Tweedsmuir Ski Club (TSC) Winter 2010/2011 Fall Newsletter

Since our AGM last fall a number of important steps have been taken to keep the TSC active and relevant to winter enthusiasts. At last year's AGM a decision was made to rebuild the overnight cabin which burnt in the 2009 wildfire. A number of options were pursued but in the end the members and directors decided on the most viable option which was to accept the generosity of the Quesnel Snowmobile Club's offer to donate a suitable size log cabin which they no longer had a use for. Members of the TSC in the Quesnel area and other generous people donated time and money to organize the disassembly and transportation of the cabin to the East Branch Parking lot. By late winter we had the logs moved into the cabin site. Back in the valley lots of other donors and volunteers contributed to get lumber and building materials organized for the reconstruction. When August came a number of work parties did a big cleanup of the burnt material and most has been removed and a start made on the building. We had planned to have the logs erected and roof on by snow time and were well on the way with the foundation blocks installed and the floor joists and subfloor all assembled. Unfortunately in the third week of September we lost access for nearly three weeks because of the Bella Coola flood - many of the volunteers either had their own flood related problems to deal with or were extremely busy working or helping other flood related projects. Essentially we lost the remaining best 3 or 4 weeks of the building season and will now have to contend with winter in any other work we do. More will be discussed at the AGM.

The cross country ski trails were affected by the wildfire that started midway along the Old Highway trail. The fire burned to the north east encompassing the Forest trail and burning down the outhouse located at the trail head. The view was changed but the trail will still be ski-able. A small portion of the north east end of the Meadow loop trail was also burnt but most of the track should be similar to last winter.

Duane Pederson, Rick Ratcliff, Chris Matthews and Lotar obtained a replacement outhouse from Parks and erected it on one weekend in September. Duane has also been busy clearing some of the trails. With a bit of snow accumulating, the grooming equipment has been moved to the trail head in preparation for the first major snowfall. Once that happens, we can hit the trails and cross country ski until May.

Some major mechanical repairs were undertaken on the ski lift at the ski hill, so we should have some more good years of little trouble with the rope tow.

We are planning our AGM for Wednesday December 1 at SAMS at 7:00 PM. See you there!

Tweedsmuir Ski Club Contacts:

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Gordie Gibbs	Director	Groomer Operations	250 982 2231
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Steve Sheppard	Director	Groomer Maintenance	250 982 2659
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The TSC now has a website (<u>www.tweedsmuirskiclub.com</u>) and email <u>tweedsmuirskiclub@gmail.com</u> to keep members informed. Please drop us an email if you would like to be on the contact list.

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