

Subject: [Fwd: Moto vs Mountain bikes vs Slow Walking on Fromme]
From: Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>
Date: Wed, 06 Jun 2007 13:45:13 -0700
To: Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

Subject: Moto vs Mountain bikes vs Slow Walking on Fromme
From: Monica Craver <mecraver@shaw.ca>
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Is this the "next wave" of recreation to hit Fromme where Mayor and Council have voted for "management of all kinds of recreation on Fromme, because to restrict any recreational would be more difficult"? I find the last comment by a mountain biker to be revealing:

"There is a vast difference in environmental impact between motos and mountain bikes. I think what is also being complained about isn't simply their presence on Fromme (they really shouldn't be there) but instead that they are spraying rocks everywhere and being inconsiderate a-----s."

Let's paraphrase this: *There is also a vast difference in environmental impact between hiking/nature walking and mountain bikes...* (sound familiar?).

It is only a matter of time before the moto folk hijack mountain bike trails, like they have, elsewhere. These are young teens riding motos on Fromme. Too lazy to peddle? Just like mountain biker's were to lazy to hike the trails on foot? People are going into the forest faster and further. The need for speed is compelling ---- walking is too slow and boring....Where does it end?

I recommend a very good book to read by **Richard Louv, "Last Child in the Woods"** (it can be found in the library, or bought at Indigo). Mountain biking, ORV's and ATV's are much to blame for what is called "nature-deficit disorder" in adults, teens and children. There is more a connection to technology, speed, video games, and this is being brought into the woods via fast and speedy wheeled recreation.

There is no place for soothing peace and tranquility in nature anymore. Walking slow and sitting for a spell is becoming alien to the "Ritalin generation". Technology via mountain bikes, motor bikes, etc. works to disconnect people from nature. Nature is supposed to soothe. Without that proper connection to nature, in a traditional sense, we are seeing more depression, mental illness, etc. among children and adults. When a child is taken into the forest to mountain bike, we are doing that child a disservice, and disconnecting him/her to nature. When we teach a child to slow walk, etc. we bring nature to him --- we help him connect.

Yes, the trees are there, but so much more is missed. Like the time I talked to a *child astride a mountain bike* about the frogs, both he and his mountain biking father seemed vague about the concept -- the child's response was, ***"I like to ride fast"***. So sad the legacy we are leaving the

next generation. Children, instead of lying by the edge of the pond watching the tadpoles, boatman beetles, birds, mud wasps, etc., they throw rocks and wood into the pond, and watch their mom or dad throw tennis balls for "Rover" to catch inside the pond. **When confronted about the pond's biodiversity, they exclaim it is "just a dirty puddle".**

This is the disconnect we have, and unless we begin to connect children to nature, we will lose a lot more. They may be inside the woods, but their mind is still very much inside the man-made world around them. Ladder bridges, rock armouring all over the forest. Walled rides, jumps, etc. This is not nature, but man-made intrusion on nature. We have lost so much already and will lose so much more. Nature has just become something they read about, or hear about, or watch on television.

Our children are missing out on a lot, having never seen anything else. Watching daddy carry dirt and rocks to build a trail -- what have they learned about nature? Not respect for it, that is certain! The bikes and bike camps they attend have "skulls and helmets" on it. The bikes they ride come with video game names like Renegade and Terminator. Theride venues called Rippers, etc. What does that teach our children about nature? That it is to be respected?, or that it is to be conquered?

Mountain View Park is a little patch on Fromme that can help reconnect children, teens and adults to the idea of "slow" (peace and tranquility). You cannot have that kind of peace when you have to look over your shoulder for speeding mountain bikes, the odd electric scooter, and someday, ---- a "moto"? It is only a matter of time. Please help return Mountain View Park into an oasis of calm amidst "adrenaline sports". Nature is a multi-faceted thing. We are losing our connection to it, and passing the disconnect onto our children. Let us be wise. Step lightly into the woods, and she will surprise you with a cornucopia of wonders.

Remember that commercial where a couple are seen enjoying the peace of nature, and watching deer drink by a stream? Then comes along a couple yahoos in a four by four roaring up to a stop, asking the quiet, but shocked, deer watching couple, "What are you looking at?" (the deer long gone). That is the disconnect we are seeing today among many people. The forest has become just another place to conquer and place man's heavy footprint all over it. So sad! We won't know what we have lost until it is gone. It should not have to be that way.

--Monica Craver--

North Vancouver, BC V7K 2R3

See:

<http://bb.nsmb.com/showthread.php?t=97276>

#1

Moto On Fromme

This seems like a trend lately and I don't think it is a good thing. In the past 2 weeks I have seen multiple groups of motocross bikes going up Fromme. Isn't this illegal? And it's not very respectful to the environment or to us bikers. For example, my friend got hit with a rock shot up by one of the tires and there was nothing he could do about it. The road is so thin that all you can do is duck and hope you don't get hit. Has anyone else noticed that in the past month motos have been driving up that road?

 quote

[#2](#)

I've seen them almost every ride up lately too. They've all slowed right down when going past though.

Eagle on the other hand, I never seen a bunch of more inconsiderate pricks as I do there. They think once they're 10 past you it's ok to roost it up. I've never understood the thrill of riding a 12+" travel bike up and down a smooth gravel road.

 quote

[#3](#)

Quote:

Originally Posted by -----
I've never understood the thrill of riding a 12+" travel bike up and down a smooth gravel road.

Doing it at 100km/h. Still disrespectful though, but guys have been riding moto at eagle for a long time

 quote

[#4](#)

yea bryce I have seen lots of them up there too

 quote

[#5](#)

Quote:

Originally Posted by -----
Doing it at 100km/h.

Still boring.

 quote

[#6](#)

its a road ??? cars drive up it im sure that a few motos wont hurt. **i dont think mtbers cant really talk about the negative enviromental impact on fromme.** im sure your not legally allowed to have em up there but the yarent hurting anyone, unless the yare reckles.. i dono i just dont think its a big deal



[#7](#)

There is a vast difference in environmental impact between motos and mountain bikes. I think what is also being complained about isn't simply their presence on Fromme (they really shouldn't be there) but instead that they are spraying rocks everywhere and being inconsiderate a-----s.

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