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## United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
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<http://www.mt.blm.gov/ldo>

In Reply To:

8300

August 10, 2005

Lewis and Clark National Forest  
Dick Schwecke, Travel Plan Project Leader  
1101 15<sup>th</sup> St. North  
P.O. Box 869  
Great Falls, Montana 59403-0869

Dear Mr. Schwecke,

We have reviewed your preferred alternative for the Rocky Mountain Ranger District's Travel Management Plan, and want to express our concern about two trails leading into our Outstanding Natural Areas (ONA) along the Rocky Mountain Front. The plan identifies the routes after they enter the ONAs as "other agency jurisdiction". Here are our concerns/comments.

You have proposed an all-terrain vehicle/motorcycle trail (Code B) leading into the Blind Horse ONA, and the plan map also depicts another spur traveling into the Deep Creek ONA to the south as being open to motorcycle use (Code L). These proposed motorized trails are unacceptable to BLM. The BLM's Rocky Mountain Front ONA Activity Plan states that all "motorized use" is restricted in the ONAs. It should be noted that both of these routes dead-end at private property, anyway.

We would like you to change the proposed routes to encourage horseback and hiking use, with the caveat that private land owner permission is required to ingress/egress the BLM's public lands at these locations.

If you have any questions about our comments, please contact Rod Sanders or me at 406/538-1905.

Sincerely,

William F. Frank  
Assistant Field Manager