



Gearing Up for the Future at Turkey Bay OHV Area

Update on Trails Designation

Turkey Bay OHV Area is currently in its third year of designated trail system tenure. Progress has been relatively fast-paced in order to comply with agency deadlines and demands for producing the LBL-wide Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM), but in late September all the efforts were finally rewarded as the first edition was made available to the public. The MVUM is a printed map book that serves as legal documentation displaying legal routes open to motor-vehicle use. If a road or trail does not appear on the map, it means it is not open to public vehicle use. All legal trails in Turkey Bay serve as one component of the MVUM and all campground roads, legal back roads, and legal access routes will also be represented for the public's benefit. The MVUM is required by all National Forests and Grasslands and must comply with the Forest Service Travel Management Rule of 2005. For more information and viewing capabilities of the first edition MVUM, please visit www.lbl.org/MVUM.html.



For more information on MVUM, look for this logo at www.lbl.org.

In addition to the available MVUM, the next step in designating legal routes in Turkey Bay is also underway.

While the legal routes in Turkey Bay have been marked for some time now with either yellow, orange, or blue diamonds, most riders may not have been aware that each trail also had a specific number assigned to it. These trail numbers have not been included on the trail map to date, but are now available on the MVUM. The Turkey Bay staff has been working diligently to number each trail, especially at points of intersection, to reflect the accuracy of the MVUM. It is our goal that all riders benefit from having a numbered trail system, especially first-time visitors, as well as law enforcement and rescue officials responding to accidents. Those who rely on GPS for navigation or geo-caching will also find the numbered trails an added bonus when attempting to locate a specific route or waypoint.

Restoration Projects

Turkey Bay has been very fortunate in recent years to have been awarded grant funds to complete a variety of land and trail management projects. Since January 1, 2005, some of the contributing sources have included Kentucky Recreational Trails Program, the National Forest Foundation, U.S.F.S. Century of Service project funding, and U.S.F.S. Region 8 Legacy funding for watershed improvement. It is with grant assistance that projects such as continuing development of the Three Ponds site, restoration of over 30 acres of illegal trails/hill climbs, annual trail maintenance, signing, and boundary painting is completed. While some of the funds have been received without competition, the majority has been accrued with the help of Land Between The Lakes Association (LBLA), LBL's non-profit partner, and the numerous volunteer hours

donated by riders at various workdays and special events.



Part of the area repaired with money received from grants and a lot of help from volunteers.

In 2008, Turkey Bay was awarded over \$200,000 to identify and complete watershed improvement projects, storm damage and high water repairs, and MVUM related tasks. Some of the projects include:

1. Road 167 repairs (culverts, rock, grading, etc...)
2. Repairs to the main trails after heavy spring storms
3. Turner Hollow watershed improvements near Point 4
4. Turner and Turkey Creek stream-bank stabilization
5. Hillside restoration near Point 6 (4 acres)
6. Installation of five hardened creek crossings



A hardened creek crossing designed for sustainability.

All of these projects are essential to the progress and sustainability of Turkey Bay

trails. In order for Turkey Bay to be a destination for all OHV riders in the future, it's important that everyone respect these areas where improvements are being made, even if it means adhering to a trail closure or detour, or volunteering your time during a trail workday. We all have a part to contribute.

**KEEP IT SAFE
KEEP IT LEGAL
KEEP ON TRAILS
KEEP THE PRIVILEGE**

New Features During 2008

A much needed and highly anticipated new feature to Turkey Bay has been completed! Turkey Trot, a ½ mile kid's riding/learning trail, was constructed this summer in the flat, wooded area near May's Cemetery. The entire area is fenced off (thanks to all who helped at that workday!!) and incorporates many fundamental obstacles for beginning riders, i.e. small rocks and logs, uphill/downhill/sidehill challenges, sharp turns, and the ever-popular whoop-dee-doo's.



The new information kiosk displaying the new Turkey Trot area map.

This trail provides children an avenue to learn trail riding basics and become more confident on their first...or second...machine as well. It should also alleviate much anxiety for those

parents who aren't comfortable with their little ones riding the main trail on a busy weekend. Only dirt bikes and ATV's 90 CC's or less are allowed on the trail. Parents and/or legal guardians must be in direct supervision at all times and are welcome to walk the trail to teach and give support to the young riders.

In addition to the new kid's trail, several other features have also been added to enhance each visitor's experience at Turkey Bay. New kiosks have been constructed at both the gatehouse and Turkey Trot to provide riders with up-to-date riding and camping information. They were designed to portray a consistent look throughout Turkey Bay, provide a standard sign component for LBL, and serve as an exportable design to other National Forests.



The new SST being installed at Turkey Bay.

To accompany numerous trail and road improvements in 2008, another new facility upgrade will certainly please many Turkey Bay visitors. A brand new vault toilet, or SST (Sweet Smelling Toilet), was installed in early May to provide visitors with an accessible option for the age-old solution to answer the call of nature. Please help keep all of the Turkey Bay facilities clean, as well as others in LBL. After all, the reputation of a public place can only be as clean as its restrooms!

Workdays 2008

Several volunteer workdays were held at Turkey Bay in 2008. Each turned out to be an overwhelming success because of all those who donated time on already busy Saturdays. On May 5th, the annual Spring Clean-up Day was held to clear trails of downed trees and

other debris deposited by above-average lake levels.



A volunteer paints a boundary marker during the spring clean-up day.

The June 14th workday was held to begin installing the post and rail cedar fencing around the kid's trail.



Volunteers put up fencing around the new Turkey Trot trail.

On October 11th, the annual Fall Clean-up Day was held. Duties included clearing blocked trails resulting from Hurricane Ike winds, kid's trail tread improvements, and trimming back vegetation on the main trail. A total of 416 hours were accumulated over the three days, which correlates to \$2724.80. Big thanks to all to helped out for a worthy cause!

Call Before You Haul

With Winter nearing, this is good time to remind everyone to "Call Before You Haul" as colder and wetter weather is in the forecast. Please call 270-924-2000 and press 3, or visit www.lbl.org then click on *Trails Update*, before you plan a trip to Turkey Bay to get the latest reports on trail closures, especially

if you know excessive precipitation has fallen in the area. Be proactive.

Volunteer Opportunities at Turkey Bay

If you would like information regarding worthwhile and rewarding volunteer opportunities at Turkey Bay and other facilities throughout LBL, please contact volunteer coordinator Emily Schmadeke at 270-924-2007 or eschmadeke@fs.fed.us.

Turkey Bay Updates are available on the Internet at www.lbl.org

Jeep Jamboree 2008

Jeep Jamboree U.S.A. made its regular stop at Turkey Bay back in early May. This was the 11th annual event and more than 85 Jeep enthusiasts took to the trails hoping to challenge themselves and their machines through a variety of trail obstacles. Trail guides were present to assist all participants during tricky trail spots and pass along knowledge and tips to promote sustainable off-roading on public and private land. Prior to the event, the trail guides volunteered 256 hours (\$1676.80) clearing and inspecting their respective routes. Thank you and hope to see everyone again next year!



TRUCKS! at Turkey Bay

Back in April, representatives from TRUCKS! TV contacted LBL about filming an episode at Turkey Bay. We've had similar requests in the past from various television shows, but all were interested in filming riding situations that didn't necessarily mesh with what we considered responsible riding,

i.e., mud bogging, testing snorkel systems in the lake, and timed hill-climbing contests. Ultimately, TRUCKS! was issued a permit under the condition that responsible riding and resource management messages would be included in the episode. The film crew did an awesome job conveying these messages, as well as promoting Turkey Bay. They were a



emer out on May e TV. erokee" air dicated to this particular project vehicle. The film crew suggested future Turkey Bay episodes are a possibility, and Turkey Bay staff reassured them they are welcome back to shoot the sequel anytime.

Check out their website for more info at www.powerblocktv.com/sites/trucks.

For other information concerning Turkey Bay OHV Area you may contact a staff member listed below.

Bill Ryan
Natural Resource Specialist/Facility Manager
270-924-2179
wryan@fs.fed.us

Kyle Varel
Assistant Manager – OHV/Trails
270-924-2031
kvarel@fs.fed.us

You may also obtain information from the gatehouse staff at Turkey Bay. When the gatehouse is open, stop so a staff person may check your permit and provide any pertinent information for the day.



Land Between The Lakes
100 Van Morgan Drive
Golden Pond, KY 42211
PH: 270-924-2000
www.lbl.org