

CORVA

CALIFORNIA OFF-ROAD
VEHICLE ASSOCIATION

www.corva.org

OFF-ROADERS IN ACTION

10th Annual El Mirage Days



The annual event was held on May 2-3rd and was made a free weekend for visitors. This was the first time to hold the event at the new visitors center. The Friends of El Mirage hosted the event and many bags filled with trash were removed from the area. It was a little hard getting the trash into the bags as the wind was blowing pretty good. The volunteers teamed up with others and cleaned many areas. A lunch was served to all that participated and event t-shirts were given out.

Many thanks were given to those volunteers that help keep the area maintained throughout the year. A raffle was also held on Saturday with many items donated by the OHV community. On Sunday a poker run took visitors on the East Loop trail for an 18 mile fun ride!

For more information please see:
www.elmirage.org

Rubicon Trail Has Been Singled Out!

By Amy Granat

(comments made at the The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board meeting)

It is an extraordinary period of time for off-road recreation enthusiasts, a time in which we find ourselves constantly defending our sport against unproven and unwarranted attacks by environmental organizations. Motorized off-road recreation is being vilified, in a sense, without any mention or consideration of the positive aspects and influences of the sport. The allegations that initiated this study are just another of the many attacks that the off-road community have endured, a witch-hunt thinly disguised as "concern" for responsible environmental stewardship.

Listening to the proceedings you have undoubtedly heard the impassioned talk of the multitude of volunteers doing work on the trail. We must acknowledge the dedication of the many volunteers to continue improving conditions on the trail, and appreciate their active on-the-ground participation in ongoing work projects. The staff from the Eldorado National Forest along with officials from Eldorado County have also spoken eloquently about the trail, indicated their dedication to the health and well-being of the trail, and described many steps they have taken in the past along with actions they have planned in the future to ensure the continued health of the trail.

So why are we here? Why has the Rubicon Trail been singled out for thousands of dollars of studies by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board?

Why haven't non-motorized trails, many of which have the same problems with erosion and sanitation, been subject to the same close scrutiny?

Please don't confer that I am advocating irresponsible use of the Rubicon Trail, or any recreational *continued on page 12*

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WHAT IS CORVA?

The California Off Road Vehicle Association (CORVA) is a varied group of outdoor recreationalists who are extremely active in promoting the positive aspects of vehicular access on public lands and protecting that right.

The group is composed of the owners of "Green Sticker" vehicles such as ATV's, motorcycles, 3-wheelers, trials bikes, and dune buggies, as well as "street legal" 4x4 vehicles, dual sport motorcycles, baja and desert racers.

The main purpose of CORVA is to have fun! We also work with the land managers for responsible off-highway vehicular access and recreation opportunities. Secondly, we educate our membership on the constantly changing rules and regulations and promote conservation, clean-up and trail maintenance projects.

We participate in lobbying activities in both Sacramento and Washington DC. We work closely with the State Department of Parks and Recreation providing input to the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) program from the users' standpoint. We provide a valuable resource to land managers in the form of dedicated OHV enthusiasts who believe in using our public lands responsibly.

We are active at all levels of the land management public process with both the BLM and USFS. We do this by commenting on many environmental documents on issues that affect us.

We coordinate with other multiple use organizations such as snowmobiles to horse enthusiasts to protect multiple use rights that we both share. Only together can we fight the extremists. We are,

"Dedicated to protecting our lands for the people, not from the people."

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Newsletter Editor: >>> **VACANT** <<< (see page 16)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jim Woods

To Blog or Not To Blog?

Recently someone asked me why I didn't "blog" – using the message boards and chat rooms that discuss off road use and recreation. I have never been a big fan of that type of open forum, as many times I have witnessed too much negative influence coming from such arenas. Instead, I choose to try to work to solve our OHV problems, plan for the future and educate myself on real issues, such as how to keep our public lands open for off highway recreation.

When I have visited forums and blog sites, I found inaccuracies; important facts missing and what was posted consisted of rumors and hearsay. Some comments should not have been written at all. Who has time for that? I can get angry and frustrated easily enough just reading the morning newspaper. If the energy spent on this type of destructive behavior went into solving our real issues, so much more could be accomplished. The negative comments and behavior need to be replaced with all of us working together in our OHV community. We must stop fighting with and picking on each other. I have been told that I must be ignorant to think we can all "just get along". But we must work together to achieve our goals. If we don't, we risk a terrible loss – the use of our Public Lands.

So instead of blogging – just what can all those young people, new graduates, retirees and interested off road users do? The off road world has lots of opportunities for all - from area clean-ups to helping at visitor centers. Within CORVA, we could really use your help, too. We always need help with membership data input and volunteers for our booth at Off Road Shows and events. Most of all, we need help with the very thing that is in your hands, our newsletter, the Off Roader In Action (ORIA). There has got to be someone out there (like an English major) that loves to recreate and wants to make sure we have a place for our future generations to play. We need you! In fact, we also need a Volunteer Coordinator. Plus, the Southern Regional Board is looking for a Secretary. Our Marketing Director needs help too. There is always something to be done and never enough time, or enough volunteers! Don't spend your time blogging, twitting or texting. Make a real positive difference - VOLUNTEER!

To offer your volunteer services to CORVA please send an e-mail to me at: jim.woods@CORVA.ORG or you can fax the form below. But don't look for me on the forums. There is too much work to do and places to ride. Like the old saying goes, "So much dirt – so little time!"

Hope to see you on the trail,



PS. Recently, our membership volunteer, Wayne Berg along with my wife Roberta sent out reminder notices to many expired CORVA members. The response has been overwhelming! Thank you so much for renewing your memberships.

Fax to (805) 526-4574

Yes, Jim, I am willing to volunteer. Please call me to discuss how I can make a positive influence in the OHV recreation area.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email address: _____ Best time to call: _____



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Friends of Oceano Dunes is a 501 (c)(3) Not for Profit Public Benefit Corporation dedicated to preserving all forms of responsible recreation at Oceano Dunes State Vehicle Recreation Area (ODSVRA)

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CORVA Land Use Resources and Public Policy Report

By Bruce Whitcher
CORVA VP of Land Resources and Public Policy

- **The Endangered Species Act (ESA)**

The ESA has long been problematic for recreation on public lands as well as natural resource protection. Many of you have followed the Secretary of the Interior's response to the challenge by the Bush administration of the ESA. It now appears that Secretary Salazar will overturn the Bush policy and reinstitute the requirement that Federal Agencies consult with the US Fish and Wildlife Service on matters related to the ESA.

If anyone is unaware of the power of the ESA, we recently received a 60 day Letter of Intent from our good friends the Center for Biological Diversity(CBD), to sue under the ESA for "take" of the snowy plover on the Oceano Dunes.

Then we have a huge conflict in California, with farmers in the San Joaquin Valley being deprived of their water allotments because of the ESA. Senator Feinstein has weighed in on the issue of the water shortage in the Central Valley, drafting a letter to the State Department of Water Resources to request a balance between "refuge" and water needs.

- **Major Wilderness Bill Introduced**

Please let your Member of Congress know that you oppose H.R. 980, the "Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act." H.R. 980, that would designate 23 million acres of land in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming, as Wilderness. This was introduced by Rep. Carolyn Maloney of New York. This means each of these 23 million acres would be made permanently off-limits to motorized and mechanized recreation, including off-highway motorcycles, ATVs, 4x4s, snowmobiles and mountain bikes.

Identical legislation was introduced last session. Now, the House Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands has scheduled another hearing on the reintroduced legislation. Make it clear that Wilderness bills like H.R. 980 that designate mammoth tracts of land as wilderness without regard for current recreational opportunities and without input from the local and recreational communities are unacceptable to recreationists.

Talking Points

- Only 2 of the 71 cosponsors on the legislation come from a state that would be impacted.
- Much of the land that would be designated as wilderness does not meet the criteria in the 1964 Wilderness Act.
- This legislation has no regard for local processes and decisions on how the land is appropriately managed.

BLM Travel Management

- **Clear Creek Management Area Management Plan Revision**

BLM alternatives for the Clear Creek Management Plan had been drafted. They include a number of possible scenarios for continued use of the area and they have been received from the EPA and forwarded to the BLM DC office for review. The EPA has responded and we've heard that the future of Clear Creek will be announced any day. As of this time the Clear Creek Management Plan was still under internal review.



- **BLM's Bakersfield Office Travel Management**

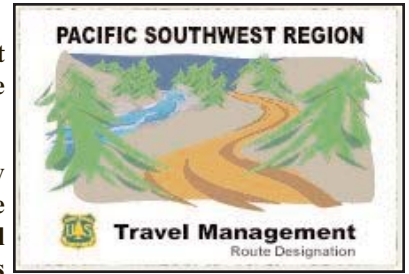
CORVA submitted comments on the Carrizo Plains National Monument Resource Management Plan and will be providing written comments on the Bakersfield RMP. BLM has developed a strategy for OHV use in Taft and Keyesville areas for OHV recreation. CORVA is actively engaged with BLM on the future of OHV recreation in the Central Valley. The approach is to designate small local riding areas and also some larger destination areas where there is already OHV use. Details will be forthcoming following the next round of meetings in the summer.

- **Red Rock State Park General Plan Update**

The Red Rock General Plan update has been under development since 2006. It is designed to update the plan to include expansion of the park that has occurred with the addition of areas such as Last Chance Canyon and Nightmare Gulch. General Plans such as this one are frequently delayed. Look for future announcements. We support use of Red Rock the way it is, the Plan revision is not necessary from our point of view.

• **Forest Service Route Designation**

The CORVA Comments Project Team is hard at work on the many Travel Management draft EIS's being published by the Forest Service. This important project will determine where you can ride on California's National Forest for future generations.



The deadline for the Stanislaus DEIS has been extended by two weeks and will close May 20th. The requests for an extension filed by CORVA members helped get us more time to research the document which is over 500 pages! The Sierra National Forest Travel Management DEIS was released May 1 and the comment period will close in just 45 days on June 15! CORVA members have already submitted requests for an extension on this unreasonably short comment period, the minimum that is allowed under the law. The Tahoe National Forest Final EIS has been delayed until June due to the very large number of comments received from user groups.

• **Proposed Desert Wilderness**

The California Wilderness Coalition has been holding meetings with representatives of US Senator Feinstein to establish new wilderness areas in the California Desert. At this stage we have a chance to provide input that can help determine boundaries and preserve important routes. We have a very experienced and qualified group working on this issue, but they need your help.

The new CWC wilderness proposal includes about 20 new wilderness areas and National Park expansions within Inyo, San Bernardino, Imperial, and San Diego Counties. New wilderness areas proposed by the California Wilderness Coalition within Inyo County include Slate Range and Great Falls Basin north of Trona, Malpais Mesa in the Inyo Mountains around Cerro Gordo extending to the Saline Valley Road, Wild and Scenic River designation for Surprise Canyon, other areas in the northern Panamint Valley, and areas in north Death Valley National Park.

If enacted by Congress, this proposal would eliminate many traditional uses such as equestrian endurance rides, mountain biking, and vehicle access for such activities as gem and mineral collecting, spring wildflower viewing, and family backcountry touring and picnic outings will be affected. This proposal would eliminate mineral exploration and new mining in the future. A special thanks is due to Mark Howlett, Dave Beaumont, John Stewart, Ron Schiller, Wayne Nosala and many others who have worked very hard on an route inventory of the areas.

Thanks and if you are familiar with routes in these areas please contact me at: Bruce.Whitcher@corva.org

CORVA NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Here are the main projects that CORVA is involved with at this time. Please cut this form out and mail with your donation to:

CORVA
4346 E. Los Angeles Ave.
Simi Valley, CA 93063-2937

I AM DONATING TO:

- Forest Comments Projects** \$ _____
- Route Designation Process** \$ _____
- Reopening of Clear Creek Area** \$ _____
- Funding the CA Desert Legal Bills** \$ _____
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TOTAL \$ _____

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Donations are not deductible as charitable contributions

Modesto Ridge Runners Hold "High Desert Rally" In Hawthorne over Weekend

(reprinted from the Mineral County Independent-News, Thursday, August 21, 2008)

Mineral County residents shared their desert with the Modesto Ridge Runners, from Modesto, California, over this past weekend, as the Modesto Ridge Runners came to town for their annual "High Desert Rally".

This year's rally held an emotion bond for many of those involved in this family involved organization. The course set was the one that Jerry Brackett, former co-chairman of the Ridge Runners, had wanted to run. Jerry didn't get to make the trip as he passed away earlier this year, but in memory of Jerry, the Ridge Runners, went on their course, through Bodie, Powell Canyon, Fletcher and the Lucky Boy area.



The racers had a mandatory 30-minute down time to enjoy Bodie and many had their cameras out, taking photos of the historic ghost town. After battling dust and the August desert heat, those that were fortunate enough to make it to Fletcher, were baptized by the cold Fletcher water. Some racers even went through the water twice.

Though there were a few dings, bumps and bruises and dodging of rocks and penguins, many Ridge Runners finished the race. Our hometown entries of Eric Hamrey and Doug Rolland didn't make it all the way through the course, but they had a great time and were in good spirits at the night's Awards Banquet. Another hometown entry of Becki Bowers and Tony Burnett finished the course in Tony's Jeep, after having a flat tire, but were nothing but smiles at the finish line at "Dead Man's Curve" on Lucky Boy grade.

The Modesto Ridge Runners are a group of dedicated individuals who make sure they have fun while at the same time, preserving the area where they are running. The courses are set with the family in mind, with hidden checkpoints and geo caches for kids of all ages. They are members of the California Off-Road Vehicle Association and have given back to many of the communities where they run. The Ridge Runners will be back again next August to run the hills and gullies of Mineral County. If anyone would like to join them, contact Mike Bradley at: bradley_mike53@yahoo.com

The Modesto Ridge Runners would like to invite you to participate in our
"ANNUAL HIGH DESERT RALLY"

August 14th & 15th, 2009

This year's entry fee is \$275.00 for 2 people, with 2 nights room (double occupancy Fri. & Sat.) at the El Capitan Motel and Casino in Hawthorne, NV, two dinner tickets for the Awards Banquet Saturday night, two rally T-shirts and two Event Pins.

All rally vehicles must have Seat Belts for every person riding in the vehicle, a Fire Extinguisher and a Shovel (G.I. folding type is permitted). All green sticker vehicles must be equipped with a Forest Service approved spark arrester. This is a NON-REFUNDABLE entry fee for all rally vehicles. The Forest Service will be checking all vehicles prior to the run.

There is secured parking in the lot behind the Motel. TOW UNITS, TRAILERS and SUPPORT VEHICLES MUST PARK IN THE BACK LOT NO EXCEPTIONS. RALLY VEHICLES WILL BE THE ONLY VEHICLE PERMITTED IN THE MOTEL PARKING LOT FOR THE NIGHT.

Schedule: Friday August 14th, Vehicle check-in at the Motel parking lot 12:00pm to 5:00pm. Re-open 7:00pm to 9:00pm.

Saturday: August 15th, Vehicle check-in at the Motel parking lot at 5:00am to 6:00am.

7:00 a.m. MANDATORY Drivers Meeting in the parking lot behind the Motel

7:30 a.m. Sheriff Escort to the staging area

8:00 a.m. First Car out on the Rally

6:30 p.m. Cocktails, lies, and stories

8:00 p.m. DINNER, AWARDS, RAFFLES AND 50-50 DRAWING

Sunday, August 16th - YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN. HAVE FUN AND BE CAREFUL!!!

RESERVATIONS ARE ON A FIRST COME BASIS

Questions or Registration??? Call: Mike Bradley (209) 526-0181 or (209) 571-2764

Email: (Mike) bradley_mike53@yahoo.com or (Teri) bradley_teri@yahoo.com

Make Your Reservation Early!!!



EDUCATIONAL NEWS

BY DAN EGER

The Back Country

Many of us enjoy long back county rides. Here are a few tips that can help you stay safe on those rides:

Make sure to travel with another vehicle, this gives a redundant safety in case of a failure. Don't get too far away from your fellow riders. Make sure that someone in camp or back home knows where you are traveling, this will give a search party an idea of where to look. Carry a good first aid kit and book. Carry plenty of water. Carry an emergency supply of food, protein/energy bars are good for this. Carry maps and a compass.

Give some thought of where along your ride you can get emergency help and where local hospitals are located. Be aware of what weather is expected over the next few days. Finally, wear all of the safety gear you have! The back country is not the place to take chances. Help can easily be several times the time it took you to get to where you are. Play it smart and be prepared.

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1/3 Page (7 1/2" x 3 1/4")	\$195	\$375	\$625
1/4 Page (3 3/4" x 4 3/4")	\$165	\$300	\$540
Business Card (3 5/8" x 2")	\$90	\$162	\$264

For more information please contact us at: 800-42-CORVA
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Moose Anderson Days

A swarm of volunteers descended on Jawbone Station Saturday, April 25, to help clean up public lands in the Jawbone Canyon and Dove Springs areas of Eastern Kern County. The volunteers came to the desert to support the Friends of Jawbone's Thirteenth Annual Moose Anderson Days by donating their time and labor to remove trash, debris and non-native vegetation from the area. Contributing to the work effort this year were 30 young men and women from the Kern County Sheriff's Activity League.

"All the people that I talked to when they registered were more than happy to help clean up the best riding area in Kern County. Most of these people have been coming to Jawbone Canyon and the surrounding areas for years. We have generations of families that ride here," said Cindy Velador, Friends of Jawbone secretary. More than 1000 pounds of litter and trash was collected and removed. Benz Sanitation provided bins and haul away service. Ed Waldheim, Friends of Jawbone President, said, "This 13th Annual Moose Anderson Days was one of the best organized we have ever had. From the registration to the coordination by BLM staff for all of the specific job locations, everything went like clockwork and our desert is cleaner for it."



Moose Anderson Days is an annual event named in honor of Mark "Moose" Anderson who served on California's first Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Commission. He was later involved in a motorcycle accident in Baja, from which he eventually died. When Jawbone Station was built in 1996, the building was dedicated in Anderson's memory.

After working up an appetite in the gusty winds, the more than 300 participants returned to Jawbone Station in the early afternoon, and were treated to a BBQ lunch cooked by members of Kern County Search and Rescue. Following lunch, raffle prizes were awarded to lucky ticket holders. More than 100 items were given away including gift certificates, motorcycle helmets, riding apparel, tools, t-shirts and toys. Frances Tafoya of Modesto, Calif., won the grand prize, a Honda EU2000i portable generator donated by Honda Research and Development of Cantil, Calif. This was her second year attending Moose Days and the first time the generator winner was present at the drawing. A road grader, tractor, water truck and dump truck, along with other equipment acquired through California OHV and federal recreational trail program (RTP) grants were on display. The equipment is used throughout the area for trail maintenance.

The event continued Sunday morning, April 26, beginning with a hot breakfast sponsored by the California Off-Road Vehicle Association (CORVA). Motorcycle and OHV riders then embarked on a poker run in the Jawbone Canyon area. Linda Stahl took first place and a helmet camera, in the poker run with four of a kind, Ace high. Three of a kind and a pair of sevens were good enough to earn Ron Rodriguez second place. A mixed hand, King high, gave Eric Caudillo third place.

Four wheel drive vehicle enthusiasts explored historic mining areas in the El Paso Mountains with Explore Historic California's interpretive guides. Starting near Garlock, the group of eight vehicles followed trails used by prospectors through the Goler Narrows and into the interior of the El Pasos. Visiting Holland Camp, Burro Schmidt's Tunnel and Bickel Camp, they learned about the diverse mineralogy and colorful residents of the area.

Moose Anderson Days is organized each year by the Friends of Jawbone Canyon. The organization represents a coalition of recreational users, government land managers, private property and business owners. The group meets the third Wednesday of each month at Jawbone Station. This year's event was produced with the assistance and sponsorship of the Bureau of Land Management (Ridgecrest Field Office), California OHV funds, Ed and Linda Waldheim, CORVA, X-West, Kern County Search and Rescue, B.P.M.C Racing, Benz Sanitation, Nosala Engineering, American Motorcycle Association District 37, Honda Research and Development, Crystal Geysers water, Explore Historic California, Kiewitt Engineering, DeathValley.com, Monagan Motorsports, O'Neil Racing, Paul Kober and Fred Peters, United Rentals, Wimpy's Diner of California City, Kern County Waste Management, Calif. Association of 4-Wheel Clubs, Inc., The Trail Crew 4x4's, Rio Tinto Minerals/Bass Pro Shop, Coyote Café of California City and Road Race City.

[*Professionals for Managed Recreation Formed*](#)

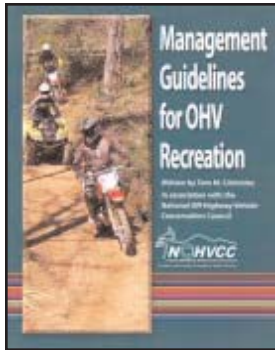
Group Comprised of Retired Federal Land Managers Supports Sustainable Recreation

A new group, Professionals for Managed Recreation (PMR), has been formed to promote environmentally sustainable, managed recreation. PMR is comprised of retired land management officials who favor access for managed, responsible motorized recreation on public lands. Each of the officials has extensive experience in successfully managing off-highway vehicle (OHV) recreation on a National Forest and/or Bureau of Land Management unit.

The new group's mission statement is, "Professionals for Managed Recreation is committed to encouraging, promoting and expanding sustainable OHV recreation through training, advocacy and on-the-ground management activities." The PMR's website is hosted by Americans for Responsible Recreational Access and can be found at:

<http://www.arra-access.com/arra/pmr-home.html>

Tom Crimmins, lead PMR spokesman and retired Forest Service official of 32 years, stated, "Professionals for Managed Recreation presents an opportunity to convey that with proper management, OHV trail systems can be fun, challenging, and most importantly, sustainable."



Crimmins authored Management Guidelines for Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation, which can be downloaded from the PMR website for free. The book discusses approaches to OHV recreation management to meet both land manager and rider objectives. Topics addressed include route planning, trail design and active management, with many specific examples. This is the book that we gave to Sacramento legislators at a past Lobby Day to use for reference.

Currently, four other retired land managers join Crimmins as members of PMR. Crimmins stated, "We have a great core of experienced land managers who have all successfully managed OHV programs on public lands. We know there are more folks like us out there who, by definition, are retired but remain actively engaged in promoting sustainable management techniques, and we encourage them to be a part of PMR."

Crimmins concluded, "Closure is not the only option for land managers dealing with OHV recreation. In fact, in nearly every case responsible active management is the real solution. Each member of PMR has experience in managing sustainable OHV trail systems and it is that experience that we would like to share."

[*Green/Red Sticker Fee Increased to \\$52*](#)

The OHV green/red sticker fee increased from \$50 to \$52 on January 1, 2009. We understand the significance of this increase coming one year after the doubling of the green/red sticker fee from \$25 to \$50 pursuant to SB 742.

What caused the CHP fee to increase \$2? Senate Bill 1055 was signed into law by Governor Gray Davis on October 8, 2003. This law increased forty-one different Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) fees on January 1, 2004, to: avert a shortfall in the California Highway Patrol (CHP) budget and the Motor Vehicle Account (MVA); adjusted the truck weight fee schedule to a level supported by the trucking industry; and make other budget related changes.

In addition to the original fee increases, the bill directed the DMV to implement future fee increases when the California Consumer Price Index (CCPI), as calculated by the Department of Finance, showed increases in inflation. The CCPI measures inflation by tracking a number of common items purchased by consumers. The increases in the CCPI over the past five years triggered previous \$1 increases on other vehicle code sections, but not until now has it affected the two, \$3 OHV fees given to CHP from OHV identification (registration).

How does this affect Green/Red Sticker fees? CVC Sections 38225.41 and 38225.52 were each raised \$1, from \$3 to \$4, on January 1, 2009, giving the (CHP) a total of \$8 (\$4 + \$4) for every green/red sticker issued by the DMV. Both of these fees are contained in the \$52 collected for green or red stickers for OHV identification (registration). The current breakdown is:

- \$33 to OHV Trust Fund (CVC 38225 b)
- \$7 to DMV for administration (CVC 38225 a)
- \$4 to CHP to maintain the uniformed field strength (CVC 38225.4)
- \$4 to CHP to maintain the uniformed field strength (CVC 38225.5)
- \$4 to counties for In-lieu Tax (CVC 38238)

Water Board Revises Cleanup Order To Sustain OHV Recreation
Rubicon Trail Foundation Supports Amended Cleanup and Abatement Order

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB) voted unanimously on April 24th to issue a Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) to El Dorado County and the Eldorado National Forest for the world-famous Rubicon Trail. Before voting the order, the CVRWQB members specifically recognized the efforts of the agencies and volunteers, and asked us to honor the timelines of their request, as we continue and expand our stewardship efforts.

The revised CAO is a much less prescriptive order that calls for general consideration and planning but does not mandate specific actions, instead charging the County and the National Forest with working together to meet the CAO's timelines. Rubicon Trail Foundation believes that most of the elements of this CAO were already accomplished, in process, or in plan, but supports this revised CAO, with the Foundation's requested changes. "This CAO is a burden, but one that we can bear, and drive to success," said John Arenz, a Rubicon Trail Foundation Director.

After the hearing presentations, the Board removed multiple pieces from the CAO: mandate for seasonal restriction (closure), incomplete and un-reviewed science, unverifiable traffic/population numbers, and references to uncertified, un-released draft planning documents. They also accepted County and Foundation feedback about timelines, and relaxed the timelines for more attainable dates, with more clear distinction between plans and documents.

Rubicon Trail Foundation's strategy was to provide specific information for the CVRWQB and rebuttal to incorrect facts and pictures provided in response to the original CAO, and then the Foundation asked for specific changes, in reference to our comments.

- Correctly state that many public toilets are available alongside the trail on private property, but still available to the public.
 - Remove references to the uncertified, un-released Draft Master Plan and the many errors and potentially illegal actions discussed within it
 - Correct the vehicle/person-count numbers that have been incorrectly stated/cited
 - Remove references to the Draft Sediment Study which has not been peer-reviewed or submitted for proper publication
- Anti-recreation groups also asked for small adjustments to the CAO, very few of which they received.

Rubicon Trail Foundation appreciates the huge response from trail users at the meeting and by comments submitted.

continued from page 1

trail in California. Quite the opposite is true. But as you have heard, the off-road community takes ownership for the problems actually existent on the Rubicon Trail, has promised continued oversight of the trail, and given a commitment to action should any new problems arise. Even in this time of financial hardship, plans are ongoing to continue funding improvements to the trails through the generous contributions of the off-road community, with the cooperation of the forest and the county.

The Board has been shown pictures today, of dubious origin and content, depicting unflattering conditions on the trail. But we have to question the true reality of these pictures. Unfortunately, if we look at mountain biking, equestrian, or hiking trails throughout California with the same scrutiny that has been given the Rubicon Trail, we will find many of the same problems and conditions that have been graphically enlarged in these photographs. But curiously, non-motorized trails have not been brought to the Water Board with complaints from environmental organizations, accompanied by a request for closure.

Many of us who live in California appreciate the importance of water quality. Nothing pulls at the heartstrings of the residents of our state quite so strongly as perceived threats to our water supply. But we have not heard compelling testimony in this hearing that actual harm has occurred because of off-road activity on the Rubicon Trail. We have not heard concrete proof, scientifically obtained, that damage to the creeks and streams in the vicinity of the Rubicon Trail has been evaluated and measured. Therefore we must conclude, that other than the allegations by a few individuals intent on pursuing their own personal agendas, that actual harm is not currently occurring to the creeks and streams around the Rubicon Trail. Summarily, the only action that the Water Board can take today is to deny the request to adopt the Cleanup and Abatement Order without significant changes to the content incorporating the true current condition of the trail, and the dedication of the off-road community to the Rubicon Trail.

Sincerely,

Amy Granat
 Northern Director
 CORVA

RUBICON TRAIL FOUNDATION

Position Statement by Rubicon Trail Foundation in regards to: Rubicon Trail, El Dorado County

- The Rubicon Trail Foundation maintains that discharging waste into waters of this state where it threatens to create a condition of pollution or nuisance is not an acceptable practice and that reasonable steps are being taken to manage discharges.
- The Rubicon Trail Foundation sees two separate issues in over the snow travel and wet weather/snow melt conditions.
 - 1.) Deep snow conditions that discourage travel, camping and general use are a barrier that significantly reduces trail population. In these conditions, vehicles with a large tire footprint can float over the snow and result in a near zero impact.
 - 2.) Super saturated soil conditions present a soil erosion risk that exceeds that of other conditions. Rubicon Trail Foundation strongly recommends voluntary travel restrictions during these super saturated conditions based on site-specific and scientific evaluation.
- The Rubicon Trail Foundation does not support the blanket restriction of Rubicon Trail use by season, or by vehicle numbers, type or size.
- The Rubicon Trail Foundation supports El Dorado County's current management procedures for addressing vehicle fluid spills on County roads. The Rubicon Trail Foundation believes improperly disposed of human waste on the Rubicon is best corrected by a multilevel approach that includes public education, portable sanitation solutions and permanent toilet installations, where practical.
- The Rubicon Trail Foundation supports a County-developed Operations and Maintenance plan for maintaining the Rubicon Trail based on the March 2009 California Geological Survey assessment and its updates. This O&M plan should include a list of prioritized projects.
- The Rubicon Trail Foundation supports efforts to define the boundaries of the Rubicon Trail. A well-defined trail, maps and signage are important steps in that direction.
- The Rubicon Trail Foundation encourages the establishment of reasonable and practical operating procedures for training of volunteer groups and others to install and maintain trail drainage structures, stream crossings and new trail segments.
- The Rubicon Trail Foundation supports educational programs to inform Rubicon Trail users of trail rules and etiquette.
- The Rubicon Trail Foundation supports requiring every Rubicon Trail user to carry portable human waste disposal devices and requiring every motorized user to carry oil spill kits.

The Rubicon Trail Foundation was formed in 2004. We are a federally recognized non-profit organization dedicated to the future health of the Rubicon Trail and our mission is to enhance the future health and use of the Rubicon Trail, while ensuring responsible motorized year-round trail access. The Foundation works with individuals, clubs, organizations, and agencies to maintain and manage the trail. Our Officers and Directors represent a wide variety of Rubicon Trail OHV users, land owners, county representatives, manufacturers, and event organizers.

If you would like to help with our efforts, you may send your tax deductible donations to: Rubicon Trail Foundation PO Box 2188 Placerville, CA 95667

Paypal donations or major credit cards by calling 888-6rubicon or by signing up for a Friends of the Rubicon work party at: www.friendsoftherubicon.com

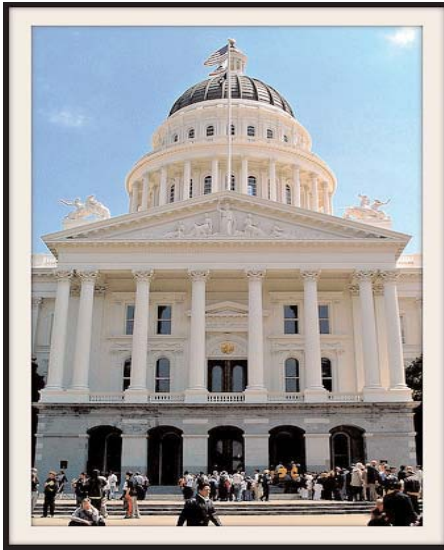
More information is available at www.RubiconTrailFoundation.org



2009 LOBBY DAY REPORT

by Amy Granat

Every year, OHV enthusiasts have a dedicated day to meet and greet at the Capitol. It's an exciting opportunity for our community to learn about the current issues facing off-road recreation, listen to a variety of Legislators as they address the assembled OHV enthusiasts, and visit Legislator's offices. OHV Lobby Day represents one vital chance for the OHV community to present ourselves in as professional a manner as possible to the Legislative community in Sacramento. It is incumbent upon the OHV community as a whole to come together for this important day to talk with as many Legislators and Legislative staff to inform them about the issues facing OHV recreation in California, and garner as much support as possible for our goal to maintain public access to our public lands.



This year, because of the difficult economic climate in California, the 10 major OHV organizations in California chose to conduct a smaller OHV Lobby day than usual. Representatives from each OHV group joined together on Monday, April 27 for a dinner with a variety of legislators running for public office including Jeff Denham, running for Lt. Governor, and Chuck Devore running against the incumbent Barbara Boxer for one of the Senate seats representing California. We also heard about the history of Lobby Day from our own Bob Ham, and were honored to have Deputy Director Daphne Greene join us and talk about the future of OHV recreation in California.

On Tuesday morning, all participants were handed a packet containing talking points to present to the Legislators and Legislative staff during their visits, along with an invitation to join the OHV enthusiasts at a cocktail party later on that day at Chops Steakhouse. For some enthusiasts, it was their first experience walking around the Capitol, introducing themselves to Legislators and talking about the issues facing the future of off-road recreation in the state but we also had many experienced enthusiasts ready and willing to share their knowledge of the Capitol with the newcomers. All in all, it was a wonderful experience.

OHV Lobby Day - Planning for 2010

We invite all CORVA members to join us for OHV Lobby Day in 2010! But now we are asking for an enthusiastic response from our members for OHV Lobby Day 2010. We're asking our members and their families, including children, to join us and participate in the political process. We need your help!

The talking points from OHV Lobby Day 2009

OHV RECREATION Safe, Family Oriented and Sustainable

1. **FAMILY ORIENTED** - OHV recreation is a family oriented activity.
2. **SAFE** - OHV recreation is a safe and manageable activity, and according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, California has one of the best safety records in the nation.
3. **GROWTH** - OHV recreation is growing in popularity, and provides opportunities for families to spend time together in the outdoors.
4. **FINANCIAL SUPPORT** - The OHV community is willing to pay their own way, as evidenced by the strong support of SB 742 which provides additional funding to manage lands, teach responsible outdoors ethics, and repairs lands which have been damaged by the minority of irresponsible participants.
5. **FOCUS ON SUSTINABILITY** - The OHMVR Division's new strategic plan has a strong focus on promoting environmental protection while providing recreation opportunities.

ACTIONS NEEDED:

- \$90 Million was borrowed from the OHV fund, and is not scheduled to be repaid until 2014. Portions of this money are needed NOW to acquire lands where loss of OHV recreation opportunity is imminent.
- "Multiple Use Lands", where OHV recreation is only one of several competing uses, are not providing adequate protection for future OHV opportunity. More lands need to be designated for OHV recreation, and managed specifically for that purpose.

CTUC

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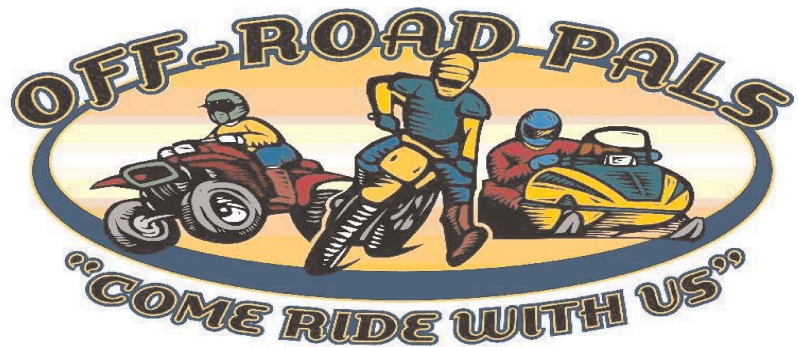


VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!!

THE 12TH ANNUAL HUNTINGTON BEACH PLAY DAYS ARE COMING UP. THIS EVENT HELD WEDNESDAY JULY 23RD IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR OVER 700 INNER-CITY YOUTH FROM THOUGHOUT CALIFORNIA TO EXPERIENCE VARIOUS TYPES OF OUTDOOR RECREATION INCLUDING RIDING ATV'S ON A SANDY BEACH COURSE SET UP BY VOLUNTEERS AND STATE PARKS OFF-HIGHWAY MOTOR VEHICLE RECREATION DIVISION.

JULY 22ND- WE NEED YOUR HELP ASSISTING WITH OFF-ROAD ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES. VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES INCLUDE ASSISTING YOUTH WITH PROPER SAFETY ATTIRE AND EQUIPMENT, MAINTAINING OFF ROAD COURSES AND INTERACTION WITH HUNDREDS OF YOUTH. THE BEACH PLAY DAY PARTNERSHIP PROVIDES AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUTH TO DEVELOP LIFELONG INTEREST IN OUTDOOR RECREATION, BUILD SELF ESTEEM, TRY NEW ACTIVITIES AND MAKE HEALTHY LIFESTYLE CHOICES. DON'T BE LEFT OUT OF THIS GREAT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY TO CHANGE A KIDS LIFE.

FOR QUESTIONS OR TO SIGN UP PLEASE CONTACT CHERYL GILLOTT (760) 767-5393 OR
EMAIL: CGILLOTT@PARKS.CA.GOV or STEVE QUARTIERI (760) 767-1331



Off-Road PALS Program

In cooperation with California State Parks, the Off Road PALS program is conducted at the 7 SVRA sites throughout the state where youth ages 12-17 are taught how to ride ATVs (All Terrain Vehicles) then allowed to ride on off-road trails. There is also an instructor's course for PAL directors/volunteers who wish to teach kids how to ride ATVs. California State Parks maintains motorcycles and ATV's at each SVRA site. There is no cost to the PALS/SALS to use the vehicles and equipment.

WANTED: NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Have you ever wanted to use your creative skills? Are you good at puzzles? Want to better your writing skills and your spelling? Boy do I have a position for YOU. Our newsletter relays "who we are, what we do and our voice to both members and the public at large. I've had the pleasure to produce the newsletter since last July and I've tried to provide a timely publication with both current and important articles that affect our OHV recreation. This position is very important to our organization along with our web site. So if you're even a little bit curious about this position, please contact me for all the details. Thanks, Jim Colln VP Administration jim.colln@corva.org or 1-800-42CORVA ext 509

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MEMBER DONATIONS

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CORVA CALENDAR

June:

6/13 OPERATION SUPER CANYON SWEEP-2009 Cleaning up the San Gabriel Canyon OHV Area. Contact Barry Wetherby at 818-957-1455 or email to: BHWetherby@aol.com WE NEED LOTS OF VOLUNTEERS (see page 15 for more details)

July:

7/4 OCEANO DUNES POKER RUN Hosted by the Friends of Oceano Dunes (see page 5 for the details) www.oceanodunes.org Contact Gene Schroeder at 559-294-7922

7/21-23 CALPAL BEACH PLAY DAYS (California Police Activities League) Huntington Beach Volunteers needed to set up and help kids with riding quads. Please contact: Cheryl Gillott (760) 767-5393 or email: cgillott@parks.ca.gov for information. (see page 16 for more details)

August:

8/14-16 HIGH DESERT RALLY Modesto Ridge Runners hosts the annual event in Hawthorne, Nevada. (see page 8 for more details) Contact Mike Bradley at (209) 526-0181 or by email to: bradley_mike53@yahoo.com

September:

9/18-20 SAND SPORTS SUPER SHOW Orange County Fairgrounds, Costa Mesa, CA. www.sandsportssupershow.com

9/26-27 SOUTHERN JAMBOREE Annual Fun Weekend! Location TBD... (Hungry Valley SVRA or California City)

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