bryan Jones insurance@jonesKorman.com	406-363-6583
<b>HARPERS BITTERROOT VALLEY LES SCHWAB TIRES</b> 4026 HWY 93 North Stevensville Tracy Harper	406-777-4667

<b>JERRY WESSELS TIRE CENTER</b> P.O. Box 518 Hamilton Dennis Wessels	406-363-3884
<b>LONE PINE</b> 504 HWY. 93 South Hamilton Brian R. Hawkes	406-370-1612
<b>MONTANA POWER PRODUCTS</b> 759 HWY 93 Hamilton Calab Hill info@mtpowerproducts.com	406-375-9903
<b>MOTORCYCLE GARAGE</b> 283 Marcus Street Hamilton Cass Cooper	406-360-6520
<b>NILES ENTERPRISES</b> 7210 West Lapwai Lane Darby Kent Niles	406-239-3043
<b>REX OLSON TRUCKING</b> 126 Garnet Drive Stevensville, MT 59870 Rex Olson	406-642-3411
<b>RIVERSIDE CONOCO</b> 1987 North 1st Street Hamilton, MT	406-375-0536
<b>SNOW MOUNTAIN ELECTRIC, Inc.</b> 3039 Redjou Lane Stevensville Steve, Kathy & Kerry Roebke	406-777-0912
<b>THE EDGE RESTAURANT &amp; SPORTS BAR / HAMILTON WINE &amp; LIQUOR / QUICKSILVER CASINO</b> 140 Bitterroot Plaza Drive Tom & Tamara Fair	406-375-0007
<b>VERCRUYSEN EXCAVATING, Inc.</b> 300 6th Ave. Victor Norm and Betty Vercruyssen	406-363-8179

**Business Sponsorship runs from  
January 1st to December 31st!**

**Please support our Business Sponsors!**

**A BIG THANK YOU goes to all the sponsors, your continued support and involvement helps the association in its effort to keep the trails open.**

# 2025 Volunteer Time

January 1 - December 31, 2025	Activity	Total	In Kind Cost / Labor Cost	Mileage POV & Trail	Equipment Cost
	In Kind Purchases		\$11,088.07		
	Road & trail maintenance	62	\$2,156.98	819	
	Educational Activities	83.5	\$2,904.97	593	
	Admin Tasks, meetings	72.25	\$2,513.58	559	
	Mud Cr FWP Grant	236.5	\$8,227.84	2,612	\$145.00
	Yamaha Grant	79	\$2,748.41	1,196	\$120.00
<b>Total Value (hours, labor, equipment)</b>		<b>533.25</b>	<b>\$26,891.43</b>	<b>5,779.00</b>	<b>\$145.00</b>
	Standard Vehicle Miles 5533 at .70/mile			5,533.00	
	Equipment UTV, Side by Side, etc. miles at .68/mile			763.00	
<b>Volunteer Total for 2025</b>		<b>\$31,428.37</b>	<b>\$26,891.43</b>	<b>\$4,391.94</b>	<b>\$145.00</b>

We are anticipating a lot of trail clearing in 2026 due to the high winds and heavy moisture in late 2025. There are lots of trees down on trails, some trails have hundreds of trees stacked across the trails so we will need a lot of help clearing our existing trails. We are planning finishing the Warm Spring Ridge Project, working on the Mud Creek project, looking at Hart Bench and a few other areas for connector trails.

## Gary Mittelstadt January 26, 1955 to July 18, 2025

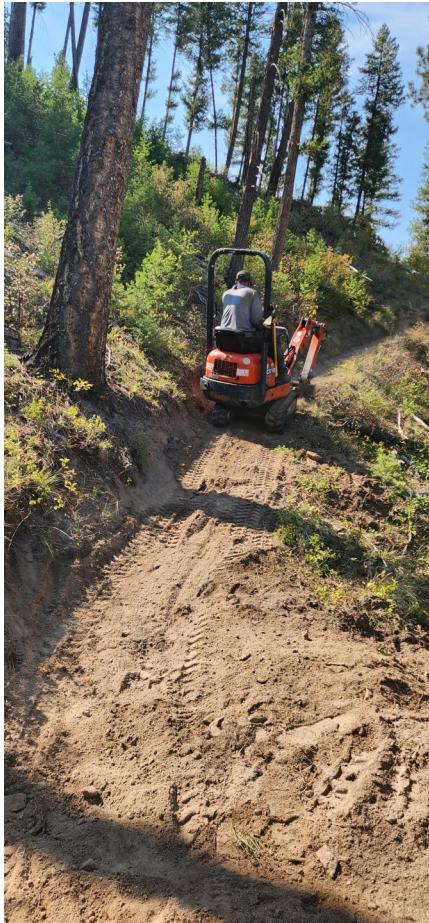


Gary Mittelstadt was a member of RCORUA and the Bitterroot Ridge Runners and a big part of helping out with trail work and the Groomer Shed Cleanups. He was gracious, kind, amiable and caring. He will be greatly missed.

There will be a celebration of life for him on June 3rd, 2026 in Victor. More details will be provided. Contact Maria Mittelstadt if you have questions at [garmamitt@hotmail.com](mailto:garmamitt@hotmail.com)

# Warm Springs Ridge Project– Yamaha Grant –

## To be completed in 2026



Yamaha Outdoor Access Initiative funded a grant for maintenance for the Warm Springs Ridge Trail #177. The trail is currently used by motorcycles, horses, bicycles and hikers. There is significant degradation to the trail in some locations. These areas are being brought back to Forest Service trail standards, and the trail will be cleared in general. The contract was awarded to Full Moon Trails, and they began work in September. Currently the work has progressed about 6 miles into the trail near the junction with Fire Creek trail. Thank you to the Bitterroot Backcountry Cyclists for their assistance during implementation. Weather has halted work for the winter, but we will begin again in 2026 as soon as conditions allow. We will also be installing map boards of the area at the trailheads and tail signage on the route.



**Mail to Ravalli County Off-Road User Association, P.O. Box 72, Hamilton, MT 59840****Name (s) (please list all family names) or Business / Sponsor Name and Web site (optional):**

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**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip code:** \_\_\_\_\_**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell Phone (s):** \_\_\_\_\_**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Off-Road Users in the family: \_\_\_\_\_ Referred by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Check Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cash:** \_\_\_\_\_

Single (\$10.00) \_\_\_\_\_ Single Lifetime \$150.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Family (\$20.00) \_\_\_\_\_ Business Sponsor (\$100.00) \_\_\_\_\_

Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**All memberships/ sponsors run from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> yearly.**

If you want to be contacted when someone from the club is going for a ride, let us know how you'd like to be contacted. We will not give out any of your contact information without your permission. **Please let us know:** If you would like a list of other riders to contact when you go ride.

**Just a friendly reminder that 2026 dues are now due,** use the above form to mail in your dues, please make sure it is readable (if you don't get notifications or emails it may be due to misspelled addresses or email). We send out emails on an as needed basis using a blind carbon copy so your email address is not visible to others. If you want on the list that we started for sharable ride information please note it on the above renewal application!

**We have PDF's of the following trails: (on the Website: [www.rcorua.org](http://www.rcorua.org))**

Overwhich, Mud Creek and Coal Creek (West Fork Ranger District)

Meadow Vapor/ Lick Reynolds and TeePee (East Fork Ranger District) and Darby Trails and Phase 2 of Darby Trails (Darby Ranger District)

Darby Trails is also available as a tri-fold handout.

**Please contact [rcoffroaduserassociation@gmail.com](mailto:rcoffroaduserassociation@gmail.com) if you have any questions.**

# Year in review from our President

The Ravalli County Off Road User Association (ROR – Ravalli Off Road) ended 2025 with a successful year of accomplishments in trail work, planning, membership advertising/sponsor appreciation and grant implementation.

Trail Work – all the regular trails were cleared on the Bitterroot National Forest (BNF). The BNF experienced a cut in funding and personnel this fiscal year and it affected their ability to complete necessary recreation related work. We are maintaining a list of trails that need more work than just clearing to keep them in usable shape.

Planning – We are in discussion with the BNF about trail work in the Hart Bench area and several other projects, including gate maintenance at several locations. ROR will be providing a letter to the BNF requesting that trails be increased to 66" access anywhere they can be, to accommodate the larger machines available today. We received a Cost Share Agreement from the BNF again in 2025.

We are also supporting the actions taken by the Montana legislature with respect to releasing Wilderness Study Areas in Montana. See SJ14 for the bill language. It “Died in Process” on May 23, 2025, due to missing the “deadline for revenue bill transmittal”. We will provide a letter in support again in early 2026 and track bill activity.

Group rides – We organized group rides throughout the summer. Each of them went well, and we'll provide similar opportunities to get out together in 2026. We do have mixed OHV rigs, so we are mindful of providing alternatives for everyone.

We will continue to work with the BNF to develop a recreational map tool that will assist riders in discovering existing road/trail loops available in the Bitterroot Valley. The 2025 Volunteer Report is included. Thanks to all the existing members for volunteering their time, resources, and energy to the OHV effort. We know there are OHV users who do not belong to ROR that are supporting trail clearing. We encourage them to join and report those activities (monthly fees are very low). It is a joint effort of all users that will keep trails open on the Forest.

We elected Board members for 2026 as follows: Paige Boyer, President; Frank Valentino, Vice President; Debbie Hyatt, Secretary; Marsha Waliser, Treasurer; and at large Nathan DeBoer, Walt Smith and Mike Doll.

Please contact me if you have any questions or suggestions as we move forward into 2026. Our email is [rcoffroaduserassociation@gmail.com](mailto:rcoffroaduserassociation@gmail.com). If you would like a call, please leave your phone number on the website, [www.rcorua.org](http://www.rcorua.org) on a contact form and note what you would like to discuss (we receive some spam on there and are cautious about returning communication if it looks suspicious). Check out the website if you haven't already. Please provide suggestions if you would like to see anything on it. We have 83 memberships in ROR. The Facebook page and the website both receive traffic and are current. Please continue to support us with your membership. Mail in your renewal with the form in the Newsletter and encourage others to join us. We'd love to see you at the next meeting in Spring of 2026. Your commitment is critical in keeping ROR active and promoting/providing OHV access in the Bitterroot Valley.

Paige Boyer, President, Ravalli Off Road

# Mud Creek Project—Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks, Trail Stewardship Program

The Fish, Wildlife & Parks grant (Trail Stewardship) for Mud Creek included working on clearing a new trail with assistance from Trapper Creek Job Corps, installing 11 map boards with help from BNF personnel and equipment, and enjoying a group ride on available trails. The Mud Creek Project litigation has ended with favorable Findings and Recommendations from Judge Kathleen L. DeSoto in September. The work completed this year closes out the current grant funding, and we can apply for new funding to do the connectors and other work next year. We will print the maps this year and install them on the boards first thing in 2026. All the help provided by members is greatly appreciated! The existing open trails include both 50" and 64" designations. See the maps to locate them when you're out there or view on our website. We will provide smaller handout type maps at FS offices and local businesses. We will work on providing QR codes for use in Avenza and GPS compatibility. We will also upload the trails to OnX Offroad.



## Helmet Fund - Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks

Ravalli Off Road maintains a helmet fund. This fund was established to help provide protection for OHV riders who cannot afford a legal helmet. We see all types of protection being used out there on the trail, and some of it wouldn't protect the rider in an accident. We ask that you provide some of the cost if possible. We work in concert with our local businesses, Al's Cycle, Montana Power Products and The Motorcycle Garage to get you a helmet that is fitted properly. Please get in touch with us or one of these businesses if you need assistance. Funding is provided from our regular funds and Montana FWP.



PO Box 72  
Hamilton, MT  
59840

Our mission is to bring together on and off highway enthusiasts to enjoy, promote and protect responsible Off Highway Vehicle Use and other recreational activities.

From our May 31st ride up Skalkaho



**Don's Memorial Ride**  
**6/28/25**  
**East Fork—**  
**Andy and Kelly.**



We can list OHV's and OHV related parts FOR SALE on our web page and Facebook page. If you have something For Sale you can email the information to the clubs email: [rcoffroaduserassociation@gmail.com](mailto:rcoffroaduserassociation@gmail.com) or a message to the clubs Facebook messenger Ravalli Off Road (RCORUA). Due to spam on both sites we are cautious if the post looks suspicious.

#### **List of District Rangers for the Bitterroot National Forest:**

**Supervisor:** Matt Anderson 406-363-7100 (front desk)

**West Fork:** Dan Pliley 406-821-3269

**Darby / Sula:** Steve Brown 406-821-3913

**Stevensville:** Seth Romocki 406-777-5461

**OHV Ranger:** Monte Monroe 406-821-4250

**Trails Specialist:** Mark Smith 406-821-1218

**Recreation Program Manager:** Joni Lubke 406-363-7607 (front desk)

**Law Enforcement Officer (LEO)** Zach Wallace 406-363-7100 (front desk)