

Trail Bike Project

Newsletter

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Statewide Information



Holeshot Images

Blue Light Ride

Department of Sustainability and Environment staff and the Victoria Police Motor Sports Club worked together to ensure November's 32nd annual Blue Light Ride maintained the highest possible environmental protection standards. The non-competitive trail bike ride for licensed riders on registered bikes attracted close to 1000 participants, making it one of the oldest and largest trail bike events in Australia.

DSE Forest Officers from Powelltown and Noojee worked with the VPMSC to select suitable routes, and were present on the day to speak with the riders about environmentally responsible riding. Random noise testing was conducted by DSE staff to ensure compliance with Federal legislation. Of 73 bikes tested, 67 were within the legal limit, and 6 were slightly over.



Noise Testing

Holeshot Images



Compliance Campaigns

Multi-Agency compliance operations were conducted across the State during January. Police, Parks Victoria and DSE staff mounted a co-ordinated enforcement campaign targeting unlicensed riders, unregistered bikes, and riding off the designated tracks. Popular bush camping spots, and forests near beachside holiday locations or close to residential areas were included in the operations. Common offences detected included unlicensed and unregistered riding, and off-road riding. Some riders who had committed more than one offence headed home with fines of close to \$1,000, making it an expensive day out. Noise emission testing revealed that the great majority of the registered bikes complied with legislation.



Dale Antonyson (Parks Victoria), Stephanie Ryan (DSE) and Nigel Morrison (Victoria Police) on patrol in the Otways.

Media Interest in Trail Bike Project

More than 30 newspapers across Victoria have carried articles related to the trail bike project during January. Three radio stations broadcast live interviews, and a number of others included pre-recorded segments in their news bulletins. The aim has been to raise awareness of safety and legal issues regarding children riding trail bikes. Key points included the need for licence and registration to ride in State forests, and the requirement for all riders to stay on the designated roads.