

January 6, 2008

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BLM, Western Oregon Plan Revisions
P.O. Box 2965
Portland, OR 97208

BLM Medford Chief
Tim Reuwsaat
Medford District Office
3040 Biddle Rd.
Medford, OR 97504

RE: Elliot Creek OHV Emphasis Area.

Dear Mr. Reuwsaat and other personnel involved,

We are homeowners on CROOKS CREEK and our property is backed by BLM, which appears to be in your area of 37-7-33. As is appears on the map that your office sent to us.

We are really in distress over this whole situation and would ask of you to please read our letter and consider the issues involved. As follows:

1. **PERSONAL USE:** We ride (horseback) behind our property and up through the Mooney Mountain roads. We are not the only ones that go riding up in those areas and feel that if the off road vehicles get their way that they will over run the area and we will not be able to go on anymore peaceful and scenic rides. We bought our property for the very reason to be able to ride around the mountain range on these BLM roads without any interference from motorcycles and such. You are taking awayOUR RIGHTS..... to be able to ride in these areas and be safe from these off road people.
2. **NOISE LEVEL:** Once in a great while do we now hear some motorcycles or other vehicles riding those back roads and the noise from them is loud enough! So, to allow complete access to all, would mean.....ABSOLUTELY NO PEACE AT ALL and the noise would not just be contained on weekends. We are concerned of their accessibility to our property as even though you state regulations.....it will not be abided..... and they will go off to where ever they feel and end up running through our property. Question: do you intend to FENCE OFF all the bordering properties in order to PROTECT our investment? What about the reduction in property value if this takes place, are you willing to pay compensation to all homeowners involved?
3. **TRAFFIC:** We see what some "kids and adults" can do to property around here for their THRILL RIDES in their trucks and off road vehicles.....NO RESPECTOR OF PERSONS OR PERSONAL PROPERTY.....they will go where they please and opening these areas up for them will become an alarming amount of traffic on Crooks Creek and them even accessing our dirt road that we share with 7 other families.
4. **FIRE.....** this puts an real issue as well.....especially since the Deer Creek fire coming very close to our property. These areas are too close to housing and having these people ride around is a FIRE HAZARD, as there will be "sparks" and gas and oil etc.etc. If these people cause a FIRE in our area..... are you ready to COMPENSATE everyones homes and valuables and animals for allowing them to ride in these areas so close to many many homes? Do you have a FIRE PROTECTION PLAN in place?
5. Dust levels will be up and destruction of the land, causing erosion and mud. What will this do to the water levels for our well, if the mountain areas are torn apart? We are also concerned about bugs too, this may cause them to move on to other areas like our property.

6. ANIMALS: We can honestly tell you that there is a family of BEARS that live in the BLM range above us. They frequent our area and so do the FOXES, TURKEYS and DEER. Their food source is in those areas. Has that been something to be considered? We are all concerned about what effect this will have on the wildlife in these areas. This may cause them to become a nuisance in areas that they do not dwell.

7. TRASH: What kind of guarantees do you have, that these riders will not leave their trash laying around and dump off old vehicles as well or other stuff that would become an endangerment to our well water. We are all curious as to your "intentions" and "why" you should even consider using BLM land for off road riders? Are you securing this to become an income? How would you be even able to MONITOR these riders and the maintenance involved to keep it all CLEAN.

It would not bother us, if you had chosen REMOTE areas for this, but these mapped out areas are TOO CLOSE to personal property owners, who enjoy their peace and quite with very little traffic.

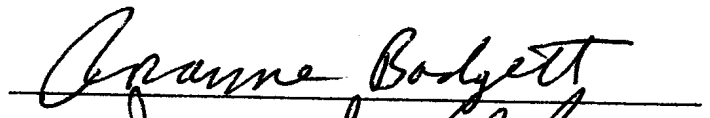
WE EMPLORE YOU.....PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE DO NOT DO THIS TO US!!!

We value our homes and the beauty around us and want to be able to work with the BLM to preserve what is all of ours to enjoy. There has got to be a better way!! **PLEASE DO NOT TAKE THIS AWAY FROM US!**

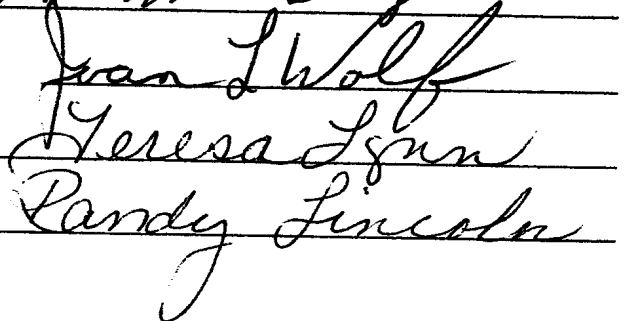
We sincerely request your response, thank you.



and



Neighbors:



Stephen & Rosanne Badgett
(1491 Crooks Creek)
P.O. Box 2572
Grants Pass, OR 97528
(541) 597-2570

CC:

GOVERNOR TED KULONGOSKI
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 250
SALEM, OR 97310

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JOSEPHINE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
500 NW SIXTH STREET, DEPT. 6
GRANTS PASS, OR 97526

SENATOR GORDON SMITH
121 SW SALMON ST. #1250
PORTLAND, OR 97204

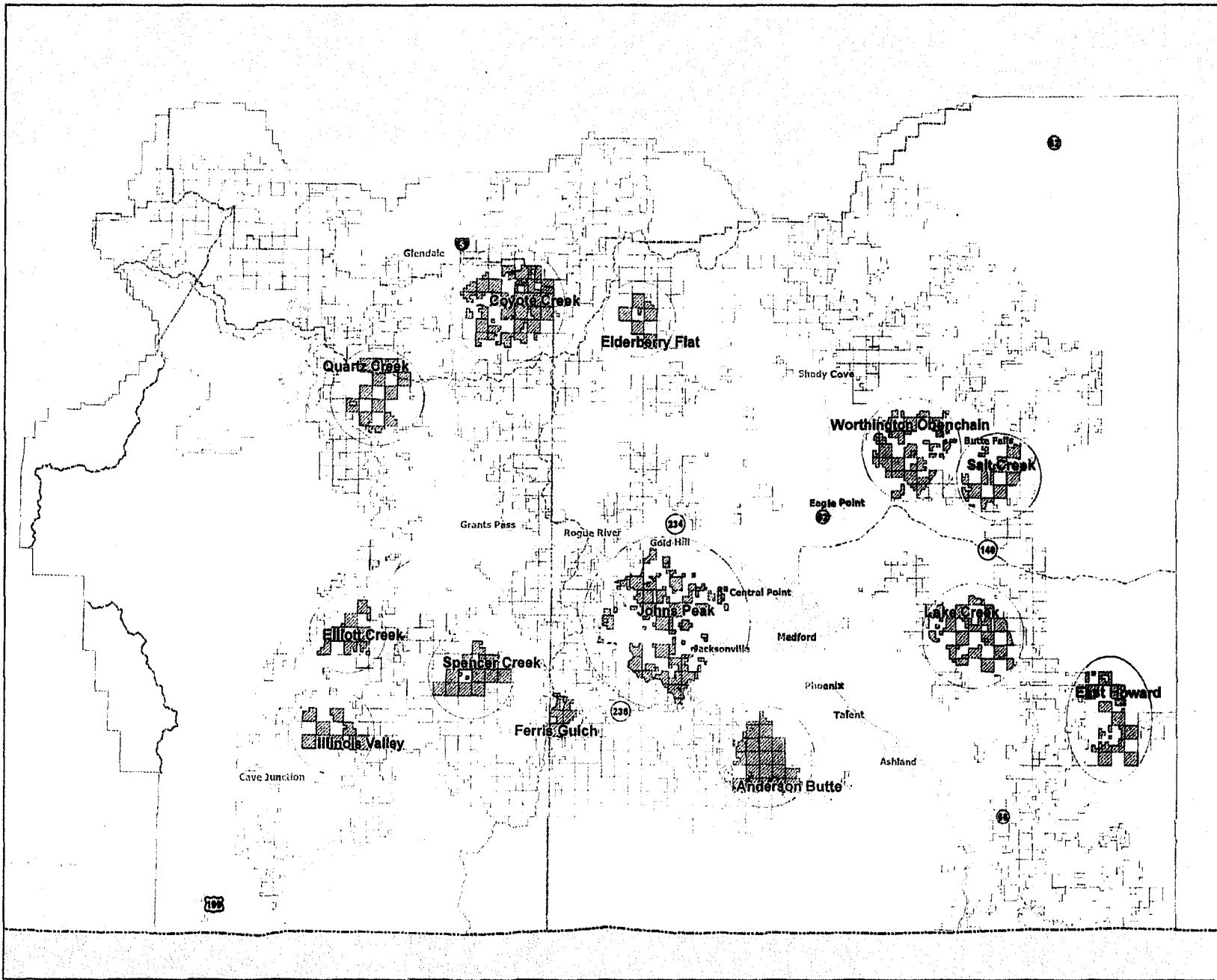
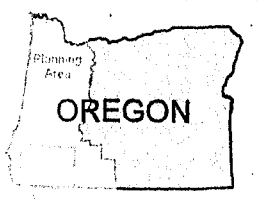
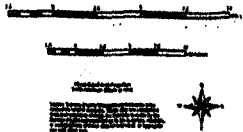
SENATOR RON WYDEN
1220 SW THIRD AVE. #585
PORTLAND, OR 97204

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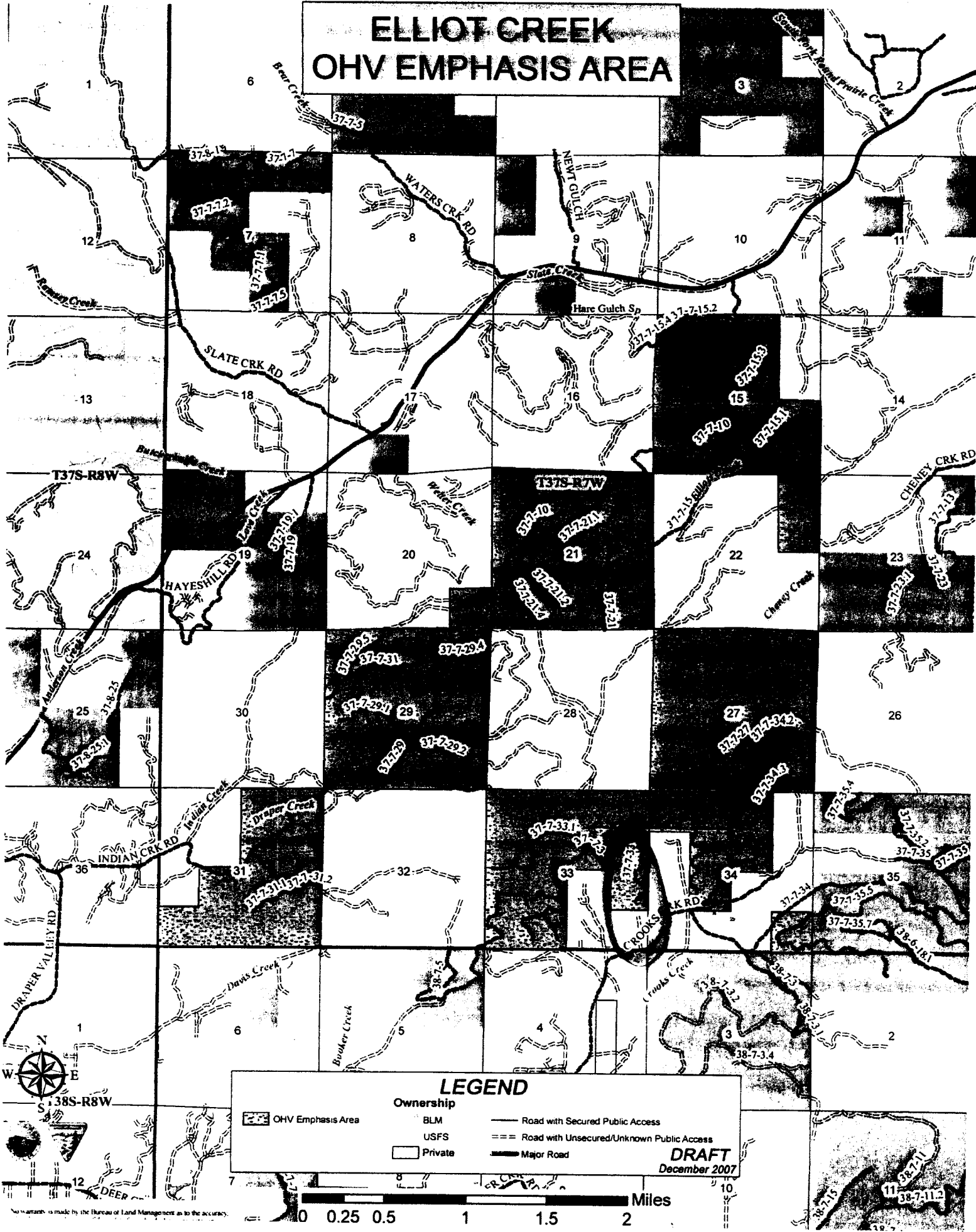
- Legend**
- Cities
 - OHV Emphasis Area
 - Out Area
 - MEDFORD**
 - Highway
- Boundaries**
- County
 - BLM District
 - BLM Resource Area
 - STATE
- OHV Designation**
- Closed
 - Limited



WESTERN OREGON PLAN REVISIONS
OHV Emphasis Areas
Medford District



ELLIOT CREEK OHV EMPHASIS AREA

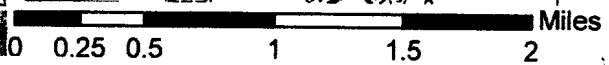


LEGEND

Ownership		
	BLM	
	USFS	
	Private	
	OHV Emphasis Area	

— Road with Secured Public Access
 - - - Road with Unsecured/Unknown Public Access
 — Major Road

DRAFT
 December 2007



No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy.