



OFF-HIGHWAY MOTOR VEHICLE RECREATION COMMISSION

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September 28, 2023

Mr. Zachary Ormsby, Field Manager
Central Coast Field Office
Bureau of Land Management
940 2nd Avenue
Marina, CA 93933

RE: OHV Access Project Partnership with BLM Central Coast Field Office

Dear Mr. Ormsby:

Thank you for speaking with Commissioner Ross-Leech, Deputy Director Miggins and myself on September 15 regarding the history and management concerns at the BLM's Clear Creek Management Area. We were also encouraged to learn about the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) new blueprint for its Recreation Strategy and would like to hear more about this at a future Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Commission meeting. We were particularly interested in your discussion about preliminary investigations into new property acquisitions in the vicinity and adjacent to the Clear Creek Management Area in southern San Benito County that could also provide additional off-road vehicle recreation. This concept presents a great opportunity for the OHMVR Commission and Division to collaborate and partner with the BLM in finding new and/or expanded property acquisitions for safe, fun and healthy recreation opportunities!

As you may know, the OHMVR Division has launched the Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Access Project, which is a state initiative lead by the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) Strategic Planning and Recreation Services Division, OHMVR Division, and OHMVR Commission to identify new opportunities for additional OHV facilities in California as mandated by Senate Bill 155 (SB 155). SB 155 specifically addressed finding new off-highway vehicle access in the geographic vicinity of the greater Bay Area, including the Central Valley. The **Where We OHV** campaign is the first step in this process, and it involves conducting public outreach and gathering information to evaluate for potential future OHV facilities. The first phase of this effort is anticipated to take about six months and will conclude at the end of 2023.

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Once a site or series of candidate sites have been identified because of the input and analysis in Phase I, subsequent steps in Phase II will include preparing a preliminary report, feasibility study, and an OHV Recreation Action Plan for the site identified. The Phase II tasks are anticipated to begin sometime in 2024.

There will be two primary opportunities to provide input during the first phase of this project during 2023: at the beginning of the process during the visioning stage and toward the end of the effort to learn what sites will be included for additional analysis in Phase II. The outreach program includes community surveys, stakeholder workshops and in person and virtual workshops that will be held in different locations across the state. These meetings are a great opportunity for you to share your input and learn about SB 155 and State Park's process for identifying and selecting sites for new OHV opportunities. Locations and meeting dates will be updated on the OHMVR Division website.

Please let me know when you or your team would like to make a presentation to the OHMVR Commission regarding the BLM's Recreation Strategy and any updates to your exploration of properties in southern San Benito County. We look forward to continuing our partnership in finding additional sites for OHV recreation opportunities through our OHV Access Project!

Sincerely,



Patricia Urena, Chair
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Commission

cc: Erica St. Michel, Deputy State Director, Communications, Bureau of Land Management
Christopher Heppe, District Manager, Central California District Office, Bureau of Land Management
Armando Quintero, Director, CA Department of Parks and Recreation
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Commission
Ms. Sarah Miggins, Deputy Director, OHMVR Division