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JAN REC'D
Received
District Office
Medford BLM

3440 Crooks Creek Road
Selma, OR 97538

January 7, 2008

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

Dear BLM:

The Summary of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Western Oregon Plan Revisions states (page LXIII) 146 public wilderness proposals were received during scoping but only nine were determined to contain wilderness characteristics. Under the three action alternatives just five of those nine would be managed to maintain wilderness characteristics.

The 26,123 acres of all nine areas with wilderness characteristics is ***91 times less*** than acreage designated for Off-Highway Vehicle use, as reported on the same page. At worst, BLM plans to preserve a mere 52% of that relatively tiny number of acres with wilderness characteristics, at best, 63%.

How can "multiple use" be so strangely weighted? Where are the varieties of choices "alternatives" are supposed to offer?

Why are 2,498,877 acres designated for OHV use within the 2,557,800 acres managed by BLM (see the cover and page LXIIII of the Summary)? Does this represent BLM making "more informed decisions" with "more detailed and accurate resource information available now" as stated on page 2 of the Summary? Alternative 2, BLM's preferred alternative, and

its wilderness acreage of 52% of 91 times less than OHV-use acreage, "best fulfill(s) its statutory mission and responsibilities" (page 2)??

Your Summary is supposed to help the citizenry understand how you propose to deal with the lands under your care. I am confused because I can't believe the numbers I read can actually mean what they seem to say.

As a concerned citizen who will share your information with my community, and pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, please send documentation that clarifies your numbers and your reasons for this incredible imbalance of priorities.

There are lots of places to drive. There are few places to experience unmarred nature.

I charge BLM with responsibility to take the tiny step of securing for posterity *at minimum* those 26,123 acres of land with BLM acknowledged wilderness characteristics. That's an alternative that at least will not impoverish us.

Andrea King-Brockman

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Cc: Tim Reuwsaat, Trish Lindaman, Governor Ted Kulongoski, Senator Ron Wyden, Senator Gordon Smith, Representative Peter DeFazio, Senator Jason Atkinson, Representative Ron Maurer, Josephine County Commissioners Raffenberg, Ellis, and Toler