



## **DUSTY, DRY and DUSTY! And closing the trails**

Nothing worse than dust when you are following your buddies on a day of riding. I don't know about you but it sure is hard to drink from a CamelBack when you have one of those paper masks under your helmet.

It's also hard to see the trail when you follow your buddies.....and that's exactly the problem traffic on the paved roads that parallel the trails have, Visibility. Has anyone noticed on their way home from their favorite riding area, the dust that other OHVs, ATVs , Motorcycles make when they ride the fence lines???

You might not but the rest of the world is watching and looking for another reason to close those trails.

**Yes , I said CLOSE the motorized trails because of that dust.**

Now unless you have been hiding somewhere , we have not had rain in Arizona for over 120 days.....even for Arizona , that is a long dry spell.

The trails and roads we ride and share with everyone else are now fine layers of dust that normally would not have formed and would have stayed as the glue holding everything together if we had our usual rain.

Maricopa County has failed the PM 10 Dust levels the EPA has set for the county and has adopted new standards (rule 310) for dust emissions and dust levels. And Dust is not only a Maricopa County issue, all counties will have Dust Issues.

**YOU say who cares??**

**YOU should** , because those standards apply to where you ride.

Every time the County gets a call that someone saw dust ...they have to go check it out , if the inspector feels the area is out of compliance, the land agency in charge of that land gets a letter of violation. ( NO they do not have to catch you riding and making dust).

**So why should you care???**

The more violation the land agency gets , the sooner fines start and they are BIG and the next step is **CLOSED TO MOTORIZED.**

**CLOSED, like in no riding.**

**WHAT can you do??**

**First, STOP riding the fence lines and shoulders of the paved roads!!! The dust is visible to all who use the paved road and just about everyone has a cell phone now adays. All that dust is also a hazard on the paved roads because of visibility issues.**

**Second , when you go riding , drive in at least a ¼ mile and park , unload and stay at least ¼ mile from the paved roads or homes.**

**Third, out of sight is out of mind.**

**Fourth ,      hey it is dry out there, speed is a major cause of Motorized dust.  
SLOW down.**

**Is it worth losing the privilege to ride to go a little bit faster?  
*Slow down until we get some rain!!!***

**So what happens if you don't do these simple things??**

Some of you may have already seen your Favorite State Trust Land Riding area  
CLOSED.

IF you haven't you soon will. Arizona State Trust Land is most of the land that is in close  
to the cities and town we live in and ride on.....Do any of you ride out in the  
area of Ben Avery and 74??

FIND a new place!!!! because it will close because of the dust from riding the fence  
lines.

**Hey this isn't fair.** How many time have I said that ???? And this could easily happen on  
Forest Service or BLM land.

**NO it is not fair,** every one makes dust, everyone. Horses , mountain bikes , and even  
hikers make dust.....but non motorized don't fall under the magnifying glass.

Again we are easy to target because we are unorganized and don't work together on  
much of anything. That is why I harp on joining a club or your club joining a group or  
coalition of users so that you voice can be heard.

Help us keep trails open , tell your buddies not to ride the fence lines, park  
at least 1/4 mile from the road and slow down.

Thanks for listening!

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