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Regina D. Hoffman
9500 South Fork Little Butte Creek Rd.
Eagle Point, Oregon 97524

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

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Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is in response to your request for comments on the WOPR section on proposed OHV use areas.

I am a land owner in the area of Lake Creek. My land borders on BLM area. Lake Creek is a very beautiful and tranquil area. It has the South Fork of the Little Butte Creek running through it. During the spawning seasons, Coho salmon and Steel head trout can be seen in the creek, and I am located more the 8 miles up creek from the where the North Fork joins the South Fork. We have a healthy creek here. In looking over the maps of the proposed Lake Creek OHV area, it can be seen that numerous small streams and seasonal streams feed into the South Fork .

The soil is such here (clay) that it can be easily disturbed, and does not recover quickly. Once the forest duff or grass is removed, erosion can and will take place during the rainy season. This soil, clay, black sticky, will find its way into the South Fork. I'm sure this will have large impact on our spawning fish population. Once erosion has started from ATV's, dirt bikes, there maybe nothing that can stop it.

I know in your WOPR document, you talk about enforcement, of keeping the OHV riders on the trails. I'm also sure you are getting comments from OHV enthusiasts about the need for an OHV area. The proposed OHV area of Lake Creek is a checkerboard of private lands. If the proposed area were to come about, there would be numerous transgressions on to private land. I think you would have a nightmare trying to enforce "No Trespassing"

It could be that 95% of the riders, would respect private property, and areas that they would not be allowed to go (environmentally sensitive). But 5% don't care, they have come all this way to RIDE, and that hill that has no tracks on it, beckons them. With the soil the way it is here, that 10 minute hill climb could do decades of damage.

Another factor to be considered, is we have a large deer and bear population here, how long would that last? We also have range cattle on leased BLM land, and that 5% would think it was great fun to chase them down. Again a conflict, not what you really want.

Fire danger is another item here, to be considered. Although Jackson country declares when fire season starts, there are a few weeks before it gets to that level, that the forest is starting to get kindling dry. More people, more OHV riders, put the forest at greater risk.

Again you will have people that will obey the rules, and then there are those that will not. If they are used to coming up here to ride, and find it closed due to fire danger, will you have enough enforcement officers to stay on top of it? All it takes is one carelessly discarded cigarette.

I wish you could see the Lake Creek area for yourself, it has pristine forest areas, spectacular scenery with much solitary quiet spaces, wild life abounds, clean running streams.

Then think of this running through it.



Please consider all the information in this letter, and please take Lake Creek out of consideration as an OHV area.

Sincerely Yours

Regina D. Hoffman