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Comments: My wife and I are avid horseback riders and dispersed horse campers. And even though we live outside of Bend, the Ochoco Mountains are our number one go-to location when we haul our ponies. When we first discovered the Ochocos back in the 90s it was by riding with friends out of Corral Flat. They told us of these _amazing_ endurance trails and the wonderful camping that was available at Corral Flat. For many years we favored riding of this location. My wife and I even hosted the state ride for Oregon Equestrian Trails at Corral Flat that put a premium emphasis on leave no trace camping. At the time it was regarded as one of the best state rides that organization has ever held.

Then came the ATV explosion. In no time at all the once lonely and primitive single-track trails were converted into 10 foot wide roads. To add insult to injury, wherever the ground was wet multiple side-by-side double-tracks formed. What used to be a day of solitude and quiet comradeship became a game of "avoid the ATVs."

Eventually, we gave up entirely trying to ride out of Corral Flat because seeing all the damage done to the trails and the adjacent meadows was just too depressing. We could not bear to see all of the rampant construction that was taking place.

We still love to ride and camp in the Ochocos but we seldom, if ever, ride any of the trails near Corral Flat. And I know that many of our friends and fellow equestrians feel the exact same way.

I am wholeheartedly behind any efforts that are made to rehabilitate this trail system back to single-track. Furthermore, anything and everything that can be done to curtail the unauthorized and thoughtless misuse of off-road vehicles anywhere on the forest also gets my support.

However, the forest management team needs to become much more aggressive in their efforts to curtail inappropriate off road vehicle use. Prior efforts have been weak and ineffective in this regard. Law-enforcement needs to be increased especially on holidays and peak summer days. Public-service announcements that decry inappropriate use of motorized vehicles in sensitive areas need to be created and widely dispersed. Partnerships need to be formed with the manufacturers, advertisers, retailers and user groups of these devices to promote responsible use thereof.

Until there is a change of consciousness in the pump public's mind that ripping around and tearing things up on our public lands is not only unacceptable to the environment, but also is socially unacceptable, nothing much is going to change. For decades television commercials and print advertisements have made it perfectly acceptable to return to town with your vehicle completely covered in mud as a sign that you had a good time out in the woods. Shame on these collective industries for promoting such bad behavior.

In the meantime, I do hope that whatever efforts can be made with the budget and personnel available to the USFS will have at least some detrimental effect on this bad behavior. Perhaps if they're successful my wife and I can enjoy camping at, and riding out of, Corral Flat once again.