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U.S. Bureau of Land Management  
Western Oregon Plan Revisions  
P.O. Box 2965  
Portland, Ore. 97208

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JAN 02 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in regards to the planning concerning off road vehicle use areas in Jackson County, Ore. I have lived in Oregon for 45 years and it is sad what have become of multi use areas in Jackson County. I am a hiker, hunter and ATV rider that has utilized every area that is under consideration except Ferris Gulch.

First of all I would like to say that I do not support Dave Gilmour the Jackson County Commissioner nor his claims. In fact I believe them to be an outright lie! Mr. Gilmour comes from the belief that our public lands are not to be logged, fire protected or used for anything except to be looked at from afar. His constituents are heavily weighted with extreme environmentalists. He states that 1600 surrounding property owners oppose the use of John's Peak, there is not 1600 properties surrounding that site! It is an outright lie! Plus, this property has been used for off road riding as long as I can remember and I think close to 40 years. If you look at it, it is basically scrubby brush and some small timber that is regularly cleaned up by local off road clubs.

I believe that all of these areas should be utilized and perhaps more. When you have a larger selection of places to ride this diminishes the impact of the vehicles and reduces the number of people at any one time at a site thereby making it safer to ride. In fact I seldom see more than 1 to 3 riders when we use these sites. The more populated being Elderberry Flat. These are big areas and they absorb the people.

As for fire danger, I have never heard of a fire started by an ATV in Jackson County, and as a matter of fact anywhere, though I'm sure it has occurred somewhere. All ATV's and motorcycles are required to have spark arrestors installed and you would have a better chance of a fire being started by someone hiking and smoking than an ATV. In fact I believe areas with roads and trails would be less likely to have severe fires than areas overgrown and not used. And that is truly what Mr. Gilmour is proposing, to lock up more public land to be unused. And his argument is fire danger, mud slides and sensitive areas. The same crap you hear continually about any use of land. Be it expanding Mt. Ashland ski resort, logging, mining and now riding ATV's. Bottom line is these people will not be happy until is illegal to walk in the woods!

So, in closing I hope that you be logical about this issue and not take away the right of 1000's of ATV enthusiasts over a few individuals concerns that I doubt has every been to these areas.

~~More areas = less impact = safer riding = more enjoyment = multiple use of public lands~~

Thank you,

*Carl L. Humphries*  
Carl L. Humphries and Family