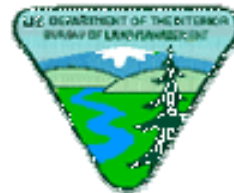


COHVOPS - OHV Report

January 7th, 2009



Central Oregon Off Highway Vehicle Operations (COHVOPS)

CURRENT CONDITIONS

Weather: [Follow this link for current Bend weather](#)

SUNRISE: 7:39 SUNSET: 4:47 – January 10th (9 Hours and 8 minutes)

Full Moon on January 11th

Winter arrived with vengeance, but this upcoming weekend is looking extremely good for Millican Plateau. With temperatures predicted into the mid 40's during the day, mostly clear skies, calm winds and a full moon; riding conditions should be great. As always, check the National Weather Service links provided.

The COHVOPS crew checked out the trail conditions this week and here is what they found. Currently the riding out in Millican Plateau is great! On the northern end of the trail system in the sandy areas there is a few inches of "perfect 10" dirt on top of the frost/ice layer. As you head south and to the east on the trails that have more clay the frost layer is closer to the surface creating some wet, slick, and muddy conditions.

East Fort Rock on the other hand is pretty much un-rideable for dirt bikes. The north end from RD 25 is still rideable for quads. There was 1 to 4 inches of snow at the 2510 staging area, 3-5 inches at the 25 staging area and a good 10 inches at Camp II. Only traveling by 4x4 is advised to Camp II and any travel to the south of that is not recommended because the snow gets deep in a hurry. Ground Hog is also accessible, by 4x4 with about 6 inches of snow. The crew traveled south on RD 2510 to RD2310 out to RD23 and up, and the snow is deep! and frozen. Someone unprepared could easily get stuck and spend the night.

It is recommended that riders detour from recreating out at East Fort Rock with the winter conditions. If you ride in Millican, don't forget it is a two way trail system and only Millican Plateau is open this time of year. Remember wherever you ride; you NEED to ride the conditions! STAY on the trails! And be prepared!

The strong winds that have occurred over the past few weeks could have resulted in down trees on the trail. If you run across a tree blocking the trail or other trail hazard please make note of the location (ie; trail number, closest junction, GPS way point, etc) and report the hazard to COHVOPS at 541-383-5641 or the email from this news letter.

DO YOU HAVE YOUR ATV SAFETY EDUCATION CARD?

January 1, 2009, new safety laws requiring an ATV Safety Education Card went into effect for youth under 16 and their adult supervisors (phased in for all ages by 2014) operating ATVs and off-road motorcycles on lands open to public use.

The ATV Safety Education Course is the only way to receive the new ATV Safety Education Card (or Operator Permit). In order to make training as convenient as possible, the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department offers this free safety and education program and certification online at this website. www.rideATVoregon.org. In addition to the On-line training, hands on training will be required for all youth under the age of 16 starting 2012. While hands-on training is highly recommended, it is not currently required and does not fulfill the ATV Safety Education Course and Card requirement. Previous ASI or MSF Operator Permit holders need to take this course.

Any youth under the age of 16 operating a quad must also meet all the following minimum physical size requirements (Rider Fit) in relationship to the vehicle:

1. **Brake Reach:** With hands placed in the normal operating position and fingers straight out, the first joint (from the tip) of the middle finger will extend beyond the brake lever and clutch.
2. **Leg Length:** While sitting and with their feet on the pegs, the knee must be bent at least 45 degrees.
3. **Grip Reach:** While sitting upright on the quad with hands on the handle bars and not leaning forward, there must be a distinct angle between the upper arm and the forearm, and;
4. The rider must be able to turn the handle bars from lock to lock while maintaining grip on the handle bars and maintaining throttle and brake control.
5. Disabled riders are allowed to use prosthetic devices or modified or adaptive equipment to achieve rider fit.

Central Oregon Riding Areas

TRAIL CLOSURES are in effect – know before you go

Please respect these closures and report observations of violations to COHVOPS. Where available gates are closed and at all points of entry signage has been posted. Be advised that signage does get dislodged for one reason or another but as always, being an informed rider is essential.

East Fort Rock (elev. 4400-6400') **SNOW** / [Click here for weather](#)

OPEN Season – East Fort Rock is open year-around, but access becomes blocked by snow.

Road 2510 Staging Area – 1-4 inches of snow

Road 25 Staging Area – 3-5 inches of snow

Camp II Trailhead – 10 inches of snow

Ground Hog Rock Crawl and Play Area – 6 inches of snow

China Hat Campground - inaccessible

South Lava Trailhead - inaccessible

LOGGING OPERATIONS

Logging operations are active on the OP timber sale in the East Fort Rock area. Expect log truck traffic on Road 18 (China Hat) and Road 25 throughout the duration. As a matter of public safety, **trail 20** from the junctions of trails 2 and 3 to the junction of trail 21 in the **East Fort Rock** is **closed** for

logging operations. Please observe the barriers that are in place. Getting an OHV into the middle of ongoing logging operations is a very dangerous proposition.

OPINE Closure - The **OPINE Closure (December 1 to March 31)** affects the North and East part of East Fort Rock restricting motorized vehicle travel to EFR trails and these designated routes: Road 18, 1829, 2016, 2017, 2015500, 23, 2300300, 2312, 2312400, 2313, 2313400, 25, 2510, 2510110 and 2510400. Travel outside of these routes is considered a federal violation.

Rosland Recreation Site (elev. 4200') – **SNOW** / [Click here for weather](#)

Rosland Area – 4-6 inches of snow and lots of standing water. 4x4 recommended only for access to the staging area. The last few weeks the site was enjoyed mostly by kids sledding. So if you head out to Rosland and there is snow on the ground, be advised of the potential for “mixed use” in the play area.

In mid December COHVOPS and many volunteers completed the Rosland OHV Play Area Improvement Project. Lots of dirt was moved around to provide a “better” experience for riders. If you are interested in learning more on how you can contribute to future projects to come, please contact Todd Cardin at (541) 383-4794 or (541) 306-9658.

OPEN Season - Rosland OHV play area is open year-round.

Millican Plateau (elev. 3300-3700') – **Good Conditions** [Click here for weather](#)

STAGING AREA CONSIDERATIONS

Alfalfa Curves Staging Area - Includes 1 Portable Toilet, Picnic Tables and Fire Rings, No Water

4-Corners Staging Area - Includes 1 Portable Toilet, Picnic Tables and Fire Rings, No Water

Corrals Staging Area - Includes 1 Portable Toilet, Picnic Tables and Fire Rings, No Water

OPEN Season - Trails are open year around, unless otherwise posted.

South Millican Valley (elev. 4200-4500') - **CLOSED** [Click here for weather](#)

OPEN Season - South Millican is open to OHV traffic from August 1 to November 30 annually.

North Millican Valley (elev. 3300-4200') – **CLOSED** [Click here for weather](#)

OPEN Season - North Millican is open from May 1 to November 30 annually.

Green Mountain (elev. 4500-5400') - **SNOW** [Click here for weather](#)

STAGING AREA CONSIDERATIONS - There are no developed staging areas, but there is some limited parking space available at Harvey Gap.

OPEN Season - The Green Mountain Trail which is 8.5 miles long is open year around. However access to the trail system is limited. The **Mckay Creek Road closure is a year-round closure**. Routes inside the Emergency Closure area that remain open year-around to street legal vehicles include 27, 2705, 2710, 33, 3320, 325 and 350. Non-street legal vehicles including (motorcycles, Quads, and snow machines) can utilize only the following 3 and 4 digit roads including 2705, 2710, 3320, 325, 350 and the Green Mountain Trail. Failure to abide by this closure is considered a ticket able offense.

Henderson Flat (elev. 3000-3400') – **CLOSED** [Click here for weather](#)

OPEN Season - Henderson Flats is open to OHV Traffic from April 1 to November 30

Edison Butte (elev. 5000-6900') – **SNOW/ Seasonal class CLOSURE** [Click here for weather](#)

OPEN Season - Edison Butte has a Seasonal Closure for Class II (Jeeps) and Class III (Motorcycles) from December 1 to March 31. It remains open to Class I (Quads) year around.

TRAVEL CONDITIONS

Expect Mountain Snow and Winter Driving Conditions

Travel and weather information presented in this newsletter is derived from the most recent forecast available at the time of this mailing. Because travel and weather conditions are subject to dramatic change, information may not be consistent with recent changes. THINK SAFE, THINK SMART. Before traveling, take the time to consult www.tripcheck.com or dial 511 on your telephone for the most recent travel and weather information.

Santiam Summit - The Summit of Hwy 20 sits at an elevation of 4817 feet. [Click Here For Weather](#)

Mt. Hood - Hwy 26 at Government Camp sits at an elevation of 3950. [Click Here For Weather](#)

Hwy 97 South - Hwy 97 at La Pine sits at an elevation of 4200 feet. [Click Here For Weather](#)

OTHER RIDING INFO

Crooked River National Grassland: The use of any OHV off of a designated trail is prohibited year round except for the designated trails and play area at Henderson Flat. If a route does not have a trail number, it is closed.

Santiam Pass OHV Trails: Please read all posted signs and watch for closures. Contact the Sisters Ranger District before you recreate in the area.

East Fort Rock and Millican Valley OHV Trail Systems: Travel is allowed on designated OHV trails only. Please reference maps provided at the entrance of the trail system. OHV travel on user roads or spur roads not designated on the trail system map is a violation.

Pine Mountain: is part of the Opine closure, travel is only allowed on designated routes.

WINTER SAFETY TIPS

Coping With Extreme Weather

Some of the most common and dangerous risks to ATV riders result from exposure to extreme weather.

Rules of Survival

- Tell someone where you're going and when you plan to return.
- Don't travel alone.
- Take enough food and water to last for at least two days in an emergency.
- Bring a map and compass, and always orient yourself before leaving.
- Wear layered clothing.
- Don't panic if you become lost.

Hypothermia

Hypothermia occurs when your body loses heat faster than it can produce it, causing your core body temperature to fall. Hypothermia is often induced by cold, wet conditions, such as rain, snow, sleet, or immersion in water.

Symptoms of Hypothermia

Uncontrolled shivering-usually the first obvious symptom but ceases as hypothermia progresses
Slow, slurred speech
Memory loss
Irrational behavior, such as removing clothing
Lack of body movement
Sleepiness
Unconsciousness, which could lead to death

Treatment of Hypothermia

Find shelter for the victim.
Treat the hypothermia victim gently, and do not allow him or her to walk unless absolutely necessary. Avoid any unnecessary movement.
Remove wet clothing, and replace with dry clothing and other protective covering. If there is no dry clothing, use a fire to dry one layer at a time.
Give warm liquids to re-hydrate and re-warm, but never give the victim alcohol to drink. Quick energy foods also produce inner body heat.
For mild cases, use fire, blankets, or another person's body heat to warm up the victim.
In more advanced stages, re-warm the victim slowly by placing one or more persons in body contact with the victim. Place canteens of hot water insulated with socks or towels on the groin, armpits, and sides of the neck of the victim.
If the victim is semiconscious, try to keep him or her awake. Do not immerse the victim in a warm bath or expose the individual to a large fire, which can lead to traumatic shock. Evacuate the victim to a hospital immediately.

Frostbite

Frostbite occurs when tissue freezes. The best prevention is to avoid severe weather. If you're caught in extremely cold weather, pay attention to your head and extremities such as fingers, toes, ears, and nose. Wear a face cover if the temperature is below 0° Fahrenheit. If you experience any symptom of frostbite, treat immediately.

Symptoms of Frostbite

Skin turns off-white.
Prickly or tingling feeling occurs as ice crystals form.
Pain may be present initially, then disappears as frostbite progresses.
In severe cases, victim experiences a loss of feeling in the affected area.

Treatment of Frostbite

Warm the affected area with body heat but avoid rubbing the area—it can damage tissue.
Don't use hot water or other external heat sources, which could cause burns.
Wrap with warm, dry clothing.
Get to a warm shelter.
Drink hot liquids.
Get medical attention.

BE PREPARED FOR WINTER CONDITIONS

For more information.... [visit our website](#)

Contact Us

To help reduce the potential of accidents and unnecessary injuries to unsuspecting riders, please report trail hazards to the COHVOPS program immediately. (541)383-4000

For additional information Please contact the following locations:

Bend

Bend/Fort Rock Ranger District in Red Oak Square (541) 383-4000 or
Deschutes National Forest Supervisors Office (541) 383-5300.

Prineville

Ochoco National Forest Supervisors Office on NE Third (541) 416-6500 or
Bureau of Land Management on NE Third (541) 416-6700.

Madras

Crooked River National Grasslands on SW Highway 97 (541) 416-6640.

Sisters

Sisters Ranger District on the corner of Hwy 20 and Pine St (541) 549-7700.

McKenzie Bridge

McKenzie River Ranger District on the McKenzie Highway (541) 822-3381.