

# Turkey Bay OHV Trails



## At Land Between The Lakes

### RESTORATION EFFORTS

Visitors throughout the summer months may have noticed laborers and heavy equipment operators working steadily in various sections of Turkey Bay to complete ongoing hillside restoration efforts. The intent behind this work is threefold; to achieve goals set by LBL's Land and Resource Management Plan to improve watershed health, promote the long-term sustainability of Turkey Bay's trail system, and ensure future riding opportunities.

This year's hillside restoration efforts were completed in late September 2010. Crews were very productive, even through 30 consecutive days of temperatures above 90 degrees. They managed to install 5.2 miles of erosion control blankets, sow over 1,000 pounds of warm and cool season grass seed, and rehabilitate a total of 73 acres in two different watersheds.



Restoration Area near Point 5

While encouraged to view these areas from any legal trail, it is important that all riders remain

respectful and not damage or destroy any vegetation within the restoration areas. These restoration efforts were funded through Forest Service Region 8 Legacy Roads and Trails Remediation Initiative and will hopefully be an integral part of Turkey Bay's sustainability in the long run.



Restoration Area near Point 2

### AIR EVACUATION PLAN

While OHV riding can certainly be a relaxing and enjoyable activity for the entire family, accidents can and do occur. Unfortunately, on more than one occasion this year, individuals from Turkey Bay had to be airlifted to regional medical facilities due to the severity of their injuries sustained from trail riding accidents.

In the event a helicopter is required for medical purposes at Turkey Bay, it is important for the visiting public to follow some basic safety measures.

1. Do not park your OHV's and/or tow vehicles in the helicopter landing zone. This zone is located in the flat, grassy area in front of the gatehouse and is delineated by white and green posts.
2. All public, non-essential personnel, and equipment must remain at least 200 feet from the landing zone.
3. Secure loose items (jackets, hats, lawn chairs, etc.) when the helicopter lands, takes off, and hovers above the landing zone.
4. Obey all emergency response staff and/or law enforcement directives while the injured party is being assessed or transported.

### **MARSHALL COUNTY SAFETY DAY**

Turkey Bay and LBL were well represented at the annual Marshall County Agriculture Safety Day. Schoolchildren and their teachers from around the county took part in the day-long workshop at Mike Miller Park in Draffenville, KY to learn about farm hazards, vehicle safety, and general home safety. Nathan Patterson, Sarah Wyman, and Justin Finklea (aka Smokey) taught the kids about proper riding techniques and protective equipment necessary for safe ATV operation.



**Smokey says, "Only You Can Prevent Wildfires!"**

### **SPRING FLOODING**

Like most other rivers and streams in the region, the Tennessee River and Cumberland River swelled to record stages in May 2010. Heavy rainfall in middle Tennessee compounded the amount of rain LBL received and significant flooding resulted across the region, including LBL.



**Driftwood washed up on shoreline from 2010 Flood**

Turkey Bay remained closed for 20 days as high lake levels left the kid's trail submerged and debris deposited across many low lying trails. Cleanup efforts were completed quickly, but the remnants of the flood are still visible.

### **ROAD 167 IMPROVEMENTS**

The main road through Turkey Bay (FS Road 167) recently received a much needed facelift. In addition to two dust abatement applications this season, the back half of the road was raised 6-8 inches, two new culverts were installed to help drainage, and roadside ditches were cleaned and reshaped. These improvements should benefit all Turkey Bay users, especially those towing larger trailers and camping units.



**INCREASED FIRE DANGER**

Visitors to LBL and Turkey Bay are advised to use extreme caution until further notice when having open campfires. Due to drought conditions, the risk for wildfires is a huge concern. The greatest area of concern remains with backcountry camping. These areas are typically dry, grassy, and have large amounts of leaf litter that surround campers, but hot engines and mufflers on any vehicle can also ignite a fire in extremely dry conditions. For this reason, all vehicles are required to have a spark arrestor on the exhaust system.

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

Campfires should be built in existing fire rings, or areas where a campfire previously existed. Campfires should be monitored at all times, and completely extinguished when an area is left unattended, even if it is only for a short amount of time. Click [HERE](#) for information on campfire safety. Please report any unattended campfires



immediately. Everyone is reminded to always use caution when disposing of lit cigarettes and matches. Hot embers from unattended

fires or cigarettes can be picked up by winds and blown into dry areas, causing wildfires.

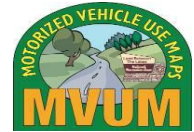
LBL visitors are urged to immediately report any wildfires to Forest Service Personnel, or other Law Enforcement agencies by calling 911 or LBL's 24-hr Emergency Dispatch at 1-877-861 2457

**INFORMATION**

Check out the newly designed Land Between The Lakes website at [www.LBL.org](http://www.LBL.org) for our Calendar of Events, updates on programs and policies, safety

information, and temporary trail and road closures. During times of inclement weather, "Call Before You Haul" at 270-924-2000 or visit us on the web for updates.

LBL Recreation Maps are available at LBL facilities, including Turkey Bay. For information on LBL's Motorized Vehicle Use Maps, look for this logo on our website.



For other information concerning Turkey Bay OHV Area and Trails, you may contact a staff member listed below:

**Bill Ryan**  
Natural Resource Specialist  
Manager, Facility and Trails  
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**Kyle Varel**  
Assistant Manager, Facility and Trails  
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**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

If you would like information regarding worthwhile and rewarding volunteer opportunities at Turkey Bay or other facilities throughout LBL, please contact our volunteer coordinator, Emily Schmadeke, at 270-924-2007 or [eschmadeke@friendsoflbl.org](mailto:eschmadeke@friendsoflbl.org).



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