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%**

		Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
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%**

		Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
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%**

		Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
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-	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%
*4-wheeled vehicles (Jeeps, trucks, or SUVs)	**Combined**	**24.2%**	**40.9%**	**18.2%**	**4.5%**	**0.0%**	**12.1%**

		Under 10%	10-25%	26-50%	51-75%	Over 75%	No Answer
	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%
*Motorcycles, quad cycles or ATVs:	**Combined**	**4.5%**	**9.1%**	**13.6%**	**30.3%**	**33.3%**	**9.1%**

II. Source of Problems (continued)

7. What percentage of citations are issued to ORVs that are –		Under 10%	10-25%	26-50%	51-75%	Over 75%	No Answer
	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%
*Street licensed:	Combined	**36.4%**	**27.3%**	**12.1%**	**4.5%**	**3.0%**	**16.7%**

		Under 10%	10-25%	26-50%	51-75%	Over 75%	No Answer
	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%
*Non-street licensed:	Combined	**6.1%**	**7.6%**	**10.6%**	**22.7%**	**40.9%**	**12.1%**

III. Enforcement Powers & Penalties

8. I believe that the penalties we apply to ORV violators are tough enough.		Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
	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.		Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
	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%**

10. Does your agency have the authority to confiscate ORVs used in violations of ORV use rules?		Yes	No	Uncertain
	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?		Yes	No	Uncertain
	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?		Yes	No	Uncertain
	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.

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.		Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
	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%**

		Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
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%**

		Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
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 –	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%
City	**Combined**	**4.5%**	**21.2%**	**13.6%**	**12.1%**	**6.1%**	**42.4%**

		Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Extremely Poor	NA
	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%
County	**Combined**	**15.2%**	**30.3%**	**34.8%**	**7.6%**	**10.6%**	**1.5%**

		Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Extremely Poor	NA
	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%
State	**Combined**	**13.6%**	**45.5%**	**16.7%**	**10.6%**	**7.6%**	**6.1%**

		Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Extremely Poor	NA
	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%
Tribal	**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%**

		Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
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%**

		Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
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?	BLM	78.6%	16.7%	2.4%
	FS	79.2%	12.5%	8.3%
Signage	**Combined**	**78.8%**	**15.2%**	**4.5%**

		Yes	No	No Opinion
	BLM	66.7%	21.4%	9.5%
	FS	62.5%	12.5%	25.0%
Trail Closure	**Combined**	**65.2%**	**18.2%**	**15.2%**

		Yes	No	No Opinion
	BLM	71.4%	9.5%	16.7%
	FS	75.0%	12.5%	12.5%
Closed road restoration	**Combined**	**72.7%**	**10.6%**	**15.2%**

		Yes	No	No Opinion
	BLM	83.3%	9.5%	4.8%
	FS	62.5%	25.0%	12.5%
Fencing	**Combined**	**75.8%**	**15.2%**	**7.6%**

		Yes	No	No Opinion
	BLM	28.6%	57.1%	11.9%
	FS	58.3%	20.8%	20.8%
Rider self-policing ("peer-to-peer" restraints):	**Combined**	**39.4%**	**43.9%**	**15.2%**

V. Priorities (continued)

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

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