

possible because ORV straddled two counties. In a 2-1 vote, Grays Harbor County took over and reopened the park last fall. The name of the park has been changed back to Straddleline.

The Thurston County Board of County Commissioners enacted an ordinance that reduced sound levels in the county to 55 db during day time hours and 45 db at night. It exempted all activities except motorsports. Big trucks, your power mowers, factories and the Hondas with skinny tires that go "boom, boom," all exceed these noise levels. Guess who they had in their sights? This county legislation was aimed directly at motorsports.

In 2005, the NWOC began organizing peaceful demonstrations at the Capitol during legislative sessions. ATV dealers, 4x4 clubs, motorcyclists, interested individuals and many others were there. Northwest Region was represented by John Forespring, John Nispel, Team Fling Pu, Team Vanquish, Kim Craddock (Pacific Rally Group), and I was there too. I have had meetings and attended hearings with local and state leg-

islators on several occasions.

In 2007, there were two bills introduced in the Legislature that would have upended our activities throughout Washington. Due to lobbying and this year's demonstration, we managed to get them killed. Those laws would have put an end to much of the sport we all enjoy in NWR. I should mention that several state legislators took our side on these issues. I am grateful to those folks.

The life expectancy of Bremerton Motor sports Park (BMP) may be dwindling. It is handled by the Port of Bremerton and the Federal Aviation Agency (FAA). Since NASCAR now seems out of the picture there, the Port is thinking about commercial development on the land we currently use. This could happen in as soon as three years from now. I cannot blame this one on the trend to shut down motorsports but it is a concern.

Do I need to discuss NASCAR? Public outcry has stopped two of their attempts to get tracks going in Washington. We don't use their facilities (yet) but it's all

part of the big picture.

What's next: We have won the majority of the battles so far, but it is not over. I am sure that we are going to have more visits to the Legislature and to county commission and city council meetings. We need everyone's enthusiastic support. When the time comes, call, write, or e-mail your local legislators. Participate in the rallies — there will be more. Learn who the good guys are and who is fighting us.

Some pro-motorsports Web sites and e-mails of motorsports allies include www.pacificrallygroup.com; the Washington Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance, www.wohva.org; two bills (SB5544 and HB1434) the Legislature debated this year, www.leg.wa.pub/billinfo/207-08/Pdf/Bills/House%20Bills/1434.pdf; Dave Hiatt, former president of the American Motorcycle Association in Auburn, at dhiatt@hpgmc.com; and legislative rally organizer Angie Marek, secretary of the Northwest Outdoor Coalition in Parkland, at angie_marek@fp.k.wa.us.

There are more.

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Questions contact: Jay Stratton at (425) 832-0568
or jaybratton@comcast.net
For Test Day Information
Call 202-639-8927, Ext. 183




JUNE 1-3

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Information & Entry Form: www.oregonrca.com
Questions contact: Oregon Region SCCA at
(503) 224-9469


