

Mr. LaBar - thank you for this opportunity to address the issue of off road vehicles on highways. My husband and I fully support off road vehicle use on state highways, but only on those segments of highway that occur within the city limits of rural communities. For example: John Day and Canyon City are virtually connected on Highway 395 South in Grant County. A speed limit of 35 mph is assigned to that short portion of the highway from John Day to Canyon City, with the limited speed of 30 mph through Canyon City. The speed limit on Highway 395 and Highway 26 that passes through the city limits of John Day is restricted from 25 and increases to 45 as Highway 395 leaves the main part of town to the west. Off highway vehicle use is allowed within the city limits of John Day and Canyon City - but the only convenient connecting travel way is Highway 395. Other small rural communities such as Prairie City, Seneca, Mt. Vernon, Long Creek, etc., exist within Grant County and fall under similar circumstances. Off road vehicles can operate with relative safety under speed limits of 35 mph. The mingle of traffic with speeds of 55 mph presents a dangerous situation and we feel it should not be allowed. Some of our farming and ranching community that lays outside of city limits need to utilize the highways or highway shoulders to move from one field to another for feeding livestock, mending fences, and general maintenance on property that borders state highways. Those folks are conscientious of safety issues existing on higher speed limit highways.

Robert and Judy Kerr
337 S. Humbolt St.
Canyon City, OR 97820