

Introduction to ROAR

Background:

Some citizens of this great country find fault with certain types of outdoor recreation they find objectionable. There are concerns that some forms of recreation may cause noise and/or pollution. And there are some who want to apply their personal "moral" guidelines on what other citizens consider recreation – hunting and fishing come to mind. Still others want to limit certain types of recreation as they feel they infringe upon their activity.

It is not unusual for people with different views to form organizations to support their particular views. And there is nothing wrong with that – unless what they are promoting significantly reduces access to public lands for other user groups. We all know of groups like that. Many of them do good work while others are more interested in keeping everyone off the land than they are in promoting a responsible stewardship ethic.

That is where ROAR comes in. We believe there is room for all of us if we use our resources wisely. Let's consider how this all comes together and affects our opportunities for recreation.

When we apply good nature awareness principles and recreate responsibly our actions don't affect the flora, fauna, water, geology, etc., or as important, other people. The very

essence of our favorite recreational activity and location remains unaltered when everyone makes an effort to have fun outdoors while not impacting the land.

On the other hand when a number of users of our natural resources are irresponsible the resource is damaged. Our land managers are required by law to manage the land for the good of everyone and additional laws and regulations are imposed to protect the resource.

Then all recreationists have less freedom and fewer opportunities to use the resource. We become upset with new restrictions. But we become even more upset when the land managers allow our favorite recreation area to become run down. We feel that we should not be limited if we are not the ones creating the problem.

Unfortunately it is not like a traffic citation where an officer can generally point to a specific individual. When it comes to our natural resources there are not enough land managers to be everywhere people are recreating. Because of that it really comes down to each of us being responsible while recreating and encouraging others to do the same – and being willing to contact land managers when we see others who are being irresponsible.

Who We Are:

ROAR is comprised of people, like you, who enjoy nature and outdoor recreation. School teachers, contractors, sales people, secretaries and others interested in wildlife, nature awareness, and natural resource stewardship have joined forces to support The Center for Responsible Outdoor Activities and Recreation. We are common citizens who are interested in maintaining access to public and private lands for responsible recreation.

Our Vision:

To provide free information, activities and programs to those who are interested in promoting nature awareness, preserving wildlife and using, while protecting, our natural resources. Our website www.tcfroar.org provides instant access to many programs, which when applied, will benefit the recreationist and the land. Some programs and resources on the site have a cost associated while many are very low cost. Our focus is on providing free resources for your use.

Our Mission:

To maintain access to public and private lands for recreation through responsible use of the land and other natural resources.

At a time of increasing recreational opportunities and land use restrictions we strive to enhance the public's understanding of their impact on the land. ROAR believes in multiple-use of the land by all recreationists regardless of their preferred activity. We endorse responsible resource use as an effective strategy to limit government regulations while reducing and/or removing existing restrictions.

Future Newsletters:

Please tell others about ROAR. Send your friends to our website to subscribe to this free newsletter. ROAR will publish an electronic newsletter each month.

Our goal is to provide interesting information related to responsible recreation. We will include upcoming events that you send to us in time to publish. We are especially interested in youth activities related to nature awareness and stewardship.

Starting in 2008 we will also publish a quarterly review of outdoor recreational equipment that will help us enjoy our outdoor activities while minimizing our impact on natural resources.

You are also encouraged to provide quotes you find related to responsible recreation and the outdoors. We will also provide opportunities for those with different viewpoints to share them with our readers.

We Need Your Support:

You are also encouraged to visit our website and take the opportunity to click on the "Make a Donation Now" link. We need your support to continue providing FREE resources for learning and teaching nature awareness and stewardship to others. Many organizations are attempting to limit access to public lands and recreation. ROAR is the only organization working to maintain access through responsible recreation.

"Teaching children about the natural world should be treated as one of the most important events in their lives."

– Thomas Berry