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February 2009

Hat Creek Rim's Use Permit

Justice and commonsense has finally prevailed! After expressing concerns to the Forest Service regarding how the renewal of *our* use permit was being handled, the issue has finally been resolved. Hat Creek Rim's Special Use Permit will be renewed in the name of the Shasta Sky Sailors. Ray Torres, the new Recreational Officer for Hat Creek Ranger District, responded on January 15th with the e-mail below:

Thank you for the history. I will begin processing the permit with the Shasta Sky Sailors as the permittee. Per my conversation with John Ivey and his recommendation, their organization will not replace any group on the permit. I understand, as we discussed previously, that there are no changes to the operations or conditions of the permit. This will take some time to move through the system but I should have a permit ready to sign some time in May if not before. I do not see any issues that would delay that time frame. Of course, if any arise I will contact the Shasta Sky Sailors and discuss it. Please bear with me. Jan Sorochtey has taken a promotion to the Shasta Trinity NF so I have two vacant positions in recreation and a backlog of programs and projects.

Roman (Ray) Torres
District Lands and Recreation Officer
Hat Creek Ranger District
Lassen National Forest

As reported in last month's newsletter and noted in Ray's e-mail, the Rogue Valley Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association will not be joining us on the use permit. This is unfortunate.

Paraglider pilots in the club should feel free to make suggestions for Hat Creek Rim concerning paraglider flight. This can include conditions at launch, LZs, and safety issues. Input for the paragliding site advisory is especially welcomed. The paragliding and hang gliding site advisories are both located on the Pilot Bulletin Board at Fireside Village.

And, as always, other clubs and visiting pilots are welcome to provide suggestions and comments for Hat Creek Rim. You can send suggestions and comments to any Hat Creek Committee member listed here:

http://hatcreek.info/Club_Information.htm#Contact

Law Enforcement Visits "Blue Balls"

Forest Service rangers paid a visit to this year's Blue Balls fly-in. This, in response to last year's irresponsible use of the site, will hopefully curb future resource damage and the vandalism that is occurring at Hat Creek Rim.

Although Blue Balls attendees held the event on the 3rd weekend of January instead of the traditional 2nd weekend, FS rangers visited the area every weekend to ensure contact was made. No citations or arrests were reported.

During the same weekend, a Hat Creek Committee member also visited the site. No site damage or litter was found left behind this year, but a fire was left still smoldering in the #1 LZ and our toilet in the #2 LZ was further vandalized.



This time, the #2 LZ toilet was literally cut in half! Someone really doesn't want that toilet there for some reason. And with the FS rock barrier still not intact at the main launch, vehicle travel is rutting our ground cover in the setup area.



The Hat Creek Committee has volunteered its services to the Forest Service for finding a more permanent solution to the rock barrier at launch. And with a law enforcement presence back in the Hat Creek area now, hopefully the vandalism will stop. Better yet, maybe the vandals themselves will be caught!

April Work Party at Hat Creek Rim

This year's site maintenance at Hat Creek Rim will occur in April instead of the usual Memorial Day Weekend. This is to be sure that everything gets done before this years flying season really gets going. The trees on launch that were cut down last year are still laying on their sides in the setup area. The last thing we should want are for conditions like this to exist when the flying starts. Now that the use permit issue is settled, things will hopefully move forward at Hat Creek.

A request to the Forest Service has been put in for permission to remove the felled trees and put down more ground cover in the setup area. The felled trees *could be* used to restore the old wind block known as the "hedgerow." This will be pending FS approval. Below are before and after photos of what the desired outcome would be.



- Setup area before the trees were vandalized -



- Setup area after the proposed clean up -

Work Party, Continued...

At the same time the setup area is cleaned up, it would be nice to make the FS rock barrier more permanent. The Hat Creek Committee has asked Ray Torres if something could be coordinated with the FS regarding the rock barrier while the work party is at the Rim in April and available to help out.

As usual, the weeds and returning growth that spring up in the "Buttonhook" bailout LZ will be removed. Something will also need to be done with the now destroyed porta potty in LZ #2.

See the [*****Upcoming Event*****](#) link on our website's main page at www.hatcreek.info or the back of this newsletter for more details and contact information. Other clubs are welcome to help and the scheduled work will not interfere with the evening flying.

Let's make 2009 a positive year at Hat Creek Rim.

For Sale



Moyes SX5—Super Extralite 154.

Glider is in great shape. Well padded and well cared for. Bought it from Sacramento Hang Gliding with low hours. Have one spare down tube, manual, and two batten charts. The bag is in decent shape with a new zipper. \$500.00

Contact Brian at 530-355-2081 or flyingbrian17@hotmail.com



2008 Fundraising/Treasurer's Report

12/31/2008

2008 Fundraising/Treasures Report

Special thanks to our big donors this year and to those who paid the high gas prices to drive to Hat Creek and do site maintenance (you know who you are). Of course, everyone who contributes even a dime to the site is a hero in my book. THANK YOU!!

Hat Creek Rim is an all-volunteer effort that is STILL working thanks to club members, supporters and visiting pilots who have given freely of their time, money, and energy. Thanks for keeping the magic and beauty of Hat Creek Rim alive and well!

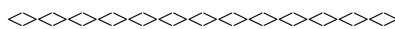
Balance at the end of 2007 (petty cash and savings)..... \$2,865.24

Income for 2008:

Donations - PayPal/Other/Stickers.....	\$581.25
Shirt Design Donation.....	\$250.00
Membership.....	\$108.00
Shirt Donations.....	\$788.00
Savings interest.....	\$ 1.72
Account adjustment.....	\$000.00
TOTAL Income.....	\$1728.97

Expenses for 2008:

Porta Potty Pumping	\$151.67
Shirts and printing.....	\$1278.51
Use Permit.....	\$ 30.00
Shipping.....	\$ 4.27
Shirt Design.....	\$250.00
Labor/materials for making Friend of the Rim decals	\$000.00 (donated)
Site Maintenance/Business Materials.....	\$000.00 (donated)
Web Hosting/Domain Name.....	\$000.00 (donated)
Mailing cost of club business.....	\$000.00 (donated)
Site Guides/Maps.....	\$000.00 (donated)
Account Adjustment.....	\$000.00
PayPal Charges.....	\$004.27 (on \$80.73 worth of donations)
Total Expense paid.....	\$1718.72



- **Petty Cash as of Today's Date**.....\$685.98
 - **Savings Account Balance as of Today's Date**.....\$2189.51
- Total Club Account (savings and petty cash)**.....\$2875.49



Shirts in stock (110 est. count @ \$10 to \$15ea).....\$1,400 est. value

Thanks again to everyone who supported the club, the committee and Hat Creek Rim,

Phil Sergent – Big Bird