

Dec 31, 2007
00454
375 Bouca Dr 2541
Selma, OR
97538



To Whom It May Concern:

I think it is a very bad idea to designate BLM lands near rural residential areas as OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE EMPHASIS AREAS. There must be areas not adjacent to existing residential areas available for this type recreation. Many people who own land and live in residential rural areas prize their peace and quiet. That is one of the main reasons they buy and live in rural areas. I feel it would be a serious infraction upon the rights of citizens as myself who live in rural areas such as Selma to allow public use of land near their residences that could cause them physical discomfort such as sound pollution, as well as other problems. On top of that concern, most people acknowledge that off road vehicles and dirt bikes pose safety hazards and accidents in these off road areas are definitely probable considering the logistics. Is the county in which these accidents occur liable to respond or is the state or BLM? I believe it might be wise to consider what may happen to someone who had an accident in these proposed OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE EMPHASIS AREAS. If we allow people in these areas, knowing they could get hurt, whether it is a vehicle accident, a wild animal attack or a firearms problem, aren't we as a county or state responsible to be able to try and ensure their safety? Considering recent events in this county, I don't think we are able. I've written this to voice my opinion AGAINST such a change.

CONCERNED LANDOWNER

Sincerely yours
Maureen Kamesh-Brashear

Dear Thompson Creek Road Resident:

A threat to the quality of life for residents on Thompson Creek Road is unfolding. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is now in the process of determining how the BLM land in your area will be managed. At the present time it is multiple use. They are proposing to designate it as an Off-Highway Vehicle Emphasis Area, which would be part of a larger off-road vehicle area extending westward over the ridges toward Kerby (see map on reverse side of this letter). If this were to be adopted as an Off-Highway Vehicle Emphasis Area as proposed, it would eventually bring in large numbers of ORV users from outside the immediate area and displace all other forms of recreation and forest use.

There are far better locations for an off-road vehicle area than adjacent to an existing residential area. In other areas in Oregon that have been designated as off-road vehicle areas, adjacent residences have experienced a loss in resale value, as no one would intentionally buy into this undesirable location. If you feel the added noise, disruption, and impact to forest and community caused by large numbers of off-road vehicles are undesirable, and are concerned about the loss of true multiple use, together with a decrease in your resale value, please comment.

Public comments about the Bureau of Land Management's Western Oregon Plan Revisions (WOPR) are being accepted until January 11. The comments and suggestions from the public, along with ideas from cooperating agencies, will be used by BLM to develop resource management plans. These will be analyzed in a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) next year.

Comments can be submitted electronically from: <http://www.blm.gov/or/plans/wopr>
or mailed to: Western Oregon Plan Revisions
P.O. Box 2965
Portland, OR 97208.

Copy to: Tim Reuwsaat
Medford BLM Chief.
Medford District Office
3040 Biddle Rd.
Medford, OR 97504

Also send copies to your senators and congressperson so they know your concerns.

If you would like a map sent to you, call Trish Lindaman, at the BLM office in Medford: (541) 618-2266. Say your property adjoins the proposed Illinois Valley OHV Emphasis Area. Give her your address and she will mail it to you.

If you have questions, please contact Alan Hoffmeister, Western Oregon Plan Revision Public Outreach Coordinator at (503) 808-6629.