

## HIGH SAGE DRIVING TIPS

A note to all re getting the best out of your rig on the long climb from the highway to camp.

1. The climb is from the highway at 1500 feet elevation to 4100 feet at 9 Km. or 2600 feet of elevation gain. The average slope is about 10%. If your rig is in good shape and you take it easy there should be no problem.
2. I have found that the most important thing I have done to prevent overheating is to wash the radiator from the fan side with a hose with good pressure. This cured 3 years of overheating on my dodge diesel and I haven't had a problem in 10 years. I do it every year.
3. Check transmission and radiator fluid levels before heading out.
4. To climb the hill set your truck in 4 wheel drive in a gear that allows you to move along at about 3/4 throttle. This for me was about 1800 to 2000 RPM in second gear. This moved me along at about 20 to 25 Km per hr.
5. If you have an automatic transmission it is best according to my local mechanic to put it in 4WDr Low Range and let the transmission shift automatically. Locking it in a manual gear can lead to heating under big loads.
6. If the weather is hot and you do experience overheating conditions you must pull over and let it cool down. This could take an hour or so. Keep an eye on the kilometer signs and be aware that the hill tops out at 9 km, after that it is more or less level into camp.
7. Remember the old trucker adage that you should go down the hill in the same gear and at the same speed as you came up – pump your brakes instead of applying them constantly.