

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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100+ Local OHV'ers volunteer at Greenhorn

Locals respond in record numbers in an attempt to keep Greenhorn Creek area open for OHV use.

Friends of Greenhorn notified the local residents of Nevada County that the Greenhorn Creek area is at risk for closure to off highway vehicles (OHV's) by both the Bureau of Land Management, and the Tahoe National Forest.

In response, over 100 concerned and caring volunteers gathered at Greenhorn Creek to haul out a vast amount of debris left by the less caring, including tires, automobile parts, scrap metal, abandoned vehicles, household garbage, construction debris, sofas, TV's, computers, and several bags of shotgun shells and bullet casings. Local businesses participated as well; Les Schwab Tire received all the dumped tires at no charge, Auburn Placer Disposal donated 22 cubic yards worth of free space, and Cal Trans donated over 150 55- gallon trash bags.

An estimated 30 – 40 cubic yards of trash and debris were removed from the Greenhorn Creek area, from the Red Dog Rd. crossing, well into the Tahoe National Forest area north and east of Buckeye Rd., near Chalk Bluff, and as far south as Lowell Hill.

OHV enthusiasts who frequent the Greenhorn Creek area are upset by the BLM and Tahoe National Forest Route Designation and Travel Management Plans, which could close the area as early as Spring of 2008.

This sweeping volunteer response clearly shows the Bureau of Land Management and the Tahoe National Forest that the OHV community cares, wants to keep the area, and will spend the volunteer time and energy to maintain it.

A master plan for the area is in progress, and will include designating a trail system, designating camping areas, signing for private property owners, signing for the trail areas, and reminders to "Leave no trace", "Pack it in. Pack it out" and "No Dumping".

Private property owners in attendance, were encouraged and enthusiastic, and expressly commented that they had purchased property in the surrounding area because they spent a great deal of family time at the creek, and that closing the area would be a local tragedy.

Friends of Greenhorn are committed to a working relationship with Land Management agencies and to addressing the concerns of private property owners in the area. “We need to make it work, for everyone” said Jacquelyne Theisen, member of Friends of Greenhorn.

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