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Western Oregon Plan Revision

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Portland, OR 97208

We are third generation Oregonians and property owners with a significant amount of property adjoining BLM property on Anderson Butte.

We own and enjoy OHV's but are strongly opposed to the designation of Anderson Butte as an OHV emphasis area. We have hiked, ridden horses and ridden OHV's all over Anderson Butte BLM lands. We would rank OHV use as the fourth most common uses of this BLM land. The most frequent use is hunting and scouting for future hunting. The second most popular use is horseback riding and thirdly target practice. Obviously some of these activities don't coexist well.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) failed to consider the top three recreational uses of Anderson Butte BLM. Furthermore BLM failed to follow its own planning guidelines for recreational use (Planning Handbook 2005 p17 Appendix C: Planning should address all resource use not just OHV's). Since BLM recognizes land used for OHV conflicts with other uses how can they even consider Anderson Butte as an OHV designated area?

Jackson County Commissioners' recognized Anderson Butte as wrong for OHV emphasis. They astutely noted the fire danger, the high population density surrounding it, the environmental impact on this wintering area for deer and elk, noise pollution and the potential for environmental damage on this steep dry terrain.

There is no question that OHV use is a serious problem on public lands and one that needs to be dealt with, this proposal fails to examine recreation in a broader framework. One of the BLM's charges on the land it manages is to offer recreation in a broader framework.

Most OHV riders are responsible, unfortunately, even one irresponsible OHV rider can create significant damage or cause a serious fire. The instant you create a recognized, officially designated OHV area with trail maps and other recognized support facilities you will draw concentrated use not only from local OHV riders but also OHV riders from outside the local area. This increased utilization would bring more responsible and irresponsible OHV users to this "emphasis" area and ultimately more problems.

Please follow your guidelines and common sense (as well as the recommendation of the Jackson County Commissioners) and **do not** make Anderson Butte BLM an OHV emphasis area!

Sincerely,



Chris Morgan MD



Lorie Morgan MD