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Western Oregon Plan Revisions
P.O. Box 2965
Portland, OR 97208
January 9, 2008

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Gentlemen:

We are writing this letter because of our deep concern over the current misuse of the Quartz Creek public lands and the proposed expansion of the areas uses. We are a retired couple who live on Hugo Road. We have used both Hugo Rd. and Quartz Creek roads for our evening walks over the past 16 years. We have noticed a serious lack of concern by the dirt bike and ATV users for people who live on Quartz Creek Rd. The volume of the traffic, especially on the weekends, has increased significantly. Large trucks pulling trailers with multiple ATVs or dirt bikes. This is basically a one lane road and when you have two large vehicles with trailers, one coming up and another going down the road, it is dangerous especially if you are a pedestrian also out for a walk, perhaps with your child & dog. They speed and run you off the road and think nothing of it. There are people who ride their horses on the road, and if you don't think that is fun, you should see it. Then there are the one lane bridges. Lots of vehicles don't wait until you get off the bridge and come speeding by you - it's frightful. It's a long drop into the creek.

Let's talk about the children that live on Quartz Creek Rd. and go to school everyday. They walk down Quartz Creek Rd. to the bus stop on Hugo Rd. & Quartz Creek. This is not a remote area, this is a neighborhood with families with children and animals. The fire danger alone every year is a concern for all of us that live here. Bikers going up to use the area when it's fire season, with no concern, because they don't live here. No one polices the area. Just because a sign says Fire Season - no off road vehicles- it means nothing - never has. They still ride.

Then you want to add increased logging to this mixture. You are looking for a disaster. Imagine a log truck coming down the hill fully loaded and a Ford 250 with two dirt bikes going up the hill doing 30 mph, meet on a curve.

Most of us moved here because we like nature and we try to be good stewards of the area. The proposed activity, in addition to the activity to date, is an irresponsible use of public lands which puts undue pressure on the watershed, roads, bridges and the regenerative capacity of the land and it's use as prescribed by an act of congress. Please behave responsibly for the sake of the greater common good.

Sincerely,

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Cc: Senator Ron Wyden
Senator Gordon Smith
Congressman Peter DeFazio
Congressman Greg Walden
State Rep. Ron Maurer
Governor Ted Kulongoski