



Toolkits for the Quiet Majority

Challenging Public Funding of Motorized Recreation

Action Step #3

Educating Fellow Citizens & Local Government Officials

Data collected and analyzed in steps #1 and #2 must be shared with local citizens and government officials to educate them about corrections needed in local public funding of motorized recreation. The goal is to convince local elected officials to amend or deny upcoming resolutions to disburse public funds for motorized recreation. The best campaign is built on solid evidence. Keep your campaign grounded in the data you have collected.

a. Determine local needs, communicate findings and proposed solutions to the public and elected officials. Fiscal agents should be expected to not disburse funds once you have provided them with evidence that they are in violation of their grant agreements with the state. Cost of restoration of documented damage should be assessed and budgeted. Curfews and speed limits might be appropriate mitigations if late night noise and high speeds are an issue. Some motorized routes may be found to be no longer welcome. A community might oppose funding of these routes.

While every local community will have a different approach to solving motorized recreation problems **MRR recommends the following five points be part of any public funding of motorized recreation at the local level:**

1. **Public and environmental review** to select routes for motorized recreation
2. **Designated routes only** policy requiring machines to stay on selected routes
3. **Adequate enforcement** to keep riders on selected routes
4. Funds to **repair accumulating damage**
5. **Oversight and accountability** to ensure above objectives are accomplished

Contact MRR for assistance in crafting your local message and strategy: 218-740-3175.

b. Host a MRR workshop (& enjoy MRR's new video "A Celebration of Quiet Places") Educating public officials will require lots of people working together. Contact MRR for strategies for bringing your neighbors together.

c. Disburse information in the media:

- Letters to the editor
- Longer "Point of View" pieces
- Talk with your local papers editor about the importance of using public funds to mitigate the unwanted effects of motorized recreation. \$15 million per year.
- Hold a press conference at a local publicly funded bulldozed & damaged forest or stream
- Communicate your findings with MRR for posting on MRR's website. Send photos w/data.