

## **2021 Club Ride Overview**

### **Exit Tours MC Hosted 11 rides in 2021**

The first ride of the year in California along the San Andreas Fault was the best attended in this year impacted by Covid Restrictions. Over 60 club members rode from the site of the old Cal Poly Hi - Mountain Enduro near San Luis Obispo to Ballinger Canyon in the Cuyama Valley East of Santa Barbara. The San Andreas 300 was a fun 2 day all-inclusive event with gear portage and camping at private ranches of over 300 miles. On Monday 6 of us rode a 125-mile adventure loop to 3 iconic beaches on the Central Coast of California.

The second event of 2021 was the Spanish Border Adventure ride in Southern Colorado and Northern New Mexico on the Old Spanish Border. 8 of us rode along the NM/CO border, to old Railroad stations, the Rio Grande Gorge, and to Taos NM on the first 2 days. Day 3 we rode to a ski resort, around an active Molybdenum mine, around an Extinct Volcano and to the oldest town in Colorado. We staged at an old High School and enjoyed the green spring scenery along the old Spanish Border for 3 days. The club portaged luggage and supplied a few meals.

The 3rd ride of 2021 on Father's Day was a no cost ride to the Alpine Tunnel which featured 2 loops. Around 15 of us took on a challenging Dual Sport loop through snow fields on Tomichi Pass or an easier Adventure Loop thru Pitkin. The club split into 2 groups and we all met up at the old Denver, Southpark & Pacific Alpine tunnel, which was the highest tunnel ever bored through the Rockies. We camped and BBQ'd on Saturday night for this stellar ride.

The Divide Adventure Ride in late June started at the Colorado Springs Airport. 4 new club members from the Lubbock Trailriders rode their Adventure bikes for 4 days over 11 mountain passes. We stayed in hotels and experienced no flats or crashes on this epic ride Criss-Crossing the Continental Divide. We dodged rain every day and thankfully the deep snow field on Hagerman Pass and been plowed through just a few days before our arrival. We rode up Pikes Peak on Day 4 of this 760 mile Adventure ride that gained over 70,000 feet in elevation and descents in 4 days.

Trailride Week was a 5 day Singletrack trailride in the Heart of the Rockies. The trailride started on Monday and went through to Friday. The Idea being to travel on the weekends and only use up one full week of your time. The only issue was, only 2 guys bought into the concept. We still preserved and rode Singletrack and some epic 2 track Dual Sport loops in the Heart of the Rockies. Camped in Howard, stayed in Sargents, returned to Howard and camped and then moved to and camped near Carnage Canyon in Buena Vista. A good time but we probably won't try a weeklong trailride again.

X-Roads Buena Vista in early August took the place of X-Roads from the Chaffee County Fairgrounds. The Fairgrounds was turned into a Covid Test facility for 2021. X-Roads BV took place off of Trout Creek Pass and Hwy's 24 and 285.

The Staging area for X-Roads BV is a Mining claim on Private Property on the Arkansas River, with creeks and trees. A stellar camping locale with off-road access like no other. Across the street is the 4 Mile OHV recreation area and access to multiple passes on the Continental Divide is easy. Around 20 members enjoyed moist dirt, campfires and meals and some outstanding trailrides on Singeltrack and more than a few fun Dual Sport Loops. The Adventure contingent was pretty absent from X-Roads BV in 2021. Look for X-Roads BV from the same place in 2022.

The 7<sup>th</sup> ride of 2021 was on Monday July 5. The original plan of a longer 2 Day ride to Salida didn't pan out. So we did a fun 1 day no cost Adventure ride around Pikes Peak. 8 of us staged in the Wal-Mart parking lot in Woodland Park, then rode down Velcro-like wet dirt on Rampart Road with its beautiful views of Pikes Peak to the Garden of the Gods. From GoG and Old Colorado City we took Goldcamp Rd to Cheyenne Canyon to Stagecoach Road. Stagecoach Rd. turns into the old Cripple Creek & Victor Railroad line to the old mining town of Victor. From Victor we rode down the old Rail line that is Phantom Canyon to Canon City on more Velcro-like wet dirt. We then took spectacular Shelf Road back to the Cripple Creek, went over Tenderfoot Pass and returned to Woodland Park after getting soaked by a rain shower. Look for one version or the other of this stellar ride around the 4<sup>th</sup> of July again in 2022.

The X-Roads Trailride from Howard in Late August was a fun 3 days of riding. We camped at a private Campground in Howard on Thursday. And on Friday rode the entire Rainbow from Howard. The club portaged gear for the 15 guys to Sargent's where we all stayed in Cabins and partook of the great food & service and adult beverages at the Tomichi Creek Trading Post. The Day 1 loop was on the entire Rainbow Trail to the Continental Trail and then dropped down Agate Creek to Sargents. On Day 2 only 1 guy drowned his bike in a deep creek and the other guys rode more Singletrack back the Continental Divide trail. Then dropped down Greens Creek to a Dual sport loop around Salida and down the Arkansas River Canyon to Howard. From the private campground in Howard on Day 3, the loop went up and over Hayden Pass into the Rio Grande Watershed. Tied into some challenging old Mining roads in

the Bonanza OHV area and then took the Otto Mears Tollroad to the Silvercreek section of the Rainbow trail. From Hwy 285 the guys had the option of more singletrack back to Howard or the Highway. After 3 days of riding at high altitudes, more than a few guys took the easy option. The club is thinking to change up the lodging portion a bit for 2022 and possibly try it again in early Autumn.

The Continental Divide Dual Sport ride in September the club did as another 1 day no cost Dual Sport ride up and over the Continental Divide from Carnage Canyon near Buena Vista. We hung out for Lunch and fuel in Pitkin after going over Tincup and Cumberland passes. We turned this into an easy ride and took Waunita Pass to old Monarch and then some nice flowing 2 track below Mt Shavano before heading back towards Ruby Mountain and Buena Vista. 135 miles on a beautiful day with the trees changing colors.

The tenth ride of 2021 was a short notice Trailride in the Bonanza OHV area. Around 15 club members staged from the Excellent accommodations at the Steelhorse Inn. The Club offered 8 plus loops, including a loop over the entire Rainbow trail. Early snow put a dampener on some of the riding at elevations up to 12k feet, but everyone persevered and had an excellent weekend. This ride included 2 breakfasts and a Tri-Tip and chili dinner at the remote Steelhorse Inn. A couple of the guy's wives and Girlfriends took the opportunity to visit the nearby Joyful Journey Hot Springs while the guys were out riding.

The 11<sup>th</sup> and last ride of another year with Covid restrictions was the Las Vegas 300, on the Las Vegas Valley Loop. For 2021 the LVVL300 reversed directions from 2020. This year 40 guys started the ride at the Hoover Dam Lodge, Then they went over the old mining roads, Dry lakes and Mountains south, then west over little used 2 track to Pahrump and the Pahrump Nugget Casino. Dual Sport instigator and hero Larry Langley came over emceed the banquet and dinner Saturday night. The club portaged gear to Pahrump Nugget and the guys headed back to the Hoover Dam on Sunday Morning.

For 2021 there were 3 options to get back to the Hoover Dam. All the loops went over fun and challenging Wheeler Pass, then to a Gas stop with a Bob's Big Boy! The 3 options on Sunday were short with more pavement to North Las Vegas, challenging and bit longer to North Las Vegas, and longer and scenic without visiting North Las Vegas. Probably half and half of the guys opted for the Challenging Loop and the Longer Scenic loop. The scenic long section went over and through a part of the desert few people will ever visit.

After gassing up at Gas station, the ride continued through the Lake Mead recreation area on pavement to the most challenging section for Navigation and riding into Boulder City. From Boulder City it was a

short jaunt on pavement or old mining roads back to the Hoover Dam Lodge. 30 guys finished the ride which was rockier, sandier and more challenging than some anticipated.

Look for most of these Exit Tours Motorcycle Club rides to continue in 2022, with possibly an addition of a Spring ride in Arizona. More Info coming Soon on a 2002 rides in the Rocky Mountains and the West.

# WHAT DID YOUR SUMMER OF 2021 LOOK LIKE ?



4/30 to 5/3



6/11 to 14

FATHERS DAY WEEKEND

DUAL SPORT RIDE

SUNDAY JUNE 20<sup>TH</sup>

IT'S STILL A FREE COUNTRY

6/20

Continental Divide



6/27 to 30

Trailride Week



7/18 to 23



7/29 to 8/2

Around Pikes Peak



8/7-8

X-Roads Trailride



8/26 to 30



10/15-17



11/19-22