



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division
1725 23rd Street, Suite 200
Sacramento, California 95816
Telephone: (916) 324-5801 • Fax: (916) 324-0271

Armando Quintero, *Director*

**OHMVR COMMISSION MEETING
Sacramento, CA**

October 28, 2021

STAFF REPORT: Prairie City SVRA Sector Manager Update
STAFF: Peter Jones
SUBJECT: Importance and Role of SVRA Sector Manager

Summary

In March, 2021, Prairie City SVRA (PCSVRA) added a new position with the working title of Sector Manager which I am currently filling. Before this position was created, there was not a position dedicated solely to PCSVRA which was in charge of the SVRA and worked directly with each program area. This created challenges for both the staff assigned to the unit as well as the public. In the past each SVRA had a Sector Superintendent which was a badged law enforcement position and directly responsible for the entire operation. This position gave the staff the ability to talk directly with an onsite manager to solve and gain direction on day to day operations and it gave the public someone that they could call to ask questions about the SVRA or raise concerns with.

With the new Sector Manager role in place, the staff and the public have someone who is easily reachable and can help to coordinate day to day operations or discuss and resolve problems with the public, promoters, stakeholders and concessionaires.

The addition of the Sector Manager position has allowed for improved continuity and communication with Parks staff as well as the public and has eliminated confusion and inefficiency which resulted since the loss of a Sector Superintendent position.

The area around Prairie City SVRA is experiencing tremendous growth due to the construction of multiple large residential communities in the cities of Folsom and Rancho Cordova which will be flanking the SVRA. In order to stay relevant and offer park experiences to a broader group, we are currently looking at ways to provide park experiences to those outside of our typical OHV based user groups.

Some examples we are working on are providing opportunities for local astronomy clubs to set up star gazing equipment in the park. This will provide opportunities for the OHV community and non-OHV communities to interface and talk about their preferred recreation activities. OHV groups can learn about astronomy and astronomers can learn about OHV recreation by interacting with one another.

In addition, we are planning a State Park Interpreter guided First Day Hike in the Vernal Pool Management Area to learn about vernal pools and birding. The hike will be open to hikers, birders, and the OHV community to again learn about one another's passions. We are also looking at the potential of putting in some non-motorized trails in our buffer zones which are unavailable for motorized recreation to again provide more recreation opportunities available to a broader user base.

The main focus for Prairie City SVRA staff has been and will continue to be providing opportunities for high quality OHV experiences. However, it is important to explore options to provide recreation experiences to a broader user group in order to stay relevant in a changing and more urban land scape.

Discussion

The benefits provided to the staff and public has already been seen since this new role was incorporated in the Gold Fields District. I am confident that other Districts are experiencing similar communication and work load constraints and that including Sector Manager roles at other SVRAs will help to improve efficiency and communication with staff and the public.