

CORVA
CALIFORNIA OFF-ROAD
VEHICLE ASSOCIATION
www.corva.org

OFF-ROADERS IN ACTION

Johnson Valley Update: Petition to the White House (From CORVA Land Use Report)

By Bruce Whitcher, CORVA VP-Land Uses & Public Policy

Thousands of OHV enthusiasts signed a petition to the White House asking for intervention to make sure that the Marine Corps does not seize more than 140,000 acres of prime OHV recreation ground in southern California. The petition had a goal of 25,000 signatures within thirty days and that goal was achieved in little more than two weeks. Now that we have reached that goal, let's exceed it even more.

CORVA recently received information that a limitation has been placed on funding for the expansion of the Twenty Nine Palms Base into adjacent Johnson Valley.

This is now officially part of the Defense Authorization Act of 2013 just passed by Congress and signed by the President. The text of the amendment is virtually identical to the Bartlett Amendment as reported in the October issue of the ORIA. Although the language makes no guarantee that Johnson Valley will remain available for OHV use as in the past, it will certainly give the military additional requirements to consider the impact of base expansion on local communities and recreational users.



Recreation opportunities abound in Johnson Valley
(photo courtesy of blm.gov)

The Way Things Used to Be

By Amy Granat, CORVA Managing Director

Recently I had the pleasure of touring the Angeles National Forest with a friend to view the extent of the damage from the Station Fire of 2009. Mile after mile we traveled on a beautifully clear winter's day, marveling at the views and the snow still evident on the mountaintops deposited by a storm a few days earlier. The bareness of the scenery due to the fire was sobering, and inspired us to stop the truck by the side of the road to imagine the views that existed before the fire, in contrast to the same scenery evident after the fire, and mourn all that was lost.

We saw some beautiful areas, each one holding a special meaning to my friend, a Southern California native who had spent many happy hours travelling the roads and trails of the Angeles National Forest. I heard stories of one trail that led to a scenic overlook, a road that connected this forest to a town a few miles away, and another trail just made to take a picnic basket to enjoy with the family. We saw signs of a road perfect for a day's travel in a 4WD, and another just made for single-track travel by dirt bike. In each and every case, these trails were no longer available for travel. Whether closed by boulders or Forest Service gates, the end result remains the same; the public has been denied access. Besides the regrettable loss of human life, and almost one hundred homes destroyed in the Station Fire, the other great loss includes knowing 'the ways things used to be', that are no longer open for off-road travel.

The Angeles National forest is the closest national forest to the Los Angeles metropolitan area, but is now closed to anyone who wants to leave the beaten path and enjoy the scenery. All those days of fun and happiness experienced by my friend cannot be duplicated; off-road access to the Angeles National Forest is no longer available to anyone there. It has been closed by bureaucracy; by those who have no difficulty denying travel to anyone who uses a motorized vehicle.

Continued on page 9

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

FAMILY FUN RUN

Aliklik
Camp Ground



MARCH 16TH, 2013

POKER RUN

Hungry Valley
SVRA
Gorman, Ca.



Prizes from

Prizes from



CORVA

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EVENT INFO

- WHERE:** Hungry Valley SVRA- Gorman, Ca
 Registration at Aliklik Campground, Follow signs from either entrance.
 Registration 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Saturday 3-16-13
- WHEN:** Saturday, March 16th, 2013
 Rider meeting 9:30 a.m. at Aliklik Campground. Poker Run starts at 10:00 a.m. Cutoff starting course 2:00 p.m. Games at check points on Poker Run Dog Show 4:00 p.m. Dinner 5:30 p.m. Awards, Raffle and Camp Fire following dinner
- WHAT:** CORVA FAMILY FUN- POKER RUN (5 cards per hand)
 CORVA members: \$20.00 per hand Non-members \$30.00 per hand
 Dinner: \$10.00 Dog Show: FREE
 Raffle & 50/50 Tickets \$1.00
- HOW:** POKER RUN- BEST 5 CARD HAND WINS
 Games- Highest total points wins
 1st, 2nd, 3rd, Place Prizes Awarded
- WHY:** FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!!! SHOW YOUR SUPPORT OF CORVA

Contact
 Jim Woods
 805-526-4122

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, trail bikes, and dune buggies, as well as "street legal" 4x4 vehicles, dual sport motorcycles, baja and desert racers, and snowmobiles.

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 and OSV 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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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jim Woods

One Important Battle Down, Many To Go

Wow, we did it! Thank you for your help. It took just over 2 weeks to get 25,000 signatures on the "We the People" petition which directs President Obama to address the withdrawal of 150,000 acres of public land from public use. With over 27,735 off-roader votes, we are making a difference! At the King of the Hammers event in February, we raised over \$13,000 on the Limited Edition Save Johnson Valley T-Shirts. Many thanks to Tony and Debbie Pelligrino of GenRight Off Road Products for a great time and helping a great cause. Additionally, we must give our sincere gratitude to the Tierra Del Sol off-road club, who donated \$5000.00 to the "Save the Hammers" fund from its annual event held in Ocotillo Wells. To all who volunteered at the front gate during the KOH event, and especially CORVA Life Members, Helen and Harry Baker, thank you from all of us at CORVA. Working events is not a prestigious job; it was cold and windy, but 10% of all the money collected went to saving Johnson Valley. Finally, thank all of you for your teamwork. You are all heroes in my book!!

Unfortunately, here is the bad news. When the Record of Decision (ROD) was released on Johnson Valley, once again the Marines declared they want the land. Did we expect this? Yes. Is it the end of the road? No way. It may anger us that this has gone so far, but what will make a difference is what we do about it. We cannot accept the potential loss of another 150,000 acres of open recreation area.

It is very important to remember that disappointments are part of the process. After the Secretary of the Navy signs the ROD, it will still have to pass committee. Then it needs to be passed by Congress and signed by the President. We have already started to educate the President with our petition. Again we will enlist the Livingston Group to educate Congress. And, yes we will need your help. The California Motorized Recreation Council (CMRC) has committed another \$33,000 and we need your donations. Please go to our www.CORVA.org website or the "Save the Hammers" site and donate. In the memo box put "Save the Hammers" and every dollar will be spent on Johnson Valley. We will also need you to contact your representatives in Washington to tell your story. Ask any of your out of state relatives to contact theirs as well. Johnson Valley would be the largest loss of public land since the Desert Protection Act in 1984. We need everyone's help.

There are so many areas besides Johnson Valley that need attention too. There are fee increases in Glamis, possible SVRA closures and a huge need for volunteers to help with maintenance. We cannot afford to just sit and complain! Please come and join our team. Our Board meetings are on the 4th Monday of every month via conference call; you are welcome to join. This month I invite you to attend the Family Fun Day on March 16th at the Hungry Valley SVRA near Gorman, CA. Our CORVA Annual meeting is on May 18th in Visalia, CA and will include our major Board of Director elections. Please attend. As some officers will be termed-out of office this year, we need all the volunteers we can get!!! Now is your time to get involved. Thank you for your help.



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

1500 W. El Camino Ave. #352
Sacramento, CA 95833-1945

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State / Zip _____

I AM DONATING TO:

Legal Fund	\$ _____
Sierra Pro Access Group	\$ _____
Lawsuit against Forest Service	\$ _____
Reopening of Clear Creek Area	\$ _____
Funding the CA Desert Legal Bills	\$ _____
Funding work at: _____	\$ _____
Other Area: _____	\$ _____
General Fund (non specific)	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____

Please make checks payable to CORVA

Donations are not deductible as charitable contributions

17th Annual

Moose Anderson Days

Sat. & Sun. April 27 & 28, 2013



Presented By

The Friends of Jawbone



★ Assessment Ride!

★ Raffle!

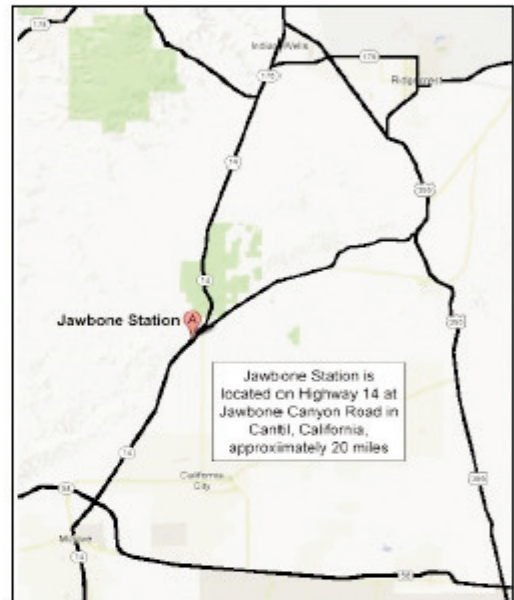
★ Awards!

SATURDAY 27

- ◆ Sign up starts at 8:00 a.m. SHARP! Plan to arrive early.
- ◆ Breakfast 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. (\$3.00 donation)
- ◆ Projects start at 9:00 a.m.
- ◆ 50/50 drawing and Door Prizes
- ◆ Displays/Demonstrations
- ◆ Free trail snack and lunch for all pre-registered cleanup participants
- ◆ Free T-shirt for all PRE-REGISTERED participants
- ◆ Pre-registration must be postmarked by April 15

SUNDAY 28

- ◆ Breakfast 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. (\$3.00 donation)
- ◆ Fence-line and Trail Assessment Work Crew Ride
- ◆ Off-Road Assessment run (\$5.00 per card, a fund raiser consisting of a 30-40 mile fun ride on your motorcycle, ATV, or other off-highway vehicle) Multiple cards may be purchased.
- ◆ 4X4 Tours (\$10.00 per vehicle)
- ◆ Awards 12:30 p.m.



NOTE: You must be pre-registered for SATURDAY to be guaranteed a free T-Shirt and lunch. Sunday registration is for the Assessment Rides ONLY.

PLEASE FILL OUT ONE REGISTRATION FORM FOR EACH PARTICIPANT ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST BE REGISTERED.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

Emergency Contact: _____

EMAIL _____

Check this box to be added to our eNewsletter:

T-Shirt Size (kid L, Adult S,M,L,XL,XXL,XXXL)

Pre-Registration MUST be postmarked by April 15!

Friends of Jawbone
P.O. Box 1902
Cantil, CA 93519
(760) 373-1146
Fax: (760) 373-1165

www.jawbone.org

SIGN ME UP FOR SUNDAY FUN!

4X4 Tours (\$10.00 per vehicle)

Assessment Ride (\$5.00 per card)

CORVA Land Use Resources and Public Policy Report

By Bruce Whitcher

CORVA VP of Land Resources and Public Policy

REI Executive to Head Interior Department

WASHINGTON — President Obama nominated a former petroleum engineer and commercial banker who is also a conservationist and chief executive of an environmentally conscious retailer to lead the Interior Department on Wednesday, making an unorthodox selection for his first female nominee to his second-term Cabinet.

Sally Jewell, president and chief executive of Recreational Equipment Inc., has no government credentials and little public policy experience. But her resume could appeal to the feuding interests that drive much of the debate at the department in charge of managing federal lands: the oil and gas extraction industries seeking access to public land and the environmentalists seeking preservation.

If confirmed by the Senate, Jewell, 56, will replace Ken Salazar, a former Colorado senator who held the post throughout the president's first term. Salazar has overseen an expansion of resource extraction on federal lands, to the dismay of environmental groups, which contend that the push for energy independence has too often trumped environmental concerns.

Salazar, however, has also drawn fire from Republicans who blame the administration for not moving fast enough to open untouched areas to industry exploration.

Without a public record, little is known about where Jewell will stand in the fight. Environmental groups praised her nomination, while industry groups and Republican lawmakers withheld judgment.

In announcing his choice, Obama cast Jewell as someone who would seek a balance.

"She knows the link between conservation and good jobs," Obama said at the White House. "She knows that there's no contradiction between being good stewards of the land and our economic progress, that, in fact, those two things need to go hand in hand."

Jewell graduated with an engineering degree and started her career working in the oil fields of Oklahoma and Colorado for Mobil Oil Corp. She then moved to the banking industry, where she advised banks on their energy assets, according to a profile in the Seattle Times. Over nearly two decades, she rose in the banking industry, eventually heading Washington Mutual's commercial banking division before joining the REI board in 1996. She became chief operating officer four years later and took over the top job in 2005.

Her REI tenure was marked by considerable growth and expansion. At the same time, she and the \$1.8-billion company supported initiatives that sought to draw new, more diverse communities to the outdoors.

The REI Foundation contributed to the National Audubon Society to build nature centers that introduce the outdoors to underserved communities. Jewell and REI worked with the Sierra Club to get veterans and inner-city youth, among others, to the parks and to support local hiking and outdoors chapters. Jewell, an avid outdoorswoman, was elected to the board of trustees of the National Parks Conservation Assn. in 2004. Her work led her to America's Great Outdoors program, an Interior Department initiative aimed, in part, at encouraging conservation and recreation among young people.

"Sally Jewell has the mind of an engineer, the heart of an environmentalist and the know-how of a businesswoman," said Frances Beinecke, president of the Natural Resources Defense Council.

Jewell's work at REI may help her understand the economic benefits of tourism and recreation, some environmentalists said. "I think she'll bring a breath of fresh air to the job," said Mike Daulton, vice president of government relations for the National Audubon Society. "She understands how many jobs and how much economic activity is tied to the outdoors."

But her strong ties to environmental groups have made oil and gas interests and their political supporters wary, although they said they looked forward to getting acquainted with her.

"What we have seen out of the recreation industry the last few years has been advocacy for conservation-only policies," said Kathleen Sgamma, vice president of government and public affairs at the Western Energy Alliance, a Denver-based oil and gas lobby. "I think that the recreation industry forgets how dependent it is on oil and gas: It's the basic feedstock of fleece, nylon and plastic, and it's how their customers take that great gear into the mountains."

Key Republicans also said they wanted to hear from Jewell.

Continued on next page

"The livelihoods of Americans living and working in the West rely on maintaining a real balance between conservation and economic opportunity," said Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, the top Republican on the Senate Energy and National Resources Committee. "I look forward to hearing about the qualifications Ms. Jewell has that make her a suitable candidate to run such an important agency, and how she plans to restore balance to the Interior Department."

A top priority for environmentalists in the second term will be halting Shell Oil's exploratory drilling in the Arctic Ocean off Alaska, an effort already beset by significant problems. Industry wants Arctic exploration to continue and contends adequate safeguards against oil spills are in place.

Environmentalists also want to see tighter regulation of the controversial oil and gas production method known as hydraulic fracturing, or fracking. Industry contends that such measures would be onerous and redundant, given existing state rules.

House Resources Committee

The House Resources Committee has organized for the 113th Congress and among the significant changes made was the creation of a new subcommittee, the Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation. The Chairman of the new Subcommittee is Rep. Rob Bishop (R-UT) and he has already announced an aggressive agenda including a thorough review of the National Environmental Policy Act, known to all as NEPA, and the Antiquities Act, which is the measure that provides the President with the authority to create national monuments. Both measures are long overdue for a comprehensive review. NEPA was enacted back in 1969 and the Antiquities Act in 1906.

Rep. Bishop wants the Subcommittee to do some serious fact finding on the cost associated with NEPA compliance both in terms of monetary cost as well as jobs lost due to administrative delays associated with administering the Act. No one should assume that Congress will revoke NEPA, but there is plenty of room to improve it. The Subcommittee does not have an easy task ahead of it because of the political volatility associated with this issue. Nonetheless, this review is desperately needed.

In terms of the Antiquities Act, the original Act is quite specific that any monuments created should have as small of a footprint as possible. Presidents of both political parties have ignored this restriction. Rep. Bishop will be looking for ways to tighten this footprint restriction while at the same time ensuring that multiple use practices, among those being recreation, are not severely limited when a new national monument is created.

National Monument Areas

Speaking of the creation of new national monument areas, it is looking more and more likely that the President will elevate to monument status the Rio Grande del Norte in northern New Mexico. You will recall that in our January newsletter we reported on the surprise public meeting that Secretary Salazar held in Taos on this issue. Speculation is that this declaration might be one of the final acts of the Salazar era at the Interior Department and several in the New Mexico congressional delegation seem to be supportive of this idea. We were told by three congressional offices that there have been direct talks with the President on this issue.

Two bills were just introduced in the House of Representatives, H.R. 250 and H.R. 382 and one in the Senate, S. 104, which would place some restrictions on monument designations. While it may be hard for any of these bills to gain traction in the short term, the introduction of these measures does highlight the need to revise the Antiquities Act.

National Forests to Begin Revising their Forest Plans Based on New Forest Planning Rule

California's Inyo, Sequoia, and Sierra National Forests will begin to revise their Forest Plans according to the new Planning Rule. "These forests will demonstrate straight out of the gate what we've been talking about in terms of collaboration," said U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell. "People will see that under a new rule, public engagement increases and process decreases, all while providing stronger protections for our lands and water."

The preferred alternative is grounded in science and public input, and seeks to deliver stronger protections for forests, water, and wildlife while supporting the economic vitality of our rural communities. It requires providing opportunities for public involvement and collaboration throughout all stages of the planning process, as well as opportunities for Tribal consultation and coordination with state and local governments and other federal agencies.

These national forests were selected because of their urgent need for plan revisions, the importance of the benefits they provide, and the strong collaborative networks already in place. They will emphasize strong science, collaboration, strengthened protections for land, wildlife and water, and opportunities for sustainable recreation and other multiple uses that support jobs and economic vitality as they begin the process to revise their plans.

“There are 14 million acres of national forest at risk of fire in California, so this new approach to forest planning is vital,” said Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-California). “I am encouraged that a new planning rule will build on existing efforts like the one in the Sierra National Forest that bring together scientists, timber harvesters and environmental groups to reduce hazardous fuels. We need more of that type of cooperation to reduce fire risks and prevent harm to people and property.”

Recreation Advocates React to Stanislaus NF Court Decision

The U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California issued a decision on January 4, 2013 that found a legal flaw in the 2009 motorized travel management decision issued by the Stanislaus National Forest. Judge Kimberly Mueller has set a hearing on February 15 to consider remedies.

The Court ruled in favor of the Forest Service and recreational intervenors on many claims in the case, including challenges to the range of alternatives and cumulative impacts under the National Environmental Policy Act. However, the Court found lacking the agency's discussion of how it sought to "minimize" specified effects of continuing motorized access as required by agency regulations. While the Court did not make a finding that damage has occurred or is illegally occurring under the challenged decision, the Court concluded "...the Forest Service has not made the required showing that it minimized environmental impacts as required by" its travel management rule.

Paul Tureke, counsel for the recreation group intervenors, states, "We are in the process of reviewing the decision. An appropriate remedy will focus on the manner in which the agency properly conducts any omitted steps in the process, which may but does not necessitate any particular change to the designated network of motorized routes on the Stanislaus Forest. We will continue to advocate for properly managed motorized access at future proceedings before the court and the agency."

John Stewart, Resources Consultant for California Association of 4 Wheel Drive Clubs, states, "The Stanislaus NF engaged in a public process to determine a sustainable system of routes to meet forest needs as required and solicited the public in an open process according to established rules."

The recreation intervenors led by the California Association of 4 Wheel Drive Clubs, including the BlueRibbon Coalition and the AMA District 36 Motorcycle Sports Committee, will continue to advocate for public access to public lands.

Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP)

Background: the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan will determine where in the California desert renewable energy projects will be sited. Together with the West Mojave Plan there will be a virtual "carving up" of the desert by competing interests. CORVA is fortunate to have highly knowledgeable participants attending the DRECP meetings. So far the desert OHV Open Areas have been established as "off limits" for renewable energy development, but solar and wind development companies are eager to place installations on any suitable site so nothing should be taken for granted.

Preliminary Document Released

The REAT (Renewable Energy Agency Team) agencies have received recommendations for holding public workshops on subjects important to the development and success of the DRECP (e.g., durability of conservation activities, governance, financing etc.). Two workshops already have been held and others are being planned or considered. In addition, the Independent Science Panel (ISP) released a draft report that can be viewed at: <http://drepc.org/documents/#science>.

The REAT agencies have released an informal document, tentatively titled the "Description and Comparative Evaluation of Draft DRECP Alternatives," prior to releasing a formal public draft of the DRECP and environmental impact analysis (Draft EIR/EIS). The "Description and Comparative Evaluation" provides information and analysis of the DRECP alternatives for stakeholder review and comment. There will be a comment period of approximately one month following its release. The REAT agencies are making the "Description and Comparative Evaluation" available for informal review before completing the draft DRECP. The Draft DRECP will be released for formal public review later this year.

BLM Releases Final Environmental Review for Alta East Wind Project in Kern County

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has released the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for a proposed wind energy project on public lands in Southern California, suggesting a preferred alternative with a smaller footprint to reduce environmental impacts to wildlife and woodland habitat.

Alta Windpower Development, LLC has requested a right-of-way authorization to construct, operate, maintain, and decommission the up to 318-megawatt Alta East Wind Project. The project is proposed on about 2,592 acres on the north and south sides of State Route 58 in southeastern Kern County, California. The proposed project would include wind turbines, access roads, energy collection lines, and ancillary facilities on 2,024 acres of public land and 568 acres of private land.

The BLM's preferred alternative in the FEIS has a smaller acreage footprint than the original proposal, and reduces impacts identified in the Draft EIS issued in June 2012. The preferred alternative would reduce the size of the project from 2,024 acres of public lands to 1,705 -- with a corresponding reduction in electrical output from 318 megawatts to 291 megawatts.

The smaller footprint avoids impacts to desert tortoise and some Joshua tree woodland habitat adjacent to the Pacific Crest Trail. In addition, it reduces impacts to golden eagles by eliminating nine turbines closest to three active nests. The preferred alternative would result in a total of 97 wind turbines.

The final EIS also includes a proposed amendment to the California Desert Conservation Area Plan.

Publication of the Environmental Protection Agency NOA in the Federal Register initiates a public protest period of 30 days, ending Monday, March 18. During the protest period, the BLM will work with the protestors to address issues and concerns and attempt to resolve those protests.

For information, contact Jeffery Childers at (951) 697-5308, or e-mail jchilders@blm.gov.

Continued from Page 1

The Way Things Used to Be

The extent of off-road travel in the Angeles National Forest was never great, but the few trails and roads that existed were critical to the populations surrounding the forest. They represented a means to escape the everyday battle with Los Angeles area freeways, and the hustle and bustle of everyday life in a city. It is wrong for these trails to still be closed, it is wrong for the Forest Service to close all access to motorized off-road vehicles in this forest.

When CORVA speaks to the Forest Service to ask why roads, trails and areas are closed to off-road travel, generally the excuses include mention of damage by OHV vehicles, or sedimentation and wildlife issues. But the damage caused by one fire, such as the Station Fire, dwarfs any damage that motorized vehicles can cause in a forest by at least a hundredfold. Looking at the acres upon acres burned in that fire and the accompanying losses has to enable the Forest Service to put motorized travel into a clearer perspective. Let them work on their issues combatting forest fires, and forego any argument regarding supposed damage by motorized vehicles. There are entities at play in our national forest that cause much more harm than OHV use and the Forest Service has to stop using that excuse to close roads and trails.

In a report prepared by the US General Accounting Office in response to questions regarding Forest Service efficacy combating the Station Fire, the GAO concluded with the following recommendations, yet to be heeded or acknowledged by the Forest Service: "To improve the Forest Service's response to wildland fires and to implement the lessons it identified in its review of the Station Fire, the Secretary of Agriculture should direct the Chief of the Forest Service to document the steps it plans to take, and the associated time frames." And "To improve the Forest Service's response to wildland fires, the Secretary of Agriculture should direct the Chief of the Forest Service to clarify the Forest Service's intent and to reduce uncertainty about how its assets are to be used relative to those of other agencies, issue guidance describing when it expects its own firefighting assets to be used instead of contract or state and local agency assets." The lack of response from the agency is telling, and not in a positive way.

It is always tempting to find a scapegoat to blame for your ills, and the Forest Service has used motorized use as that scapegoat for a very long time, specifically with Travel Management. It is time to call them on this posturing and demand that roads and trails be reopened in the Angeles National Forest, and all other forests around California. Our voices have to be strong, consistent and heard together, then we can ensure that our children and grandchildren can enjoy our national forests in the manner it was always intended by Congress.



CORVA Annual Meeting May 18, 2013 -- Visalia, CA

Please join us for this year's CORVA Annual Meeting. The event will take place at the Lamp Litter Inn located at 3300 W Mineral King Ave (559-732-4511). Rooms are available if you would like to make a weekend out of it. A meet and greet will begin at 9:00 am and the General Meeting starts at 10:00 am. This year the elections will be for the following offices: President, Vice-President of Land Resources and Public Policy, Vice-President of Sales and Marketing, and the CORVA State Secretary. We will also have By-Law changes and guest speakers who will discuss land use issues that affect everyone in California. This is YOUR Organization, so please come out and voice your opinion, and VOTE!

The Following are the trophies to be given out at this year's meeting. Please submit your nominations to terry.work@corva.org:

George Thomas Memorial Trophy For Off Roader of the Year:

This trophy is presented to the one individual whose contributions to the betterment of off-roading during the preceding year are worthy of this very special recognition. The recipient may be any individual who has provided special help to off-roading. The person does not have to be a member of CORVA or any affiliated organization. The nomination should be submitted with an explanation of the individual's accomplishments.

Looney Duners Trophy to Charity:

To be eligible for this award, the club must belong to CORVA. The award goes to the club that donates the most time and effort to charity. Money is not a factor.

Los Aventureros State Conservation Award:

This award is presented to the individual club, which during the year, has contributed the most towards conservation.

American Buggy Association Political Activism Award:

This requires exceptional activity in dealing with elected officials and civil servants, through personal contact and letter writing. These persons' efforts should always increase the perception of CORVA - Please contact us for more details

Club Delegates need to check in before meeting, along a with a club roster and confirmation letter signed by current club president. Club Delegate form:

<http://www.corva.org/skin1/forms/LETTER%20OF%20ASSIGNMENT%20-%20CLUB%20DELEGATE.pdf>

Members and Proxy votes, all membership must be current and up to date to vote. Corva form located at: <http://www.corva.org/skin1/forms/LETTER%20OF%20ASSIGNMENT%20-%20NON-CLUB%20DELEGATE.pdf>

Managing Director's Report

by Amy Granat

CORVA Makes a Difference

CORVA makes some strides in saving OHV use in the California desert! Recently some talk came our way about locating wind monitoring towers in the Stoddard Wells OHV Open Area. It had been rumored to the Bureau of Land Management that some OHV groups indicated this placement was good with them, and all plans were moving forward towards erecting these towers in Stoddard Wells. As soon as CORVA heard about this we objected strongly and vociferously to the BLM, because any infiltration of OHV open areas in the California desert area is unacceptable. This battle has been won, and CORVA is proud to represent our members and help protect our treasured areas.

This past month CORVA has met with representatives for the BLM, Forest Service and OHV Division of State Parks in our constant efforts to keep public land open to the public. We submitted comments objecting to the Oregon Dunes Draft plan that would restrict OHV access and eliminate OHV travel over 100 miles, and worked with enthusiasts fighting for OHV access in the forests in Colorado. Even though our name says "California", we no longer limit our efforts to the borders of our own state; wherever we are needed to help teach and guide enthusiasts we will do our best to help. And even though our name says "Off-Road" we are not limited to working on traditional off-road or OHV activities. Our interests span the gamut of outdoor recreational pursuits, and our members engage in hunting, fishing, hounding and equestrian activities among many other activities. A name can only say so much, in the case of CORVA, we bring together our history of over 42 years working to keep public land open to the public with a new spirit and dedication, working all over the state to make a difference wherever we can.

We have a new California State Parks Director, Major General Anthony L. Jackson, and CORVA was very pleased to be part of the OHV Leadership Group welcoming the General to State Parks. Diana Mead, our Northern Director, represented CORVA at this meeting, asking the General to ensure the expansion of Carnegie SVRA, and asking him to appoint a new Deputy Director to the OHV Division to see to the preservation and expansion of OHV opportunities. Representatives from CORVA also took tours of the Carnegie SVRA expansion area to try to determine the best uses of these new areas. We would like to see them open to touring by various forms of OHV vehicles, honoring the history of the area by the use of interpretive signs. We will be submitting comments in writing, and will publish the information so everyone else can support the expansion of Carnegie.

As OHV events start all over the state, CORVA will have representatives ready to answer your questions. Come up, talk to us, and let us know what areas are important to protect and how we can help you protect OHV access. We have a very important goal to achieve, and leading the way, CORVA will work with you to make this happen.

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 4/27-28 17th Annual Moose Anderson Days at Jawbone Station (see ad on page 5)

May:

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