



June 30, 2020

Brian Robertson, Chief
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division
California Department of Parks and Recreation
1725 23rd Street, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95816

Dear Chief Robertson:

The California Geological Survey (CGS) worked with the Off Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division (OHMVR Division) of the California Department of Parks and Recreation on the development of the 2008 Soil Conservation Standard and Guidelines (2008 Standard and Guidelines). This document was also developed with significant assistance from the legislatively mandated Consulting Agency Review Committee (CARC). The CARC included representatives from the US Forest Service and the US Bureau of Land Management.

As part of California Senate Bill 249 (Allen, 2017), the 2008 Standard and Guidelines document is to be reviewed to determine if revisions are necessary. Since 2008, the CGS has worked with the OHMVR Division to ensure the 2008 Standard and Guidelines document was an effective reference tool for OHV facility management as that management relates to soil conservation. Accordingly, CGS was asked by the OHMVR Division to provide an initial review of the 2008 Standard and Guidelines.

Based on that review, CGS has found that the Soil Conservation Standard itself is an effective statement for capturing overarching concerns related to possible soil loss and related impacts that may occur at or adjacent to an OHV facility. No changes to the Soil Conservation Standard statement are recommended, and it should remain as presented below.

“Off-highway vehicle (OHV) recreation facilities shall be managed for sustainable long-term prescribed use without generating soil loss that exceeds restorability, and without causing erosion or sedimentation which significantly affects resource values beyond the facilities. Management of OHV facilities shall occur in accordance with Public Resources Code, Sections 5090.2, 5090.35, and 5090.53.”

The Guidelines portion of the 2008 Standard and Guidelines does require some updates based on review by CGS. The OHMVR Division and CGS have prepared a preliminary revision to the Guidelines, which will be presented to the CARC for its review per Senate Bill 249.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by:

Will J. Harris

Senior Engineering Geologist, PG 5679, CEG, 2222, CHg 750

Concur:

Original signed by:

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