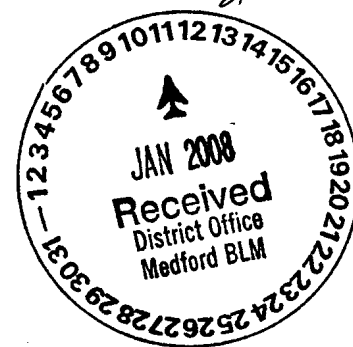


January 11, 2008

John Gerritsma
Field Manager, Ashland Resource Area
Medford District BLM
3040 Biddle Road Medford OR 97504

RECEIVED

JAN 11 2008



Dear Mr. Gerritsma:

It is my understanding that you have been provided with a petition that claims to have an excess of 1500 signatures from people that oppose any OHV activity in the John's Peak Timber Mountain area. I would like to express my concern and challenge the validity of the document referred to above.

On 1-10-08, Sequoyah Munroe representing the Motorcycle Rider's Association, presented documentation to the Medford BLM office which directly contradicts the claims of the petitioners. Specifically, Mrs. Munroe submitted a document to the BLM that was provided to persons who were asked to sign the petition in question. Among the many embellished claims on the petitioner's cover sheet, there is one particular sentence that is worth quoting for this discussion.

"Many local residents who are OHV enthusiasts have already signed the petition because it is not anti OHV's and this will not impact our local riders in any way."

It is my understanding that the petitioners, while providing the signature pages, have omitted this very important cover page. Additionally, it is my understanding that they submitted this petition claiming that each person that signed it is opposed to all OHV activity in the John's Peak Timber Mountain area. Clearly, by reading the quote above and reviewing the rest of the cover sheet (see attachment), persons likely signed this petition without a full understanding of how their signature was going to be represented to the BLM. As such, I suggest it would be unethical to inadvertently count a person as being opposed to an OHV area when in fact, they had every intention of supporting one.

Therefore, as the President of the Motorcycle Rider's Association and as a liaison for other interested groups, I wish to formally challenge the validity of the petition mentioned above and asked that it be removed from any consideration within the formal comment period for the Western Oregon Plan Revision (WOPR).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steven M. Croucher".

Steven M. Croucher
Motorcycle Riders Association
Medford, Oregon

ATTENTION! OHV "MEGA PARK" NEARLY HERE!

Dear Neighbor,

If you are not already painfully aware, this is to alert you about the BLM's proposed plans to create a 30,000+ acre OHV "play park area" in the John's Peak/Timber mountain area. This will greatly impact all who live nearby, meaning us! BLM likes to refer to Off Road Vehicles as Off Highway Vehicles (OHV), it is the same thing. (See BLM map on other side)

Although OHV stands for Off Highway Vehicles, it also includes trucks, jeeps, motorcycles, quads and virtually any type of off road vehicle. This proposed mega "park" is quite different from the local OHV riders who have been riding here for years. They are planning a "destination park" that would draw bikers from across the nation, severely challenging the 'livability' of our own neighborhoods.

Consider the consequences (a very short list):

- Greatly increased noise & dust pollution
- Substantially increased fire danger
- Erosion and damage to wildlife habitat that always accompanies OHV use
- Major increase in vehicle traffic especially on weekends and holidays

And of course...

- Drastically reduced property values, since no one (not even the riders) want to live next door, or even near, an OHV area. Think about it, every road that leads into the hills is a potential target.

There are no other OHV areas situated this close to residential areas and private property. Why are they doing it here? The answer is; they shouldn't be, and we can help stop them if we all act now! A petition is circulating that requests the BLM to stop this process and remove the OHV designation of the John's Peak/Timber Mountain area. The BLM would have you believe it's a done deal and it is NOT. All we need is your signature.

Many local residents who are OHV enthusiasts have already signed the petition because it is not anti OHV's and this will not impact our local riders in any way. This is about this being the wrong area for inviting in thousands of off road vehicle tourists for a host of reasons. Dramatically increased Fire Danger is just one reason and it only takes one persons carelessness to threaten us all.

Please take the time to alert your friends, relatives and neighbors. If you would like more information, would like to sign the petition and or help collect signatures for your neighborhood you can call 899-7310 or email JPTMCitizens@aol.com You can also sign the petition at the following locations in your area:

- The Laurel Hill Golf Course, Old State Road, close to I-5.
- The Jacksonville Mercantile, 175 East California Street, center of downtown Jacksonville.

If we are to stop this ill conceived encroachment into our community, we must let them know now! Please sign the petition today.

Thank You.

The Timber Mountain/John's Peak Citizens Alliance

Concerned citizens from around Johns Peak & Timber Mt. from Jacksonville to Murphy, & Footh Creek to Applegate.

