

From: LMOSBORN@aol.com
To: [BLM_OR_RMPs_WesternOregon](#)
Cc: 4shayne@charter.net
Subject: Scoping Comments on RMPs for Western Oregon
Date: Friday, July 06, 2012 11:06:19 AM

Bureau of Land Management
Western Oregon RMP
P.O. Box 2965
Portland, OR 97208
July 6, 2012

Subject: Scoping Comments on RMPs for Western Oregon

Dear Sir or Madam:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the scoping process for the RMP for Western Oregon. It is our sincere hope that comments made by the public will actually be considered in the final determination of how the RMP will be drawn up.

Our comments are focused on BLM's Medford/Ashland Planning District regarding the special emphasis on OHV recreation areas, specifically the John's Peak/Timber Mountain OHV designation. There are numerous factors that make this area is totally unsuitable for this type of designation; environmental issues, wildlife habitat concerns, fire safety issues, traffic safety issues, the impact on property values as well as the loss and or reduction of enjoyment in the use of our properties. Furthermore, this designation takes public land and favors one group to the detriment and exclusion of other groups. Any area established for OHV use is substantially unusable to the majority of users of our public lands for obvious reasons of safety and quality of the recreating experience.

Sadly, in our experiences with the Medford District BLM, the processes that should be taken very seriously tend to be viewed more as a formality and nothing more. So long as it "appears" there is public participation and it can be spun that way on the web site and in the media it eliminates the need to actually go through that process in a meaningful way. The 1995 decision on Johns Peak/Timber Mountain OHV Emphasis Area was nothing less than a sham! The BLM web site describes an open informative process where the public is engaged and involved and this is not even close to being true.

The opinions and requests of the residents, whose properties are impacted by this type of designation, should carry more weight in the final determination of the RMP. It is we who are adversely or favorably affected by these decisions.

Please take into consideration our request that this area not be designated as an OHV play area.

Sincerely,

Larry & Mary Osborn
4761 Left Fork Footh Creek Road
Gold Hill, OR 97525