

WALLY HERGER

2ND DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0502

November 16, 2009

Randy Moore
Regional Forester
US Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region
1323 Club Drive
Vallejo, CA 94592

Dear Regional Forester Moore,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Randy".

I am writing in strong support of the recent correspondence submitted to you by Shasta-Trinity National Forest Supervisor Sharon Heywood and the Shasta County Board of Supervisors requesting a review of the Region's direction to consider Maintenance Level (ML) -3 roads "highways" as each forest develops its motorized mixed-use regulations.

I continue to share the concerns expressed by my constituents as well as off-highway vehicle (OHV) users and motorized recreationists throughout California that the Region's decision to restrict motorized mixed-use to roads with a designation of ML-2 or lower impractically prohibits motorized access on national forests in California. I believe that a review of this position is appropriate particularly given the fact that the California Highway Patrol has made it extremely clear it does not consider ML-3 roads to be highways for the purposes of compliance under the California Vehicle Code.

We all share the desire to protect our public lands for the enjoyment of all users while ensuring their safety as they do so. However, these well-intentioned goals need not be mutually-exclusive and I hope that the Forest Service will work with the OHV community to implement a balanced mixed-use policy. Thank you in advance for your attention to this issue.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Wally".

WALLY HERGER
Member of Congress