



June 9, 2000

MAMMOTH MOTOCROSS CLEANS UP

MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN, CA – All racers competing in the June 2000 Mammoth Motocross will be greeted by a new pilot program designed to provide a convenient method to collect and dispose of the used oil changed out of their bikes while here in Mammoth Lakes.

This effort to keep the dirty motor oil safely contained and out of the local environment has been jointly organized by Mammoth Mountain Ski Area and The Town of Mammoth Lakes. Additional support and sponsorships have been provided by the California Integrated Waste Management Board, Mammoth Disposal and Von's Supermarket.

Empty gallon containers, oil funnels and oil rags will be handed out at the track free-of charge to racers arriving during scheduled event times. These giveaways can then be used off-site or wherever racers work on their bikes, allowing them to safely collect and transport used oil back to the track where they can legally dispose of it into several 55-gallon used oil collection barrels. The oil will then be collected by Motocross staff members and recycled through Mammoth Disposal. By law, used motor oil is considered hazardous waste and must be handled and disposed of as such.

While past Motocross events have been outfitted with on-site barrels for used oil collection, only a relatively small amount of oil has ever been captured likely due to the fact that racers tend to work on their bikes and dispose of the drained oil off-site. Michael Grossblatt, Administrative Analyst for the Town of Mammoth Lakes and co-organizer of the pilot program, is optimistic about an increase in the amount of oil that will be captured this year and diverted from entering the local environment. "We expect to see an increase in the participation and responsibility of this year's racers by having this program and convenient disposal options available," explained Grossblatt.

In addition to used oil, the pilot program will also target aluminum, glass and plastic beverage containers and used tires for collection and recycling. For more information about the Mammoth Motocross recycling program, please contact Lisa Isaacs, Mammoth Mountain Environmental Specialist, at 760/934-0773.