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District Office
Medford BLM

Dear Mr. Reuwsaat,

I, like many citizens of Jacksonville, are amazed at the discussion still going on over whether or not off-road vehicle activity is welcomed in our area. Since the Timber Mountain/John's Peak area, the largest group of acreage you've assigned to ATV/OHV is barely outside our city limits and totally surrounding our 1,800 which we have designated as a park, we are very personally affected. You've heard from us for years on this subject but have ignored us. Now we know why. Our comments are not considered substantive.

Please look again; when someone spends their life's savings on some property and a house and the BLM comes along and designates not only all the property around yours but, in many cases, even your own land, as an off-road emphasis area, thus ruining your quality of life as well as making your land now worthless... to us that is very substantive. (Most of the riders do not live in the Jacksonville area and, by their own admission, would not want to live next door to where they ride. That's why they come here.)

We've also mentioned many times about the erosion, the silted up creek beds, the foot deep ruts, the noise and air pollution (remember, this is right next door to homes and a town) as well as the trespassing problem and the fire danger. Are these too being passed off as not being substantive?

I think the hearts, minds, health and well being of citizens are very substantive. It does not take a rocket scientist to realize that a huge off-road playground does not belong this close to residences. Oregon and the BLM are blessed with millions of acres of forest, many quite remote where activity of this kind would not hurt

anyone. For the sakes of those of us who have moved to this peaceful little historic town and area, please consider those other millions of acres. And I'm not saying, "go bother someone else". I'm saying, move this area away from residences so they won't bother anyone. It could be a win-win.

It should only take a glance at your designation map to realize that you have ear-marked not only thousands of acres of personal property in your OHV emphasis area, but a good chunk of our city! Right down to Oregon Street! We are sure you are not going to urge off-road vehicles to ride through the neighborhoods of Jacksonville so you will have to adjust your boundaries. While adjusting, see if you can take into considerations the other, less dense neighborhoods and private homes and lives that you are drastically effecting. To these people, this is extremely substantive.

Thank you for please considering the rights and lives of the people in and around Jacksonville.

Steve Carlson

Steve Carlson
Jacksonville, OR