## NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR CLAY PIT STATE VEHICULAR RECREATION AREA GENERAL PLAN

Date: February 8, 2012

**To:** All interested parties

The Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division of California State Parks has directed the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Clay Pit State Vehicular Recreation Area (SVRA) General Plan, in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and State CEQA Guidelines. The OHMVR Division is the lead agency for the proposed project under CEQA.

**PROJECT LOCATION:** Clay Pit SVRA, Butte County, southwest of Oroville, CA

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT: The OHMVR Division of California State Parks has developed a proposed General Plan and Draft EIR for Clay Pit SVRA. Clay Pit SVRA is a 220-acre off-highway vehicle (OHV) park located within unincorporated Butte County southwest of the City of Oroville. Clay Pit SVRA is located in a large shallow depression (pit), formed when clay was mined for construction of the Oroville Dam. Clay Pit SVRA provides OHV recreation in a family-friendly atmosphere. A California State Park must have an adopted general plan prior to the development of new facilities that may result in the permanent commitment of resources. The proposed General Plan analyzed in this EIR is the first prepared for Clay Pit SVRA. The proposed General Plan outlines goals and guidelines that apply to the entire SVRA to address existing issues and to provide ongoing guidance for management of the park. The proposed General Plan will be implemented to achieve the long-term vision for Clay Pit SVRA to provide a safe and convenient place for individuals, families, and groups from the local and regional communities in the greater Oroville area to enjoy high-quality outdoor experiences.

In addition to long-range planning provided through the proposed General Plan, the project includes a proposal to construct new headquarters facilities at the SVRA within the next several years. The proposed facilities would provide the improvements necessary for adequate administration, maintenance and operations, and enhanced recreation at Clay Pit SVRA. Proposed headquarters facilities include administrative offices, an entrance kiosk, a maintenance yard, and associated upgrading of utilities and roads.

## SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The analysis contained in the EIR found that no significant impacts would result from the adoption and implementation of the proposed General Plan, including the construction and operation of the Headquarters Facilities. <u>PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD</u>: The EIR is being circulated for public review and comment for a period of 45 days, beginning February 8, 2012.

Your views and comments on this project are welcomed. Written comments should be submitted no later than March 26, 2012, to the following address:

California State Parks
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division
c/o Twin Cities District
13300 White Rock Road
Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

Comments and questions regarding the project can also be directed to Jennifer Buckingham-Garcia by email at <a href="mailto:Jbuck@parks.ca.gov">Jbuck@parks.ca.gov</a>.

The proposed General Plan and Draft EIR may be viewed online at the following website: http://ohv.parks.ca.gov/?page\_id=26300

Copies of the EIR may be reviewed at the following locations during normal business hours:

Prairie City SVRA, Twin Cities District Office 13300 White Rock Road Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

Chico Branch Public Library 1108 Sherman Ave. Chico, CA 95926

California State Parks
OHMVR Division Headquarters
1725 23<sup>rd</sup> St. Ste. 200
Sacramento, CA 95816

Oroville Branch Public Library 1820 Mitchell Ave. Oroville, CA 95966

Northern Buttes District Office 400 Glen Drive Oroville, CA 95966

**NOTICE OF PUBLICATION:** This notice was published in the Chico Enterprise-Record and the Oroville Mercury-Register on February 8, 2012.