



## Oregon Parks and Recreation Department ATV Advisory Committee Meeting

February 9, 2022, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
Remote- Zoom Meeting

### **OPRD ATV Advisory Committee Members Present:**

Virgle Osborne – Chair – Class II ATV  
Ron Price – Vice Chair - Member at Large  
Dave Kimball – Class I ATV  
Barrett Brown – Class III ATV  
Matt Miller – Class IV ATV  
Sgt Nick Hansen – Law Enforcement Agency  
Ann Haak – ADA Representative  
Reid Brown – Department of Forestry  
Kevin Rowell – US Forest Service  
Jim Cole – Medical Services Provider  
Jody Phillips – Rural Fire Protection District  
Greg Jackle – Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Dustin James – ATV Dealer  
Chris Knauf – Bureau of Land Management  
Peter Geissert – Department of Human Services

### **Other:**

Tyler Vore-ODF, Tim Custer, Jordan Rhinevault-ODF,

### **OPRD Staff Present:**

Michele Scalise, Daniel Killam, Ian Caldwell, Mike Law, Jeff Trejo, Jayme Jones, Allison Watson, Katie Gauthier, Nohemi Enciso, Brandy Schippers, Kellie Mingus

Meeting called to order at **9:00 AM on Wednesday February 9, 2022** by Virgle Osborne.

1. Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Review
2. Public Comments: No public comments
3. Approval of February 2021 Meeting Minutes **(ACTION)**

**Motion: Jody Phillips moved to accept the February 2021 meeting minutes**

**Second: Ron Price**

**Vote: All in favor. Motion passed unanimously**

4. 2022 Volunteer Requirements: There are several trainings that are now required. There are 2 types of committee members. Agency Committee Members (paid by your agency to attend meeting and represent your agency) and Volunteer Committee Members.

**Volunteer committee members** must complete:

- Discrimination and Harassment training and is required once a year
- Driving background check. Only HR sees results of driving check.
- One time driver training for volunteers.

**All Committee Members** need to complete Volunteer Service Agreement (VSA).

5. Committee Member Updates & Feedback

Matt Miller – Been working with the USFS on making connections on some of the Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUM) in the Prairie City and Crescent areas.

Reed Brown – ODF just hired Jordan and Tyler to fill the OHV Positions in the Tillamook State Forest.

Ron Price – Been working on Highway Access Routes in the Prairie City and Lakeside areas. Seeing increased development of staging areas in Douglas County and concerned about carrying capacity of the Dunes.

Barrett Brown – Serving as NOHVCC President, working on partnerships with agencies. Updated agreement with Tread Lightly!. Working on custom first aid training programs centered around back county trails.

Dave Kimball – Been doing education on the ground with users.

Dustin James – Been doing some Youth Safety Training Classes. Working with the local club

Greg Jackle – Been seeing increased use in Hunter tags with pandemic and people trying to get outdoors. Been working with Mt Bike trail systems.

Kevin Rowell – Been working on a route to connect Oakridge to the Huckleberry area. USFS is planning to return to the office at the end of March. eBikes are a big issue and looked at some potential non-motorized routes to allow eBikes on.

Jody Phillips – Been working on Sound issues in the dunes. Trying to get closer to a standard 96 or 97 db. Working on getting Sandy Way Paved.

Ann Haak – Just got a side-by-side. Noticing it's hard to get into places because there are a lot of people getting outside. Glad to see extra ADA parking at Riley Ranch. Been having issues finding ADA spaces at staging/camping areas. Need pavement for scooter and most sites only have one site.

Nick Hanson – Been seeing DUIs. Seeing an increase in major facilities. Have drones that help document accidents.

Chris Knauf – Working on BLM Travel Management strategy.

Jim Cole – State EMS Committee focused on rural and frontier areas and EMS Coverage. Been expanding roles with using certain drugs for things like asthma. Working with Oakridge Fire and been on a few rescues.

Peter Geissert – Our team is working on documenting data. Working with vendors and hospitals. Trying to be more consistent with data across systems.

Virgle Osborne – Did a 4wd trip in the Bend area. Went to Quack Attack and realized that the trail had been turned into a dirt road. Been working with USFS to get the trail put back to a more challenging trail with rock features. Active with PNW4WDA. Champagne Ranch does charity work with United Way. Can now do youth certificates for ATV Card. Mtn Bikes have built some trails on the ranch. Working on navigation Challenge in March and in April an Overland Challenge. Also putting on Winch Classes.

#### 6. Recreational Immunity- Update

Ian – Oregon has Recreation Immunity Statues that protects the owner, employees and volunteers from lawsuits if land is open for use for free. There was a legal challenge for the \$10 ATV Permit in Tillamook State Forest. A person got injured on a gravel pile and tried to say that the \$10 permit was a fee to use the land and could sue the landowner. In *Stedman v. Dept of Forestry*, the judge ruled that the “Permit is not a charge for the use of the land...but is instead...a vehicle registration fee”.

#### 7. Update on Legislative Concepts -

In 2021, State Parks had 2 bills related to Side-by-sides. Chris Havel attended the hearing. The legislators asked why there were not many ATV people testifying. Also wondered if Law Enforcement community was involved with these bills. The bills did not have any more hearings and died in session.

- SB 106- Safety Card required for All Class IV ATVs
- SB 107- Class IV definition – Remove 14 inch rims, use 1000cc engine, remove windshield wiper requirement, windshield can't be obstructed.

Discussion about Polaris RZR Pro R (2000cc engine). If over 1000cc would be considered Class II ATV and need to have liability insurance. Often used in Dunes and Forest Roads which are open to both Class II and IV. Often these are larger machines that are not on Class IV only trails. But many regular side-by-sides are putting 15 inch rims on vehicles so they can more options for tires. Jeff: Seeing an increase in injuries and deaths of the Class IV ATVs.

Ian: Planning on resubmitting these two bills again for the 2023 session. Katie: Last year went to Joint Transportation Committee, but they had a lot of other high priority issues. Planning on resubmitting the bills and draft the language during the summer of 2022. Nick: Concerned Class II vehicles not needing Safety Card. Discussed requiring Card for non-registered (not street legal, no license plate) Class II Vehicles.

Discussion on license plates for ATVs. Question about efforts to require ATVs to have license plate to prosecute illegal activity. Law Enforcement is unable to cite for most violations, unless they witness the activity. Without witnessing can only cite for Crimes and violations resulting in traffic accidents after investigating. Discussion about license plate to allow for more on-road use. In 2015, SB192 was passed to create a committee to look at ATVs on roads. From that recommendation, SB344 was passed which created a process to potentially allow ATVs on certain sections State Highways. City and Counties can write their own ordinances. Lake, Grant, Baker and Union Counties allow use on most of their roads. Many towns, especially in Eastern Oregon allow ATV use on City roads. There are still some connections that need to be made, especially on the Back County Discovery Route.

Barrett: Working on trying to sponsor a bill to move sound levels in the State, from DEQ to OPRD. Ian: This advisory committee discussed this concept in 2017 to reduce the sound level in Oregon.

## 8. Safety Education Program Update

Jeff Trejo: Reviewed Safety Education Certification

- Hands on training: we have 4 programs, OSU/4H, ASI, OMRA and Lyon Off-Road Center. And have about 75 instructors. Have been averaging about 242 courses per year, but had a 33% drop in 2020. Trying to maintain certification for youth to about 1000 a year.
- Since training started in 2012 have certified 10,948 youth. 7,296 are Class I and 3,624 are for Class III. Only 28 for Class IV.

Jeff Trejo: Law Enforcement Tracking System

- Looked at Incident Types since 2018. Rollover is the most common, then hitting Fixed Object, then hitting Other ATV
  - 2018 Total Incidents = 79
  - 2019 Total Incidents = 51
  - 2020 Total Incidents = 111
  - 2021 Total Incidents = 117

- ATV Permit Sales and Incident Correlation
  - Class I 39% of sales and 57% of Incidents = Ratio of 1.46
  - Class II 19% of sales and 3% of Incidents = Ratio of 0.16
  - Class III 23% of sales and 15% of Incidents = Ratio of 0.65
  - Class IV 18% of sales and 30% of Incidents = Ratio of 1.67
- Class I had 12 youth incidents (8 were roll overs)
- Class II had 1 youth incident with 2 youth injured
- Class III had 2 youth incidents
- Class IV had 6 youth incidents
- Reviewed some of the specifics of incidents in 2021 that were reported in the Law Enforcement Tracking System (LETS)

Peter Geissert: Oregon EMS & Trauma Systems Data Review

- Looked at trauma over the last two years. Highest from May thru August
- 889 in 2020 (Complete Data)
- 1657 in 2020 and 2021
- 77% of traumas were male
- Highest rate in Douglas County, then Lane and Tillamook.
- By Vehicle type, Class I = 63%, Class III = 28% and Other ATV 7.9%
- 54% people were wearing helmets (46% not wearing helmets)
- 99% Traumas survived while .08% (7) resulted in death
- Alcohol 160 people under .4 blood alcohol level. Two outliers above .4

9. ATV Program Update

- Jeff: Reviewed Planned Outreach Events 2022
  - Agricultural Safety Days – Turner – 3 days in May
  - Kids Outdoor Adventure Day – La Pine 1 day in June
  - Law Enforcement Workshop – Eagle Crest, Cline Butte OHV Area 4 days in April
- New Branding & ATV Guide – Have developed some “branding” standards for ATV Program. Using consistent colors and fonts. Working on applying to brochures, documents, website. Working with “OREGON ATV est. 1986” as wordmark. Have developed Class I thru IV icons. Redesigned ATV Permit (decal). Working on updating ATV Safety Card. Updated 2022 ATV Guide (Handbook).
- Working on messaging for dunes safety, ATV Dealership Messaging, ATV Rental Agencies and Online Training website.
- Permit Sales – Looked at sales for since 2010. Steady increase. Around 80,000 in 2010. Over 90,000 the last 2 years. Class IV is showing the biggest increase in sales.
- Reciprocity – Ian:  
Historically, Oregon and Washington accepted each other's ATV Permits (sticker/decal) when visiting ATV Riding areas. This year, the Washington State

Legislature passed [HB 1322](#), which stated that Oregon's Permits were no longer accepted in the field. The way Oregon's law is written, reciprocity only exists, is when the other state accepts Oregon's ATV Permit in a similar manner. Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) got an opinion on this from the Oregon Department of Justice, which confirmed the reciprocity no longer exists with Washington and riders now need to purchase an Oregon ATV Permit. This took effect on October 1, 2021.

**Washington residents riding in Oregon** must purchase a \$10, Oregon ATV Permit either using the [on-line store](#) or at one of the approximately 95 [agent locations](#) throughout the state. On-line purchases will have a temporary permit/receipt valid for 21 days. You can print it or save on your phone. On average about \$100 of fuel taxes are transferred to the ATV Fund Program for each Permit purchased, which is used to keep riding areas open throughout the state.

**Oregon residents riding in Washington** must now go to a [Washington Vehicle Licensing Office](#) and submit [Out of state ORV Registration Application](#), show proof of purchase of the Oregon ATV Permit and show Oregon Driver License and will be issued a permit. The permit is free.

For more Washington ORV Program information go to:  
<https://www.dol.wa.gov/vehicleregistration/offroad.html>

- Budget & Grants: We were planning an ending balance of \$8 million. Ending Balance at June 30, 2021 was over \$15 million. Due to lack of spending in 2020 and increase in fuel taxes per gallon of gas.
- 10.** ATV Highway Access Routes: Had an application for Prairie City, but was not approved due to truck traffic and already have the ability to get through town. Opened up Sumpter last year.
- 11.** Next Meeting:
- November 2022

**Meeting adjourned at 12:18 PM on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 by Virgle Osborne.**