

From: [Pat Henderson](#)
To: [BLM_OR_RMPs_WesternOregon](#)
Subject: Millican Valley OHV Trail System
Date: Tuesday, June 19, 2012 8:16:12 PM

For your information, I am writing for myself and my husband. We are from California, and are affiliated with the Recreational Outdoor Coalition in the Northern CA area.... Redding, CA.

We have been working with the Forest Service since 2005, with their TMP. (travel management plan) Hopefully we are working together to form a great recreational area for all classes of off road vehicles. At this point, I have not heard of a class IV vehicle, because we have a mixed use of our trails.

My husband and I have been looking forward to coming to Oregon, to ride the many OHV areas you have in the state. Up until last week, we rode Yamaha Grizzly 700, ATV's.

We spent \$14,000.00 in Medford last week, for a class IV vehicle (classified UTV in CA) (Class II is some of your brochures, or Class IV) in Oregon and to ride while here, and have found it VERY difficult to find a place we can camp with our toy hauler and ride out of.

Your state has OHV Staging Areas, but in reality, these SA's are merely access parking lots. There are a few picnic tables which are supposed to appease the OHV'r, but truthfully.... your area in the Millican Valley is very disappointing.

June 18, 2012 we parked our toy hauler at the Ford RD-SA, 21 miles east of Bend, off hwy 20, in 2 miles to the East Fort Rock-Deschutes National Forest, # 26 in your "Official Guide to OHV Oregon brochure. Well, I have to say, this staging area has a billboard that declares it is the Ford Rd. OHV Staging area. I have the coordinates on my GPS..... (the names of the SA areas do not match.... where are we)?

Thinking we are in the South Millican OHV-SA... From Ford Rd SA, we separated our 5th wheel from the truck, and drove down to Road 70 OHV-SA, to Evans Well Cutoff Rd., and the Road 25-SA.... None of these were open to class IV vehicles, or the dates we were visiting.

According to your OHV guide, we were illegal to ride the area. But at a sign on the road, it stated that certain roads were open all year to all vehicles..... I don't understand?

We ended up going back out on hwy 20 and driving to the Millican Valley SA, # 33 on our OHV guide... The first one was impossible for us to navigate, with our rig.... a 1.6 mile gravel, cinder trail up a mountain to a camp on the side of the mountain, that was impossible to place a trailer of any size.....

We chose to continue east on hwy 20 to another staging area with a play area right along the hwy. We drove behind the play area to the SA and found it to be on the lower slope of a mountain, but there was possibly a site for us just as we entered the staging area.

That is where we decided to park.... It was getting late, and we were tired. We drove back Ford Rock SA, picked up our 5th wheel, and

brought it to North Millican, open May thru Nov. (according to our guide) The icons indicated by our guide that Millican Valley #33 is open to class II or Jeeps, motorcycles, quads, side by sides and camping.

Much to our surprise, this morning, June 19th, my husband was told by a Forest Service representative we were camped in the wrong area for riding with our UTV. Excuse me, we parked at the Millican Valley OHV Trail system, which says side by sides can ride out of this staging area May to November. We are using three different OHV maps and regulations to guide us, to keep us legal. But if we drove to the SA the Forest Service man told us to go to, we'd have to drive up a mountain 1.6 miles on a narrow washboard, cinder surfaced trail to get to a SA on the side of a mountain, with no real way of driving between the trees, to find a spot to park.

Have you or your staff actually been to any of these SA? I don't think so. To say that we are disgusted is an understatement. After riding on your trails, 20 for an example, to 70 and 40, you all need to come out here with a GPS and ride the routes. You have signs posting the trails, but, they are not matching the numbers you have listed on your maps.....

My husband and I would love to help you out in this matter, cause we have a GPS, with maps of the region, which could show unexpected travelers like us, that rely on your educated cubical engineers the correct directions for a successful trail ride. One of these days a tragedy is going to happen in your area, because travelers like us, will rely on your maps, and get totally lost up here, not being able to call out for help, and possibly getting stuck in a storm, cause you don't come out personally and configure your routes.....

We have several suggestions for your scoping comments.... I am sorry, but tonight, I am only going to forward what I have written.... If you are really interested in what can improve your areas.... you can contact us via e-mail.. We plan on being in your area another couple of days.

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Truthfully? We are very disappointed. We spent