

2008

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January 8, 2008

RECEIVED

JAN 11 2008



Ed Shepard
 BLM Oregon State Director
 333 SW 1st Avenue
 Portland, OR 97208

Dear Mr. Shepard:

As part of the comments on the Draft EIS for the Revisions to Western Oregon's Resource Management Plan I would like to submit petitions signed by people who recreate in the Medford Oregon BLM district. The proposal to potentially create over 100,000 acres of OHV emphasis areas has horrified those of us in the equestrian community. Most of these proposed areas such as Anderson Butte and Ferris Gulch are heavily used for horse back riding year round. These areas are particularly important to equestrians in the spring and winter as the BLM roads provide some of the only areas with solid footing for the wet season. These proposed OHV emphasis areas would also have negative impacts on other non-motorized uses of BLM lands including hunting, fishing, hiking, bird watching, trail bikes (pedal) and others uses.

In September a group of equestrians decided to circulate a petition stating our opposition to the approach being taken by BLM to create these OHV areas. However, a few days into the process we were told that when BLM received the petitions from 1600 property owners surrounding the proposed John's Peak OHV area that the BLM indicated that the petitions would have little or no impact as they did not constitute substantive comments. I presume the same treatment is being given to any pro-OHV petitions too. Rather than waste our time collecting thousands of signatures from surrounding property owners, horse clubs, hiking groups, fishing and hunting organizations, bicycle clubs and others, we decided if BLM was going to ignore such petitions it would instead be better to focus on submitting substantive written comments, which I and many others have already done.

Despite the fact that we decided to stop collecting signatures if BLM viewed such signatures as a useless measure of public views, we are still submitting those petitions we started. The people who signed this petition clearly have an opinion about OHV Emphasis areas so I trust in your counting of views, you will include the numbers added by these petitions.

Several other people who briefly collected signatures are also sending in their signed petitions. All of the signatures we collected were done at two small events locally, a two mile stretch of road and one posted petition in the Applegate. In short about an hour's worth of effort. If and when BLM launches a Travel Management Plan process for the Medford BLM district, I have no doubt that you will have plenty of people expressing their views about potential recreational plans for this district.

We trust BLM does not continue with its current efforts to focus solely on OHV use in the Medford District but rather follows the well-documented BLM requirements for a comprehensive recreation plan though its development of travel management plans.

Thank you for your help.

Hope Robertson
 Hope Robertson
 Jacksonville OR

Petition Opposing the Creation of 13 Off-Highway Vehicle Emphasis Recreation Areas in the Medford BLM District

We are strongly opposed to BLM's proposal to create 13 areas for intensive use by off-highway vehicles (OHV) affecting 100,751 acres in the Medford BLM District in Southern Oregon. The public lands proposed for intensive OHVs use would destroy the ability for local citizens to use these lands for any other recreational activities, including horse-back riding, hiking, hunting, bird watching, trail bikes and other non-motorized activities. Considering the rapidly growing use of public land for non-motorized recreation in the Medford BLM district, we urge BLM to eliminate consideration of these OHV emphasis areas and rather work with local citizens to develop a recreation management plan that will accommodate all recreational activities.

NAME	CITY	Type of Recreational Use of BLM Land and # of Times/Month
Susan Recreate	Jacksonville	Horse-back Riding 22/month; hiking 12/month
Linda J. Lund	Medford, OR	hiking/bird watching
Kenneth Lund	Medford, Or	hiking / trail biking
NEAL ANDERSON	JACKSONVILLE	horse back riding 4/month, hiking 8/month

Please Return Petition By Oct 31 to Hope Robertson, 7400 Griffin Lane, Jacksonville, OR 97530

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NAME	CITY	Type of Recreational Use of BLM Land and # of Times/Month
Nancy Richardson	Ashland	Hiking 2-4/mth
Paul Christensen	Ashland	Hiking 1

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NAME	CITY	Type of Recreational Use of BLM Land and # of Times/Month
Meredith Fox 1527 Pebble Beach Ct.	Medford, OR 97504	hiker 3-4 xs/ mo.
Jeffrey W. Fox 1527 Pebble Beach Ct.	Medford, OR 97504	hiker 3-4 xs/ mo.
Marla Lohr Flanders 3011 Edgewood DR	medford 97504	wild flowers focage hiked 3x/mo
Joe G'han 1751 Brookhurst	Medford 97504	Hiking
Patricia Ajhar 1751 Brookhurst	Medford, OR 97504	Hiker

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NAME	CITY (Horses)	Type of Recreational Use of BLM Land and # of Times/Month
Marylou Meader	Jacksonville	
Randall L. Price Randall Price	Jacksonville, OR	neighbor BLM land
Rebecca C. Price Rebecca C. Price	Jacksonville OR	neighbor BLM land
RON LAVERTY	MEDFORD OR	MTN. BIKING

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Susan Recreate	Jacksonville	Horse-back Riding 22/month; hiking 12/month
Martin Vavra	Talent	mt. bike, hiking, 20/month BackPacking 3/month
Carl Vigilante	Ashland	Hiking 15/mo.
Bill Callahan	Ashland	Hike/Horseback 8/month
Jim Grigsby of [unclear]	5522 W. Griffin Creek Rd, Medford OR 97501	Horse Riding 6-12/month
Logan Miller	Talent	Horseback Riding 8/mo hiking 8/mo
TODD WALLENBERG	JACKSONVILLE	Horseback Riding 8/mo Hiking 2/mo
ANNETTE Brody	MEDFORD	Six Month Horse Riding

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Susan Recreate	Jacksonville	Horse-back Riding 22/month; hiking 12/month
Gloria Hafner	1379 Lithia Way Talent OR 97540	landscape painting hiking 3 times month
Tracy Hemer	452 Lindsay Lane Ashland OR 97520	horseback riding
Kathleen Stangor	Medford	horseback riding hiking
Katherine Sprung	Ashland	horseback riding
Christie Snyder	Central Point	horse/ATV
Samantha Carter	medford	Horse back riding/Hiking 4x month
Alison Dickey	Ashland	Trail riding 2x month

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<i>Susan Recreate</i>		<i>Horse-back Riding 22/month; hiking 12/month</i>
<i>CARLA BAUER</i>		<i>HORSEBACK RIDING 12/MONTH; HIKING 8/MONTH</i>

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Susan Recreate	Jacksonville	Horse-back Riding 22/month; hiking 12/month
Joseph Davis <i>[Signature]</i>	Griffin Creek Rd Jackson county	Bicycling - weekly Hiking - 3-4 monthly
Zoë Davis <i>[Signature]</i>	Griffin Creek Rd Medford, OR Jackson County	Hiking / Bird Watching 2+ times/month
CYNTHIA J. MCLEAN <i>[Signature]</i>	GRIFFIN CRK RD MEDFORD, OR	exercise dog daily
Thomas W. McLean <i>[Signature]</i>	Griffin Cuk Rd Medford, OR	Hiking exercise a week
Patricia MORG <i>[Signature]</i>	JACKSONVILLE	Hiking 2xwk

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<i>Susan Recreate</i>	<i>Jacksonville</i>	<i>Horse-back Riding 22/month; hiking 12/month</i>
<i>Patrick Box</i>	<i>Medford</i>	<i>4/months Bicycle Riding</i>
<i>Leland B. Tangman</i>	<i>medford</i>	<i>Mountain bicycle riding, hiking 12/month, 4/month</i>
<i>Shelley Tangman</i>	<i>medford</i>	<i>Hiking 4x month Bird watching 4x month</i>

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<i>Susan Recreate</i>	<i>Jacksonville</i>	<i>Horse-back Riding 22/month; hiking 12/month</i>
<i>Nancy Darte</i>	<i>Medford (in the county)</i>	<i>Hiking/Birdwatching 4 x month</i>

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Susan Recreate	Jacksonville	Horse-back Riding 22/month; hiking 12/month
Kim Roemer K R	Medford	Horse back riding 12 x's / mn; bird watching 2 x's/mn hiking 6 x's/mn
Tom Sherwood THOMAS E. SHERWOOD	JACKSONVILLE	ALL KINDS OF ATV riding 4x month.
SHAXON WEINTRAUB Sharon Weintraub	JACKSONVILLE	HORSEBACK RIDING 12x/yr. HIKING BIRDWATCHING Endurance training all year long
Christina Wilkinson Christina Wilkinson	Jacksonville	Hiking, watching wildlife 4/mo
EMMS WILKINSON E M W	JACKSONVILLE	Hiking -
Judith M. Stratton	Jacksonville	Hiking, watching wildlife
Jannalee Smithey Jannalee Smithey	Talent	Horse back riding 12 x yr; hiking more often.

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NAME	CITY	Type of Recreational Use of BLM Land and # of Times/Month
Amaroo Weiss Amaroo Eisen	Talent	
Amaroo Weiss	Talent	Hiking - 12x/year horse riding
Megara Robbins	J'ville	hiking 12/mo
Chris & Lorie Morgan	Juille	Hiking / Horseback riding 6/month
KARL KRAUSKOPF	JACKSONVILLE	WALKING, BIRD & OTHER WILDLIFE VIEWING PLANT IDENTIFICATION
Georgia Todd	Jacksonville	Hiking & Horseback
Pat Uhtoff	Ashland	mtn. Biking, running, hiking, mushroom hunting, etc. / approx. 6x per month
Erin Halcomb	Ashland	hiking mushroom hunting birding outdoor teaching 5/month
Hope Robertson	Jacksonville	Hiking 3x/week Horseback riding 10x/month

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