

# MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

## RIDERS FOUND FLOUTING RULES IN TRAIL BIKE CRACKDOWN

Sixteen trail bike riders were issued with infringement notices in a crackdown on trail bike behaviour carried out in State's parks and forests near Shepparton over the Anzac weekend.

The Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE), Parks Victoria and Victoria Police were involved in the weekend operation which observed riders around popular camping areas in the Shepparton region.

DSE Regional Compliance Officer, Greg Chant, said it was encouraging to see that many of the riders observed were doing the right thing.

"It shows that riders are getting the message that if they are licensed, registered and stay on the legal road network, they are welcome on public land," he said.

"However, there are still those who continue to flout rules which are in place to ensure the safety of all forest users and the protection of the environment."

Of the 16 infringement notices issued during the operation, more than half the infringement notices issued related to unlicensed riding or unregistered bikes.

Parks Victoria Ranger, Bruce Wehner, said the operation provided a great opportunity for agencies to work together to educate trail bike riders and the public to ensure the proper use of forests and public land.

"A common issue for officers is children who illegally ride mini-bikes in State forests and parks.

"Unfortunately, some parents continue to allow their children to illegally ride trail bikes in state forests and parks," he said.

"This is extremely unsafe and we remind parents that riders without a licence and registration are only permitted to ride on private property."

Future compliance operations focused on unlicensed and unregistered motorcycle use will be conducted by DSE, Parks Victoria and Victoria Police throughout the year as part of the State Government's \$5 million Trail Bike Project to improve the management of trail bikes on public land.

For more information on trail bike riding visit: [www.dse.vic.gov.au/trailbikes](http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/trailbikes) or contact the DSE Customer Service Centre on 136 186.

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