



Rangers for Responsible Recreation

Off-Road Vehicle Issues Survey of SW Law Enforcement Professionals Bureau of Land Management (BLM) & Forest Service (FS)

Rangers for Responsible Recreation, a project of Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER), is a coalition of former state and federal law enforcement and recourse management professional concerned about growing off-road vehicle (ORV) abuse.

I. Scope of ORV Problem

		Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1. Off-road vehicles present a significant law enforcement problem in my jurisdiction.	BLM	59.5%	31.0%	0.0%	9.5%	0.0%
	FS	37.5%	54.2%	0.0%	8.3%	0.0%
	Combined	51.5%	39.4%	0.0%	9.1%	0.0%
2. The off-road vehicle problems in my jurisdiction are worse than they were five years ago.	BLM	47.6%	21.4%	14.3%	14.3%	2.4%
	FS	29.2%	54.2%	8.3%	8.3%	0.0%
	Combined	40.9%	33.3%	12.1%	12.1%	1.5%
3. The off-road vehicle problems in my jurisdiction are out of control.	BLM	21.4%	38.1%	7.1%	31.0%	2.4%
	FS	12.5%	29.2%	25.0%	29.2%	4.2%
	Combined	18.2%	34.8%	13.6%	30.3%	3.0%
4. I believe that ORV problems are turning around for the better.	BLM	0.0%	11.9%	7.1%	61.9%	19.0%
	FS	0.0%	20.8%	20.8%	50.0%	8.3%
	Combined	0.0%	15.2%	12.1%	57.6%	15.2%

II. Source of Problems

		Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
5. In my experience, drugs and alcohol are major factors in ORV problems.	BLM	16.7%	31.0%	11.9%	35.7%	4.8%
	FS	0.0%	16.7%	33.3%	45.8%	4.2%
	Combined	10.6%	25.8%	19.7%	39.4%	4.5%

		Under 10%	10-25%	26-50%	51-75%	Over 75%	No Answer
6. What % of citations or notices of violation issued for ORV use violations are attributed to- *4-wheeled vehicles (Jeeps, trucks, or SUVs)	BLM	23.8%	45.2%	19.0%	4.8%	0.0%	7.1%
	FS	25.0%	33.3%	16.7%	4.2%	0.0%	20.8%
	Combined	24.2%	40.9%	18.2%	4.5%	0.0%	12.1%

*Motorcycles, quad cycles or ATVs:	BLM	4.8%	9.5%	9.5%	31.0%	40.5%	4.8%
	FS	4.2%	8.3%	20.8%	29.2%	20.8%	16.7%
	Combined	4.5%	9.1%	13.6%	30.3%	33.3%	9.1%

II. Source of Problems (continued)

		Under 10%	10-25%	26-50%	51-75%	Over 75%	No Answer
7. What percentage of citations are issued to ORVs that are – <i>*Street licensed:</i>	BLM	42.9%	28.6%	9.5%	4.8%	2.4%	11.9%
	FS	25.0%	25.0%	16.7%	4.2%	4.2%	25.0%
	Combined	36.4%	27.3%	12.1%	4.5%	3.0%	16.7%
<i>*Non-street licensed:</i>	BLM	7.1%	7.1%	7.1%	26.2%	47.6%	4.8%
	FS	4.2%	8.3%	16.7%	16.7%	29.2%	25.0%
	Combined	6.1%	7.6%	10.6%	22.7%	40.9%	12.1%

III. Enforcement Powers & Penalties

		Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
8. I believe that the penalties we apply to ORV violators are tough enough.	BLM	7.1%	16.7%	9.5%	35.7%	31.0%
	FS	0.0%	29.2%	8.3%	25.0%	37.5%
	Combined	4.5%	21.2%	9.1%	31.8%	33.3%
9. Loss of hunting and fishing licenses would deter some portion of ORV violations.	BLM	19.0%	42.9%	11.9%	14.3%	9.5%
	FS	16.7%	54.2%	8.3%	8.3%	12.5%
	Combined	18.2%	47.0%	10.6%	12.1%	10.6%
		Yes	No	Uncertain		
10. Does your agency have the authority to confiscate ORVs used in violations of ORV use rules?	BLM	26.2%	38.1%	35.7%		
	FS	45.8%	33.3%	20.8%		
	Combined	33.3%	36.4%	30.3%		
10A. If so, has such authority been exercised regularly?	BLM	2.4%	23.8%	0.0%		
	FS	4.2%	33.3%	8.3%		
	Combined	3.0%	27.3%	3.0%		
10B. If not, has your agency discussed or sought such authority?	BLM	2.4%	28.6%	7.1%		
	FS	4.2%	16.7%	12.5%		
	Combined	3.0%	24.2%	9.1%		

Note: Many US Forest Service respondents noted that confiscation was not an option due to lack of an impound lot.

		Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
11. In my experience, a citation or notice of violation for using an ORV on a closed route of travel requires that a closed route be specifically signed as such.	BLM	26.2%	59.5%	0.0%	7.1%	7.1%
	FS	8.3%	58.3%	4.2%	20.8%	8.3%
	Combined	19.7%	59.1%	1.5%	12.1%	7.6%

IV. Cooperation & Coordination

		Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
12. My agency is prepared to deal with the ORV problems we are experiencing.	BLM	7.1%	26.2%	4.8%	47.6%	14.3%
	FS	0.0%	37.5%	0.0%	54.2%	8.3%
	Combined	4.5%	30.3%	3.0%	50.0%	12.1%

13. We are improving our response plans for handling ORV issues.	BLM	2.4%	45.2%	9.5%	28.6%	14.3%
	FS	8.3%	62.5%	8.3%	12.5%	8.3%
	Combined	4.5%	51.5%	9.1%	22.7%	12.1%

14. The law enforcement cooperation that my agency receives from sister agencies is generally excellent.	BLM	14.3%	35.7%	21.4%	21.4%	7.1%
	FS	12.5%	41.7%	8.3%	37.5%	0.0%
	Combined	13.6%	37.9%	16.7%	27.3%	4.5%

		Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Extremely Poor	NA
15. I would rate the law enforcement cooperation from the following as – *City	BLM	4.8%	19.0%	7.1%	9.5%	9.5%	50.0%
	FS	4.2%	25.0%	25.0%	16.7%	0.0%	29.2%
	Combined	4.5%	21.2%	13.6%	12.1%	6.1%	42.4%

*County	BLM	11.9%	33.3%	31.0%	7.1%	14.3%	2.4%
	FS	20.8%	25.0%	41.7%	8.3%	4.2%	0.0%
	Combined	15.2%	30.3%	34.8%	7.6%	10.6%	1.5%

*State	BLM	9.5%	45.2%	16.7%	7.1%	11.9%	9.5%
	FS	20.8%	45.8%	16.7%	16.7%	0.0%	0.0%
	Combined	13.6%	45.5%	16.7%	10.6%	7.6%	6.1%

*Tribal	BLM	0.0%	7.1%	7.1%	11.9%	11.9%	61.9%
	FS	8.3%	25.0%	12.5%	0.0%	0.0%	54.2%
	Combined	3.0%	13.6%	9.1%	7.6%	7.6%	59.1%

V. Priorities

		Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
16. My agency devotes adequate resources to cope with ORV problems.	BLM	2.4%	14.3%	7.1%	52.4%	23.8%
	FS	0.0%	8.3%	8.3%	58.3%	25.0%
	Combined	1.5%	12.1%	7.6%	54.5%	24.2%

17. My chain-of-command appreciates the seriousness of ORV problems.	BLM	7.1%	42.9%	14.3%	16.7%	19.0%
	FS	29.2%	58.3%	4.2%	8.3%	0.0%
	Combined	15.2%	48.5%	10.6%	13.6%	12.1%

18. My chain-of-command has impeded me in taking enforcement action against ORV violators.	BLM	11.9%	9.5%	14.3%	45.2%	19.0%
	FS	8.3%	0.0%	4.2%	50.0%	37.5%
	Combined	10.6%	6.1%	10.6%	47.0%	25.8%

V. Priorities (continued)

19. Name, in order of importance, the top three encumbrances to your effectively managing ORV use.

(Top responses for each category are provided)

BLM	FS
#1 Manpower Up-to-date travel plans Conflict with management Desert terrain Air support needed Insufficient laws Motorcycles & user attitudes Insufficient funds	#1 Manpower Money Law enforcement
#2 ORV registration stickers Not enough signs ineffective fines and penalties Insufficient funds	#2 Boundaries obscured in winter Signs inadequate Manpower
#3 Intra-agency conflict re ORV policy No support for barricade constructn Inadequate planning for recreation demands Manpower	#3 Signs repeatedly torn down Lack of education Manpower Hard to work effectively w/ ORV groups

		Yes	No	No Opinion
20. What tools have you found effective in managing ORV use? *Signage	BLM	78.6%	16.7%	2.4%
	FS	79.2%	12.5%	8.3%
	Combined	78.8%	15.2%	4.5%
*Trail Closure	BLM	66.7%	21.4%	9.5%
	FS	62.5%	12.5%	25.0%
	Combined	65.2%	18.2%	15.2%
*Closed road restoration	BLM	71.4%	9.5%	16.7%
	FS	75.0%	12.5%	12.5%
	Combined	72.7%	10.6%	15.2%
*Fencing	BLM	83.3%	9.5%	4.8%
	FS	62.5%	25.0%	12.5%
	Combined	75.8%	15.2%	7.6%
*Rider self-policing (“peer-to-peer” restraints):	BLM	28.6%	57.1%	11.9%
	FS	58.3%	20.8%	20.8%
	Combined	39.4%	43.9%	15.2%

V. Priorities (continued)

		Yes	No	No Opinion
20. What tools have you found effective in managing ORV use? *Citizen involvement	BLM	45.2%	35.7%	16.7%
	FS	70.8%	8.3%	20.8%
	Combined	54.5%	25.8%	18.2%

*Other	
BLM	FS
Rangers on the ground	Increased enforcement presence
Rewards for reporting ORV activity	Enforcement and education
Saturation patrols	Public education
Proactive event coordination	Access control gates
OHV Group involvement	Prosecution and confiscation
Separate OHV and non-OHV areas w/ distance	

		Mgmt/ super- visory	Non- super- visory	No answer
21. My current position is:	BLM	33.3%	61.9%	4.8%
	FS	87.5%	8.3%	4.2%
	Combined	53.0%	42.4%	4.5%