

# OREGON

Home of the Hodaka



Oregon's wide-open spaces and vast riding opportunities recall the earlier days of dirt biking. Dick Mann roosts some Oregon soil as he fast-forwards into the future on his vintage BSA.



## OREGON RIDING AREAS

1. Albany SX	928-4474
2. Baker R.A.	523-6391
3. Burns District	573-5241
4. Clarks Branch Cycle Club*	673-1671
5. Coos Bay District	756-0100
6. Delta Park*	221-1487
7. Deschutes National Forest	388-2715
8. Elliott State Forest	267-4136
9. Emerald Racing Association*	688-1274
10. Eugene District	683-6202
11. Fremont National Forest	947-2151
12. Klamath Falls R.A.	883-6916

13. Lakeview R.A.	947-2177
14. Malheur National Forest	575-1731
15. Medford District	770-2234
16. Mount Hood National Forest	666-0700
17. Mountain View Raceway*	668-9409
18. Ochoco National Forest*	447-6247
19. Oregon State Fairgrounds*	928-4474
20. Prineville District +	447-4115
21. Rogue River National Forest +	776-3600
22. Roseburg District	672-4491
23. Salem District	399-5646
24. Siskiyou National Forest	479-5301
25. Siuslaw National Forest	757-4480

26. Sixes MX Track*	347-3612
27. Tillamook District	842-2545
28. Umatilla National Forest	276-3811
29. Umpqua National Forest	672-6601
30. Wallowa-Whitman National Forest +	523-6391
31. Willamette National Forest	687-6522
32. Winema National Forest	883-6714
33. Vale District +	473-3144

\* motocross track  
+ designated off-road motorcycle trails  
\* limited riding opportunities

## CLUBS

Applegate Rough Riders, Dalles	N/A
Lobos MC, Oregon City	656-5801
Medford Riders Assn., Medford	482-0261
Mt. Scott MC, Oregon City	655-0419
MUDD, Roseburg	673-2776
Mud Riders MC, Cornelius	359-0752
Over the Bars Gang, Goldendale	773-4853
Pacific NW Trials Assn., Salem	257-7047
Red Line Racing, Bazker	523-7369
Trailmen MC, Aurora	678-2779
Trask Mt. MC, McMinnville	434-6531
Willamette Valley MC, Portland	246-2210

Vast, green Oregon offers thick, rain-dampened forests and high desert trails in abundance, making riders from other states green with envy. Thirteen national forests, eight Bureau of Land Management (BLM) districts, two state forests and five motocross tracks mean never having to say "there's no place to ride."

As if the sheer amount of riding isn't good enough, Oregon throws in one of the most liberal off-road vehicle control plans anywhere. Get this: Most trails on public land not marked against travel by dirt bikes are open! Spark arresters are only required in the dry season. It's dirt bike heaven, plain and simple, the way it was in most places 30 years ago.

Things changed in most places because of the rapid advance of civilization, legal issues and the public's negative impression of dirt bikes and the people who ride them. The first two problems are best handled with organized efforts. The third one never should have come about and can be solved on an individual level by using common sense whenever you ride. If you'd like more details on how to ride responsibly, check the first few pages of the owner's manual for your bike, call the Motorcycle Safety Foundation for their book, *Tips and Practice Guide for the Off-Highway Motorcyclist*, at

(714) 727-4211 or call the American Motorcyclist Association at (614) 891-2425.

Riding like you really appreciate where you're riding is important everywhere, but especially in Oregon, where riding has yet to be seriously regulated. Right now, the U.S. Forest Service is revising their comprehensive land and resource management plan and they're watching dirt bikes closely. An interlaced trail system that would link some BLM land holdings with national forests is under consideration. Dirt bikers will be allotted land based on how they treat it and how well they get along with other user groups like hikers and horseback riders.

Before you plan to ride in Oregon, phone the spot you wish to visit and ask for a map of the area (they're frequently called fireman's maps or district maps) and to get an idea of the terrain you'll be facing. The map can be mailed to you or in some cases you can pick it up at the ranger's station at the entrance to the public land. Rangers will help you read the map and clarify what is open to riding and what is not. *Always* consult a ranger if you're in doubt as to the open or closed status of any trail. Currently, the Ochoco National Forest's riding opportunities are more limited than at the other national forests, so try the other 12 first (some have trail systems for dirt bikes in addition

to their other riding areas), or go for a ride on BLM land; most districts have more than a million acres and some resource areas have riding parks for dirt bikes, like the Millican Valley ORV Area in the Prineville district and the Virtue Flat area in the Vale district. While you're on the phone, ask about seasonal closures and whether you'll need a spark arrester. You should have one by now, anyway—this is the '80s . . . er, '90s!

## ON & OFF THE ROAD AGAIN

The requirements for off-road riding in Oregon are few. Just have a registration sticker (unless your bike is licensed for street use) whenever you're on public land and a spark arrester when it's required.

With such fabulous riding opportunities for dirt bikes in Oregon, you may wonder why we're including the motorcycle equipment requirements for street legality. Simple—all of the national forests, BLM districts and state forests have roads (many of which are dirt and are fun to travel in their own right) that link the routes open to dirt bikes. Your machine will need a high-/low-beam headlight, a brake/tail light, a horn, brakes and a rear view mirror to become street-legal. You must wear a helmet whenever you ride on the street.

All phone numbers in the riding areas and clubs lists use the 503 area code. □