

1288 Worthington Road
Eagle Point, Oregon 97524
November 4, 2007

1039

RECEIVED

NOV 14 2007

Mr. Tim Reuwsaat
BLM Medford District Manager
3040 Biddle Road
Medford, Oregon 97504

Subject: Proposed OHV area near Worthington Road

Dear Mr. Reuwsatt:

Designating BLM land in the Worthington/Obenchain roads area for OHV use is a BAD idea. I am strongly, without reservation, opposed to such usage as is proposed in the preliminary WOPR.

- **Such usage is a nuisance** to existing residents who have worked hard to obtain their homes in a pleasant environment: ie, quiet, scenic, conducive to wildlife, protected from litter and other detractions common to public entertainments such as OHV usage. Why would BLM create a nuisance?
- **BLM and other government agencies do not have the staffing to adequately police the planned usage or repair the inevitable damage to the land.** There are already more poachers, litterers, speeders, illegal burners, trespassers using Worthington Road than can be policed by the various government bodies that are responsible for enforcement.
- Creating a special usage area where non-motorized usage is "dissuaded" from using the area **should** tell you that the proposed usage is not desirable. Motorized recklessness with its associated noise, dust, and litter should be regulated to interstate corridors and commercial lands that are already ruined for residential and wildlife. Please read the attached blogs from OHV users. Would you want these scofflaws and worse in your neighborhood?
- **BLM should learn from history** (ie, John's Peak, etc) **that OHV is blight** to the majority of residents. Why would you want to propagate blight? I suggest taking a committee of residents to the John's Peak and other OHV areas and convince them the idea that what they see and hear is a good thing. See attached article.
- **BLM has just spent significant resources cleaning up after illegal OHV use** in the Obenchain Road area. Declaring what you have just had to repair legal does

not make it desirable. It is still bad. Why make work for yourself and the majority of the tax payers?

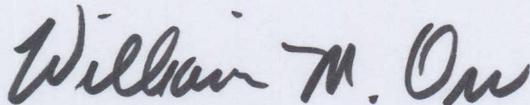
Designating land in the Worthington Road area for OHV use is a terrible idea. The limited use of 93 % of the 2.4 million acres of BLM land in western Oregon is enough for the off-road vehicle users who have not proven to be worthy of further trust. Their idea of more fun is louder, faster, dustier. Put them beside a commercial airport or gun range, not in a beautiful nature environment that they will mess up.

Is BLM going to pay for dust control on Worthington Road? I pay more than \$6000 in property tax and yet we have to take up a collection each summer to pay for dust abatement from the county. I don't mind paying for my and my neighbor's dust, but paying for dirt bikers who will be going up and down the road is too much. Many of those attracted to the OHV areas will be from out of state and even more destructive.

I really think BLM should spend more time working out how to harvest the timber resources on public lands and regulate the current non-motorized uses before venturing into the world of motor sports. BLM is not able to do the job now so why expand the arenas of incompetence?

Thank you for considering my strong objection to the possible OHV designation for a part of Oregon that is very beautiful and dear to me.

Sincerely,



William M. Orr
1288 Worthington Road
Eagle Point, OR 97524

541-831-6957
comebyeranch@earthlink.net

Attachments