

# Interoffice Memo

Date: November 13, 2017

To: Director Simpkins, Forests and Lands

From: Chief Steven Sherman, Forest Protection

RE: Nash Stream State Forest OHRV enforcement

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Director,

Off Highway Recreational Vehicle (OHRV) enforcement on the West Side Trail and Kelsey Notch has been limited due to manpower needed to patrol for the amount of OHRV activity present and complaints received (no complaints received for OHRV activity in Nash Stream State Forest this year). The Forest Protection Bureau is currently down 3 rangers, which makes up 33% of our statewide staffing. Other high use areas of Coos County (Jericho Mtn. State Park and Gorham rail trail) receive more enforcement time due to the higher volume of users and complaints received.

Forest Rangers conducted vehicle (pick-up truck) patrols in Nash Stream State Forest and took no law enforcement action regarding OHRV activity this past year.

One concern in terms of enforcement for the future is staffing. As more OHRV trails are considered in the area, there will be limited enforcement from the Forest Protection Bureau due to the low staffing and the multiple duties required of the Forest Rangers. One Ranger is assigned to all of Coos County along with one Captain who supervises Coos and Grafton Counties.