

California Bureau of Land Management
Report to the California State OHV Commission
November 4th, 2022

Presentation will be given by:

- **Briana Halstead – CA OHV / Travel Management Lead**

NEW FACES: BLM PERSONNEL NEWS



Sherri Lissius Officially Named Field Manager of BLM Bishop Field Office October 12, 2022 / BISHOP, Calif. – Sherri Lissius has been selected Field Manager for the Bureau of Land Management’s Bishop Field Office in the BLM Central California District.

Sherri has an outstanding track record of leadership and fostering partnerships throughout the Eastern Sierra Nevada region in various capacities as Assistant Field Manager, Wildlife Biologist, and Acting Field Manager at the the Bishop Field Office. Highlights include guiding the completion of the Alabama Hills National Scenic Area Management Plan and coordination of the Bi-State sage-grouse interagency effort. She has also served in several detail assignments in BLM Headquarters and Wyoming. Prior to BLM, Lissius worked as a Wildlife Biologist for the US Forest Service (Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Tonto National Forest) and the National Park Service (Yosemite National Park, Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Park). When she isn’t busy protecting public lands, she can be found backpacking and enjoying these public lands throughout the west.

PAST AND UPCOMING EVENTS

BLM HOSTED SOUTH COW MOUNTAIN OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE SAFETY EVENT



October 12, 2022 / UKIAH, Calif. — The Bureau of Land Management and partners from the off-highway vehicle (OHV) community held a free South Cow Mountain OHV Safety Event for the public at the South Cow Mountain OHV Management Area, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sat., Oct. 15., to promote safe and responsible recreation.

"OHV recreation can be an exhilarating and exciting experience for novice and seasoned enthusiasts alike," said Ukiah Field Manager Nick Lavrov. "Critical to the sport, we ask the public to make safety a priority and recreate responsibly to preserve the amazing landscapes and create the best rides for now and future generations in the years to come."

The event started at the Westside Staging Area with a safety clinic that is focused on responsible operation of an off-highway vehicle. Topics covered "Know before you go" principles, and how to be safe while on the trail. Visitors also enjoyed visiting the [Leave No Trace](#), [TREAD Lightly!](#) and other trail etiquette booths with outdoor activities throughout the day.

The South Cow Mountain OHV Management Area encompasses roughly 23,000 acres of public lands challenging motorcyclists, all-terrain vehicle drivers, and four-wheel drive enthusiasts.

For questions on the safety clinic, please contact Ashley Poggio at apoggio@blm.gov. South Cow Mountain OHV Management Area remained open to the public during the event. For more information and directions to the South Cow Mountain OHV Management Area, visit the webpage [here](#). For other information, please contact the Ukiah Field Office at 707-468-4000.

THE BLM SEEKS APPLICANTS FOR DESERT ADVISORY COUNCIL SUBGROUP



June 24, 2022 / Palm Springs, Calif. — The BLM California Desert District is seeking additional applicants interested in serving on subgroups that assist the Desert Advisory Council, a citizen-based advisory committee that develops recommendations for the BLM on public land management issues. Responsibilities include reviewing information, seeking input from the public and user groups on various programs, projects, and agency decisions, and providing recommendations to the Desert

Advisory Council on the management of these areas.

The Desert Advisory Council established **two subgroups** focused on recreation and management of the **Dumont Dunes** and **Imperial Sand Dunes** recreation areas and both need additional members.

To be considered for the Dumont Dunes or the Imperial Sand Dunes recreational area subgroups, applicants need to demonstrate experience and/or knowledge in recreation management, education and outreach, volunteer and partnership development, natural resource management, safety, and community representation. The Dumont Dunes subgroup needs four additional applicants with experience in education and outreach, volunteer and partnership development, safety, and a community representative. The Imperial Sand Dunes subgroup needs five additional applicants with experience in recreation management, education and outreach, safety, and an industry and community representative.

For more information about the Dumont Dunes or the Imperial Sand Dunes recreation areas subgroups visit the [DAC webpage](#). Interested applicants must complete the application on the webpage and send to Public Affairs Officer Kate Miyamoto at kmiyamoto@blm.gov. All applications received will be provided to the Desert Advisory Council for consideration.

The Desert Advisory Council is one of 28 BLM advisory councils formally chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act. Each council consists of 10 to 15 members from diverse interests in local communities and provides recommendations to the BLM. Desert Advisory Council members provide guidance on the management of more than 12 million acres of public lands across eight counties spanning southern California.

BLM SEEKS NOMINATIONS TO THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA RESOURCE ADVISORY COUNCIL



BUREAU SEEKS SPECTRUM OF NOMINEES TO HELP IMPROVE PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT

October 5, 2022 / Redding, Calif. — The Bureau of Land Management today announced that it is seeking public nominations for positions on the Northern California Resource Advisory Council (RAC). These citizen-based committees assist in the development of recommendations that address public land management issues.

The BLM maintains RACs chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act and the Federal Policy and Land Management Act across the West. Each RAC consists of 10- to 15-members from diverse interests in local communities, and they assist in the development of recommendations that address public land management issues.

“Resource Advisory Councils provide the BLM with vital feedback on current issues, concerns, and proposals, and enable us to engage local communities and stakeholders to improve our management of public lands,” said Northern California District Manager Dereck Wilson. “Our goal is to ensure that the membership of every RAC encompasses a wide variety of perspectives and backgrounds to guide our work as effectively as possible.”

The BLM maintains RACs as a means of gaining expert advice, ideas, and diverse opinions on issues including land use planning, environmental issues, fire management, off-highway vehicle use, recreation, oil and gas exploration, noxious weed management, grazing issues, and wild horse and burro herd management issues. The RACs support the Bureau's commitment to enhance the quality of life for all citizens through the balanced stewardship of America's public lands and resources.

Individuals may nominate themselves or others to serve on the RAC. Nominees, who must be residents of the state where the RAC has jurisdiction, will be reviewed based on their training, education, and knowledge of the RAC's geographic area. Nominees should also demonstrate a commitment to consensus building and collaborative decision-making. Letters of reference should accompany all nominations from any represented interests or organizations, a completed RAC application, and any other information that speaks to the nominee's qualifications.

As published in the Federal Register, the Northern California RAC is considering nominations submitted now **until Nov. 4** in the following categories:

- **Three openings in Category One** – Representatives of organizations associated with energy/mineral development; federal grazing permit holders; the timber industry; transportation or rights-of-way; **off-highway vehicles users**; and commercial and **developed outdoor recreation**.
- **Three openings in Category Two** – Representatives of archeological and historic organizations; **dispersed recreation users**; wild horse and burros organizations; and **nationally or regionally-recognized environmental organizations**.
- **Three openings in Category Three** – Representatives of State, county, or local elected office; Indian Tribes located within or adjacent to the area for which the RAC is organized; academicians employed in natural resource management or natural sciences; employees of a state agency responsible for management of natural resources; and the public at large.

The RAC meets in formal session two to three times per year throughout the Northern California District. The council's 15 members serve three-year terms and may be nominated for reappointment for an additional three-year term. Council members serve without compensation other than travel expenses.

For more information about the Resource Advisory Councils and the application process, visit the [RAC Website](#)

Interested applicants must complete a Nomination Package by November 4, 2022 which includes the following:

- 1) Completed application, that can be download from the webpage, and
- 2) Any supplementary documentation of qualifications (optional, but helpful), and
- 3) Recent (signed) recommendation letter, from someone who knows the person well and can speak to their character (*will be accepted after the Nov 4th deadline if more time is needed*).

Completed Nomination Packages should be submitted via email to Sara Denos, Lead Public Affairs Specialist- California State Office, at sdenos@blm.gov, or to Bureau of Land Management, 2800 Cottage Way #W1623, Sacramento CA 95825. Attention: Sarah Denos (RAC Nominations).

NOHVCC LISTENING SESSIONS- NORTHERN AREA SESSIONS ARE SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 14-21, 2022



November 2022—BLM has a working partnership with a national organization called NOHVCC (National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council) (www.nohvcc.org). NOHVCC is a non-profit 501c3 organization dedicated to creating a positive future for OHV recreation.

This partnership with NOHVCC began nationally in 2014 and together a National Motorized Recreation Action Strategy was developed, which is designed to help BLM develop individual State Action Plans for providing high quality OHV opportunities and developing partnerships to maintain these opportunities. So far, this process has created state-specific action plans in 7 other states. NOHVCC is currently working with BLM to create a CA State-wide OHV Action Plan. Once developed, the strategies will not be a part of specific travel management plans, however they will be used to help guide future travel management and resource management decisions.

NOHVCC is the lead in this effort and in order to make this happen in California, they need your assistance in learning how BLM can better provide access to high quality OHV recreation experiences in the state of California.

In developing these strategies, you as an enthusiast will have a chance to share your thoughts on the following topics:

- What activities are taking place on BLM-managed lands in California?
- Where in general are these OHV activities taking place?
- What experiences are you looking for on BLM-managed lands?
- Where might these missing activities fit on BLM-managed lands in California?
- What could the land managers do better to enhance your recreation experience?

To gather this important information, NOHVCC will be hosting 2 series of community listening sessions: 1 for the Northern CA areas planned for this November 2022 and 1 for the Southern Areas planned for March 2023.

The upcoming Northern Area November sessions will be held nightly 6-9pm:

- **(M) Nov 14: Milpitas, CA: Holiday Inn Express & Suites Silicon Valley, 1100 Cadillac Ct**
- **(T) Nov 15: Ukiah, CA: Ukiah Valley Conference Center, 200 S School Street**
- **(W) Nov 16: Eureka, CA: Red Lion Eureka, 1929 4th Street**
- **(Th) Nov 17: Redding, CA: Win River Resort & Casino, 2100 Redding Rancheria Road**
- **(F) Nov 18: Susanville, CA: The Historic Susanville Rail Depot, 601 Richmond Road**
- **(M) Nov 21, Sacramento, CA: Hilton Sacramento Arden West, 2200 Harvard Street**

The second round of listening sessions to be held in Spring of 2023 (week of March 13th):

- *San Diego*
- *Glendale*
- *Covina/Ontario*
- *Riverside/San Bernadino*
- *Ridgecrest*
- *Bakersfield*
- *Bishop (virtual)*

The exact locations of second round of listening sessions will be announced in a separate announcement coming at a later date.

All listening sessions will be hybrid, which means that While we encourage in person attendance, we recognize that schedule and public health related issues come into play when meeting in person. A series of follow up virtual sessions will also be held after the completion of the first and second round of listening sessions.

To register for the meeting please visit the NOHVCC website: www.nohvcc.org and click the events tab or simply click [HERE](#).

These sessions are not being organized by the BLM; however, staff from these agencies have been invited to attend these meetings as participants and will be on-hand to discuss current travel management processes and how your suggestions could help shape future decisions. The listening sessions will also be an excellent time for you to meet national, state, and local agency personnel. These organizations are interested in developing partnerships with individuals and organizations to improve the management of OHV recreation on public lands.

The more information we gather, the higher the quality of each statewide strategy and action plan, so please participate in the listening sessions and invite your fellow club members and riding buddies as well. For more information on the meetings please contact Marc Hildesheim, NOHVCC Program Director, at 208-416-3557 or at marc@nohvcc.org.

TREAD LIGHTLY! PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT UPDATE



The Bureau of Land Management and Tread Lightly! California have been working together to promote responsible recreation to motorized recreationists as well as to highlight the 2022 CA OHV Safety Weeks; this year's theme is "Train for the Trail".

Tread Lightly! distributes education materials for BLM field offices to distribute during community engagement events.

Tread Lightly! acts as a resource for land managers to utilize as extra hands to complete trail maintenance projects. Tread Lightly! can engage volunteers and fund smaller non-profit organizations and volunteer groups that cleanup BLM areas through Tread Lightly's relationship with BFGoodrich Outstanding Trails.

Completed:

- Feb 6: Jan 30-Feb 6, 2022: King of the Hammers Spectator Area Cleanups – **BLM Barstow**

*Tread Lightly! hosted daily cleanups at spectator areas during the King of the Hammers off-road racing event. Each day, Tread Lightly! met volunteers at Chocolate Thunder and Backdoor, two main spectator areas at the races, to clean up trash left behind and pack out trash bags from receptacles placed by the Tread Lightly! team. In total **6,075 lbs. of trash were removed** from the areas throughout the week. Most days, **20 volunteers** or more from the off-road community showed up to help clean up.*

- Sept 19th-23rd: Alabama Hills Improvements - **BLM Bishop**

Tread Lightly! hosted a group of 12 volunteers who joined forces with Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association (ESIA), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and US Forest Service (USFS) and worked for two days to restore and enhance 20 dispersed camping sites throughout the Alabama Hills National Scenic Area. Sites were restored using vertical mulching, rock delineation, and strategic use of signs. In addition, these enhanced sites were furnished with a fire ring, while existing fire rings were cleared of ash build-up and refurbished for use once burn restrictions in the area are lifted. To finish off the 2 days of work, volunteers installed a new weather resistant and reflective visitor welcome sign for the area. Partners for this project included: Milestar Tires, BLM, ESIA, USFS, Eastern Sierra 4x4 Club, Valley Outdoors, and Circle L Overland.



“We at Milestar Tires are thankful for the hard work that Tread Lightly! did to foster collaboration between public and federal organizations the best clean up we’ve done to date. The Bishop BLM Office had a well-developed plan helped to build on the good work we’ve done in the Alabama Hills of the Eastern Sierras. It means so much for us to lend our time and effort to keep public lands open for OHV use.” – Martin Castro, Milestar



“ESIA (Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association) is very proud to partner with all these amazing organizations. It’s incredible how much we can get done working together. We look forward to the next opportunity.” – Savanna Deger, ESIA

- Oct 1st-2nd: Off-Road Expo, **Pomona CA**

Booth set-up with BF Goodrich Tires. Personally had 80 1-on-1 engagements with show-goers. Event had 20,000 total attendees.

- Oct 8th: California 300 Cleanup - **BLM Barstow**

Approximately 80 volunteers worked for 4 hours, collecting approximately 11 tons of trash from the Stoddard Valley OHV Recreation Area. Work done in partnership with Clean-Dezert, Mad Media, The California 300, and others.

- Oct 15th-16th: Smuggler’s Gulch & Valley of the Moon Cleanup - **BLM El Centro**

18 volunteers filled a 40-yard dumpster in 4 hours with 3 tons of trigger and trail trash from Smuggler’s Gulch Shooting Area and Devils Canyon OHV trail. Some highlights included a grand piano, a big screen TV, and several camper shells.

Still Planned:

- Nov 5th: Lost Lizard Fun Run and Cleanup - **BLM El Centro**
- Jan 15th: Imperial Sand Dunes Cleanup – **BLM El Centro**
- Feb 2nd-Feb 13th: King of the Hammers - **BLM Barstow**
- Feb 11th: SDORC Cleanup - **BLM El Centro**
- TBD (2023 date TBD): SDORC Signage installation - **BLM El Centro**

FIRE NEWS: BLM SEASONAL FIRE RESTRICTIONS



As of August 1, 2022, the Bureau of Land Management has implemented fire restrictions for public lands managed by the BLM covering the entire state of California. Fire restrictions will remain in place until further notice.

For more information, please visit the Fire and Aviation fire restrictions webpage at <https://www.blm.gov/programs/public-safety-and-fire/fire-and-aviation/regional-info/california/fire-restrictions>. An interactive fire activity and restrictions map can also be found [here](#).

BLM LIFTS FIRE RESTRICTIONS ON PUBLIC LANDS IN NW CALIFORNIA



October 7, 2022 / REDDING, Calif. — The Bureau of Land Management has eased some fire restrictions on public lands managed by its Arcata and Redding field offices in Humboldt, Mendocino, Del Norte, Trinity, Shasta, Butte, Tehama and Siskiyou counties. **The terminated fire prevention orders** can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

Easing of fire restrictions means that campfires are again allowed. Campfire permits are required outside of developed campgrounds. They are available free online at <https://www.readyforwildfire.org/permits/campfire-permit/> and at BLM, Forest Service and CAL FIRE offices. Restrictions on target shooting hours also have been lifted, and shooting is again allowed all day.

“Even though we’ve had rain, people still need to be careful with fire,” said Dereck Wilson of the BLM Northern California District. “Fires should never be used on windy days, and it is imperative that campers fully extinguish campfires before leaving a campsite.”

Year-round fire restrictions remain in place for BLM-managed public lands in California. These restrictions require that a five-foot diameter area must be cleared to bare soil and be free of overhead flammable material before a campfire is used. Anyone using a campfire must have a round-point shovel nearby. The restrictions also prohibit possession or use of fireworks. Target shooters may not use incendiary, steel core or exploding ammunition, or exploding targets.

Details on the year-round restrictions are available here: <https://on.doi.gov/3LVAUio>.

More information about use of fire on public lands is available from the BLM Arcata Field Office, 707-825-2300, or the Redding Field Office, 530 224-2100.

~END OF REPORT~