

dB Snorkel Field Test #1

By Bob Rugg

I have a 1983 Husqvarna 250 WR Enduro that came with a CR silencer (motocross style) that sounded off at 103 decibels. To ride off road I had to install a Supertrap muffler/spark arrester that lowered the sound down to 99 decibels which is technically the legal limit for this bike. (1985 and older bikes are allowed 99 dba in Michigan), but still too loud for me. Because of the sound level, I only rode this bike around my yard once or twice a year, I decided that I wanted to use this bike on the CCC single track loops but wanted to get the sound down to at least 96 decibels. I contacted all the major silencer manufacturers but no one carried anything that would fit a bike this old, so over the course of last winter, I bought 3 silencers off EBAY.COM and took them to the ORV Safety Patrol ride in May to have them sound tested, the first,

a stock 1982 250 WR unit tested out at 98db, second was a 1984 Answer Equalizer that also tested at 98db, the third was an 1993 Husqvarna 125 WRX stock unit that tested at 93.5 dba, so I got the sound down but what about power?

After riding the bike it felt like it had a little more low end but could possibly be a little restrictive on top end power.

In the July issue of the Great Lakes TrailRider, there was an article on the DB Snorkel and that they were looking for testers.

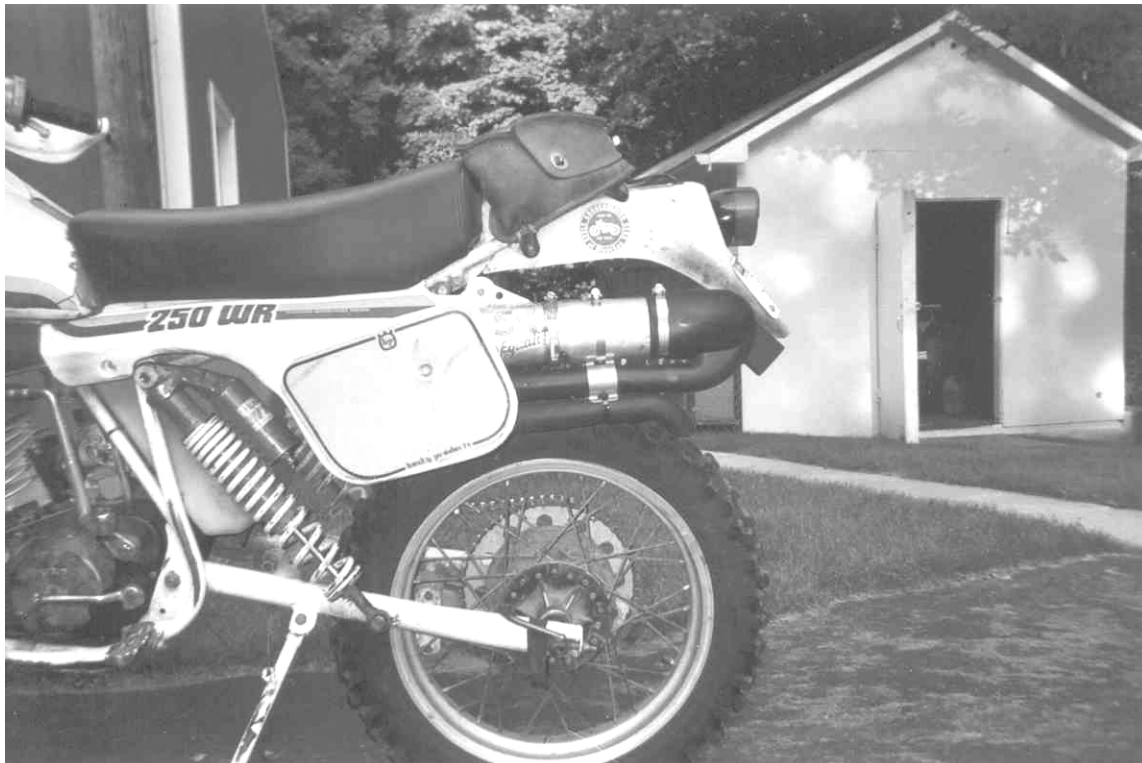


My muffler collection. The only one that beat Michigan's 94dba limit without any noticeable power change was the Answer Equalizer with the dB Snorkle attached.

I contacted Syd Gearing at DB Snorkel and he promptly sent one to me which I installed on the Answer Equalizer because it had a better fit. I took the bike to the Geels ride to have it sound tested, it came in at 92.8 db and then I

went and test rode both loops. I did not feel any difference in power over stock, also to the rider, the sound appears nearly the same as the cylinder fins on this 2-stroke which vibrate extensively and the expansion chamber is right ahead and below the rider, but in reality the bike is much quieter and well below the 94dba limit.

I am quite pleased with results of the dB Snorkel setup that I have now.



A 1983 Husqvarna 250 WR Enduro equipped with a dB Snorkel on an Answer Equalizer