

RECEIVED

DEC 11 2007

December 3rd 2007

To BLM Medford District and
Western Oregon Plan Revisions

1271

To whom it may concern;

In regard to the BLM's Western Oregon Plan Revisions, we think it is unwise to promote the use of Off Highway Vehicle use in the East Howard Prairie area. There is a lot of private land ownership checker boarded within BLM and State Forestry land in the East Howard Prairie Area that would not appreciate the added ATV and Dirt Bike traffic.

We are land owners in the area and have grazing livestock both on our property and our neighbors. ATV's and livestock are not compatible and most of this area is open range.

We are currently working on planting new seedlings to reforest our property. One wild ATV rider wandering off of BLM land can do years of damage to such a project.

We have also witnessed the recent increase of Off road 4X4 vehicle use on the east side of Howard Prairie Lake causing erosion, rutting, littering and depositing of bodily waste in an unsanitary way. We witness the current un-policed use with out of control speeding by people not using helmets and wild and loud parties in the woods and along the lake.

We think it would be a big mistake to increase the Off Highway use in this area, especially with the lack of funds to police it properly.

The Howard Prairie Lake area has always been used primarily by hikers with the Pacific Crest Trail nearby, fisherman and sail boat enthusiasts, along with many equestrians who use the Lily Glenn Area and trails around the lake. All of these long established activities are enjoyed for their "quiet" partnership with nature. The noise levels caused by ATV's and Dirt Bikes would ruin the tranquility that can be found at Howard Prairie Lake.

Please take our comments into consideration. We do recognize the need for such a place where people can enjoy their recreational outlet, we just don't think this particular area would be a good choice.

Respectfully,

Steve Lawrence

Steve Lawrence

Sue Lawrence

Sue Lawrence