

==== ACSA E-News ====



**American Council
of Snowmobile Associations**



**As the sun begins to set on this
season, we thank all of the
clubs and volunteers!!**

Job Well Done!!

Holy Cows....and Rocks in Minnesota!

Many of you may have seen the mass confusion and misinformation that exploded this week over some legislation introduced in Minnesota. The legislation proposed eliminating atv use on state forests. Here's a short follow up from MnUSA President Mike Clevenger.

Minnesota United Snowmobilers Association has had an interesting couple of days. A Legislative Bill was being presented on restricting OHV trail usage and possible closures. This bill would not have affected snowmobile trails as stated in the legislation, but would have affected our sister recreational organizations.

MnUSA opposes this bill and stands with our fellow recreational user groups. As a result of what has transpired over the last 48 hours the bill (SF1245) has been tabled in committee, the results are the bill is dead for this year. We will continue to monitor this issue and try to keep people informed.

Thank you MnUSA! We appreciate you keeping the snowmobile community advised!

Forest Service Strains to Meet Recreation Demand

America's forests have been in great demand, even more so since the Covid era. As a result, the Forest Service started to research the use and possible solutions, through allocations, for visitors. A new research paper explores visitor's preferences, allocations or rationing, conflict and fairness. The result was reached was less than a solid answer: There's no single solution that works.

Research at the agency says it's up to local managers whether lottery systems or other approaches can ease the crunch for recreation sites.

Due to increasing visitation and the associated impacts to natural resources and the visitor experience, recreation managers may decide to adopt a recreation allocation strategy to limit the number of visitors at a given time. Allocation includes allotment (splitting between groups such as commercial use and private

use) and rationing (a mechanism for allocating within groups). The main strategies used for rationing include first come, first served, pricing, reservations, lotteries, and merit.

Concerning? Yes! It should concern all snowmobilers that ride on US Forest Service lands.

US Government Buildings Being Sold

Senator Joni Ernst (R-IA) has authored the *Billion Dollar Boondoggle bill*, to disclose all government projects are a billion dollars over budget or behind schedule. She also introduced the *Stop Secret Spending Act*, which add tens of billions of dollars of contracts into *USAspending.gov*, not currently disclosed.

She has also been diligently working to see what government buildings are being used, at what capacity, what condition the buildings are in and what their future is.

The most recent building, constructed between 1929 -1932 as a warehouse in DC, later turned into a Government Offices. It was estimated the cost would be [\\$50 billion in a report](#) to clear up the building's maintenance backlog. It has recently been sold.

Senator Ernst was quoted saying, "Even though this building has been vacant, the American people have still been footing the bill. With this sale, we are saving Americans over \$205 million off taxpayers' tab.

In January, the US Postal Service acknowledged that 285 of its buildings across the country are partially or completely unused. According to a February [report](#) from the Department of Agriculture, even with a mandate to return to the workplace, the agency is still only using a 1/3 of the space in its DC headquarters.

Many government-owned buildings have been recommended for disposition or consolidation by the federal government. Senator Ernst has promised to continue pushing forward.



21 States File Lawsuit Against USDA

New York Attorney General Letitia James and 20 other attorneys general today [filed a lawsuit](#) that jeopardize billions of dollars in funding for critical state programs. The lawsuit challenges USDA’s new “2026 Conditions,” which force states to comply with vague and unlawful policy requirements or risk losing essential funding for programs that feed families, support farmers, and protect communities.

The USDA provides billions of dollars each year to states to support a wide range of programs that sustain the nation’s food system and rural economies, including agricultural research, farm support programs, forestry and wildfire prevention to

name a few. This year, USDA introduced new requirements for funding recipients, resulting in the filing of this lawsuit.

In addition, forestry and wildfire prevention programs supported by USDA funding could be impacted, reducing the state's ability to manage forests, prevent wildfires, and protect natural resources.

Some of the states involved, in addition to New York are Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon and Washington.

Update on Nebraska Wildfires

Nebraska has been particularly hard hit, with four major wildfires igniting on March 12th and burning for over a week. The Morrill Fire has become the largest single wildfire in Nebraska history, scorching more than 643,000 acres. Combined with the Cottonwood Fire's 128,000 acres, Nebraska alone has seen over 820,000 acres burned, leaving the sand hills resembling a desert landscape.

The human and agricultural toll is staggering. More than 35,000 cows have been displaced with nowhere to graze, and miles of fencing have been destroyed. Fires moved at speeds of 60 miles per hour. Ranchers who managed to save their cattle now face the challenge of feeding them without available grassland.

Fires are certainly a major concern this year with the low snow in many areas in the west.

Did You Know??

Forest Service and Firefighting: The Trump administration is inching forward on its proposal to take the Forest Service out of the fire suppression business. The Department of Agriculture is formally seeking input on a feasibility study required

by Congress before a consolidated wildfire agency can be created at the Interior Department.

Officials last week published a request for information to help the administration pick a contractor for the study, setting today as the deadline for submissions.

“The USDA is considering multiple approaches,” according to the notice.

The move to transfer wildfire management from the Forest Service to the new Wildland Fire Service at Interior has attracted intense interest from the wildfire response industry, firefighter organizations and Forest Service retirees.



LAST CHANCE

For Young Snowmobilers to Apply

ACSA Next Gen National Riders

It's that time of year.....

- We need enthusiastic Young Riders, between the ages of 21 and 30.
- We need snowmobilers that have leadership qualities to take us into the next decade.
- We know there are SO MANY young riders out there -- just review the very cool things you'll do and fill out the application!

[Click here](#) for the application! **Deadline: March 28th**



Love the smiles.....



Above: Arriving by snowmobiling on their wedding day! Who has the bigger smile....the bride or groom?

Below: A 5-year old getting his request early this week of being picked up from school by snowmobile!

Coollest kid in school that day for sure!!

Gotta love the snowmobile passion!





26th Annual
WASHINGTON, DC FLY-IN
APRIL 18-22

*Advocate for the Future of
Snowmobiling in the Nation's Capital!*

-  *Meet with Congress*
-  *Federal Agency Briefings*
-  *Policy & Access Updates*
-  *Network with Snowmobile Leaders*
-  *Tour Historic DC*

ACSA
American Council of
Snowmobile Associations

www.snowmobilers.org
Advocate • Educate • Represent



UPCOMING EVENTS

March 27 - 29: AWSC Spring Meeting, Green Bay

March 28: ACSA Next Gen Applications Due!

April 17 - 20: MnUSA Spring Meeting - Otsego

April 18: Pennsylvania Annual Meeting - Galeton

Ohio Annual Meeting

April 18 - 22: ACSA Fly-In, Washington, DC

2026 ISC: June 3 - 6 Omaha, NE - [click here](#)

GET SOCIAL WITH US!

Follow us on Facebook

[Click Here](#)

P.O. Box 1670, Brighton, MI 48116

(517) 351-4362 | [Email](#)

