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6086 Coleman Creek Rd
Medford, OR, 97501
December 17, 2007

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BLM Western Oregon Plan Revisions,
P. O. Box 2965, Portland OR, 97208

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing in response to the "End of the Trails" article in the December 14 issue of the Mail Tribune. My comments are directed to the Anderson Peak area, which I have extensively ridden on a quad over a period of several months. I know the area well.

It may be that the steepness of the Coast mountains makes the Anderson Peak area pretty much self regulating because it forces people to stay on existing roads and trails and gives protection to wildlife.

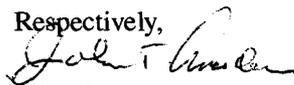
Mr. Gilmour's recommendation of a 90 percent cut in area available to riders seems draconian and irresponsible to what is largely a non-problem.

Were Mr. Gilmour to push back from his computer, jump on a quad or bike and actually visit the Anderson Peak area he might be surprised at what he finds. He might have fun, too, which he obviously needs. The environmental issue is tons of junk dumped by slobs driving street legal pickups. It is difficult to haul a junk refrigerator on a dirt bike or quad...

There has been a recent cleanup of the gravel pit south of Anderson Peak. I don't know who did it but they are to be congratulated. There were several truck loads of junk there. I suspect it was a volunteer group and demonstrates what can be done.

It seems to me the response to irresponsible behavior of a very small percentage of users is education and peer pressure. Were the BLM to continue to treat us fairly they will find people that value opportunity to ride in our magnificent state, and do what ever it takes to enjoy that continuing privilege. Working with local groups the BLM could, at minimal expense, implement educational programs that would help develop awareness and concern for public lands. They might well find help in cleaning up the area, too.

ATV riders make a significant contribution to the economy. Johns Peak, for example, is well known and people come from other areas to ride there. They stay in local Motels, eat in local Restaurants, buy fuel and other necessities. Communities in some Western states recognize this source of income and even provide ATV access from BLM riding areas to local facilities.

Respectively,

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