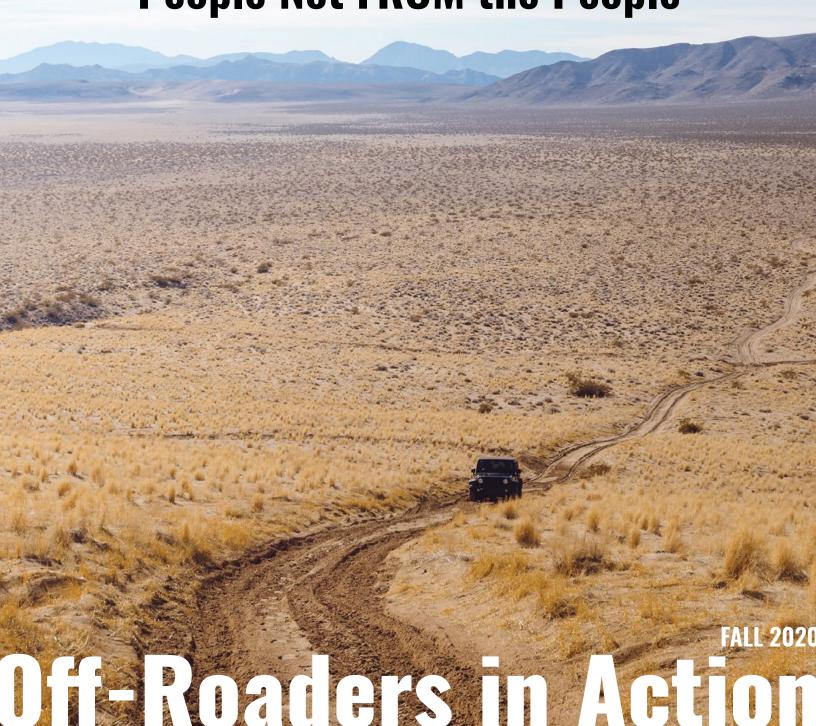


# Protecting Public Land FOR the People Not FROM the People



## Off-Roaders in Action

**FALL 2020** 

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## President's Report KEN CLARKE

## I hope you are all safe and healthy during these extraordinary times.

None of us thought the COVID-19 issue would last this long, but now this virus is causing economic harm to so many. Parents are being stressed with wondering how school is going to work for their kids and many families' vacations are being cancelled. Many events are being cancelled, and even SEMA, the largest aftermarket automotive show in the world has been called off this year. So many issues have arisen and still the situation remain liquid and uncertain.

With so many other activities closed down, people are turning to America's public lands to recreate, which have largely remained open throughout this ordeal. But we have a big problem with the large onslaught of visitors to our public lands. Simply put, popular areas are being trashed by folks that do not understand how to enjoy public land while protecting the resource. Federal agencies are very concerned and some of started losing campgrounds simply due to overuse.

Both the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management have reported a 100 percent increase in dispersed camping. They are not packing out their human waste out or burying it. Campfires are being left burning. Trash is being left behind and people are driving off the trial into meadows and other sensitive areas. The Forest Service has closed some areas due to high fire danger and because campfires were left burning. Please help educate you friends and anyone you meet on our Public Land on how to be good stewards. Be careful out there we had a senseless murder on the trail in Northern California and there have been assaults in the southern part of our state.

If you see something suspicious or are in danger contact Law Enforcement as soon as you can.

We do have some good news in the off-road community concerning the OHMVR Division and OHMVR Commission. We have a new Deputy Director and two new Commissioners. Congratulations to Sarah Miggins, our new Deputy Director for the OHMVR Division. Ms. Miggins has been a Commissioner for two years and during this time she has learned to embrace the OHV Community. The two new commissioners are Tina Brazil of Turlock and Roger Salazar of Sacramento. Roger is a Life Member of CORVA! We are looking forward to developing strong relationships with the new appointees.

When we are looking to understand COVID-19 closures we must remember they start with County Health Departments. The Forest Service, BLM and State Parks are all working with local County Health Departments who have the final say as to what will open and when it will open. While most of Forest Service and BLM areas are open, Oceano Dunes SRVA remains closed by order of the county health department. Please note that San Louis Obispo County is preventing not only the ODSRVA from opening but they are also responsible for Hearst Castle State Park being closed. It seems that SLO County does not want outsiders traveling to their county. Another reason Oceano Dunes is closed is because of the Cease and Decease Order issued by Coastal Commission which mandated the park closure until the end of the bird nesting season, October 1st. As soon as nesting season ends the order ends as well.





If the COVID closure still survives in SLO County, the SVRA will remain closed even after the nesting season ends. The Oceano Dunes Public Works Plan is getting close to being completed although CORVA and others still have a lot of objections.

The SLO County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) is losing credibility daily, and seemingly losing personnel as well! They have an open Engineer and Alternate Engineer position open, which makes you wonder how these empty positions affect their ability to make valid, scientific decisions concerning ODSRVA. The Science Advisory Group that is advising the APCD does not instill confidence in

CORVA Business Sponsors most of which are small businesses. These folks are helping keep our public lands open, so the least we can do is help them stay open! When you are looking to make some mods to your vehicle please support them. You can find a full list in this issue and under Membership at CORVA.org.

CORVA still has a strong financial balance sheet although we have four major fund-raising events that have been cancelled, including our CORVA Northern Jamboree has been cancelled by Stanislaus County. The other events include Family Fun Run, Sand Sports Show and Off-Road Expo. Since these events are cancelled CORVA must ask for your help.

Hopefully this will be all over soon. In the meantime, CORVA is working hard to be sure none of the present closures become permeant.

me. They made some telling remarks at the first Zoom OHMVR Commission meeting, one of which was "the dust from ODSRVA has no health effect on human beings". The other was something about when the atmosphere leaves the sand. I personally found this very confusing. I will post video clips of this SAG testimony on the CORVA YouTube channel. But CORVA is making a difference and the ODSRVA issue has gotten the attention of the Governor, who seems embarrassed that two state agencies cannot resolve their squabbling on their own. So, the conflict between ODSRVA and Coastal Commission has been escalated to the Natural Resources Agency to resolve the issues. Please note that the Natural Resources Agency is the next step up in government from State Parks and the Coastal Commission. They both work under the Natural Resources Agency.

With so many folks out of work many small businesses are struggling to survive and many are closing, never to reopen. This includes our You can help by purchasing CORVA Swag at the CORVA Store. We have a stock of CORVA Neck Gaiters which work very well as a face mask. I have been using mine for two mounts and find it much easier to breath than the usual cloth mask. If you want more filtration it can be doubled over. It's also very easy to pull up and down. We also have some new T-Shirts and as always, we have CORVA stickers. Another option is to donate to CORVA which you can also do on the website.

Hopefully this will be all over soon. In the meantime, CORVA is working hard to be sure none of the present closures become permeant. Stay safe and Healthy. I personally thank all of you for your support of CORVA. Happy trails





# The California Coastal Commission: Perverting the Public Process

The California Coastal Commission was established in 1972 by proposition, in response to attempts to develop and privatize large areas of the California coastline.

Californians love our coastline, and at that point in time, voters supported the creation of the Coastal Commission in large numbers, in order to protect this natural resource. Little did we know how through the years, this once noble idea would turn into something distorted, a state commission determined to demonize large numbers of Californians and destroy a beloved state park.

The California Coastal Commission must approve all permits to allow development to occur within the coastal zone. Many Californians probably have an idyllic view of our coastline, assuming everything looks like the postcards of Big Sur, featuring pristine viewpoints largely free from development. But reality looks very different along our miles of coastline. We have all forms of development up and down the state including oil rigs and refineries, power plants, and everything else that supports the large and small

all that development scattered
throughout the roughly
840 miles of California
coastline, common
sense would dictate
that the Coastal
Commission could
find its way to
allow 6 miles

communities built along the coast. With

of beach, bought and paid for solely by the off-road community, to exist in peace.

But common sense has not prevailed, and the Coastal Commission has not honored the history and importance of Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area. Instead, the commission has done everything in its power to destroy our park and discourage hard-working Californians from visiting and camping in their favorite area. Alongside these actions, the Coastal Commission has encouraged hate speech to proliferate and has oftentimes repeated uninformed tropes that demean the off-road community. Some of the actions by the commission may be interpreted as an attempt to appease elite environmental activists with loud voices and even more money. More often during meetings commissioners portray an air of condescension towards the off-road community. Attempts to placate the community are seen as disingenuous, trying to justify actions commissioners know in the hearts are misguided and discriminatory. Whatever the reason or justification, it has to stop.

So many statements and so many words have been said during this battle to save Oceano Dunes SVRA that the issues have become confused. Off-roaders should not need to fight so hard to save a state park that is supposed to serve citizens and visitors in California. The inherent unfairness of the situation is striking, validating the sense of righteous indignation shared by so many in our community.

Continues, next >>



Or join CORVA today!

There following are issues for which the Coastal Commission must be held to account:

- When is the Coastal Commission going to work on behalf of all Californians, and not just cater to the society's elites?
- is the Coastal Commission going to restore equity to off-roaders?
- will the Coastal Commission stop the proliferation of hate speech, encouraged by inaccuracies and obvious bias in staff reports?
- When will the Coastal Commission recognize that user fees paid solely by off-roaders are the funds that support all conservation efforts at Oceano Dunes?
- will the Coastal Commission make right what they have done very wrong, and work with the community to find answers to actual rather than perceived problems.

Currently, the situation at Oceano Dunes is untenable. Even though all maintenance and conservation effort are paid or by off-road activity, off-roaders have no access to our park.

Working to restore what is rightfully ours is a difficult but worthy battle. Join us in our efforts, take a stand and make a difference.





This is a pic from the Cal4Wheel booth at the 2020 Off Road Expo. In order to win the fight to keep our trails and riding areas open we all need to work together. Mike McGarity, Alan Bauer, Steve Gardiner and Vinnie Barbarino.



## The Fight for Oceano Dunes JARED MACLEOD, FRIENDS OF OCEANO DUNES

Over the past year, since the July 2019 California Coastal Commission meeting in San Luis Obispo (SLO), we have seen many changes to Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area (ODSVRA). None of which have been good for the future of the ODSVRA, or had any positive impact for OHV and beach camping. For those who are not yet aware of just how big of a threat we are facing to the lively hood and future of off-road recreation in California, it's time to start paying very close attention to the events that are unfolding. It's time for everyone to get involved and join us in this fight!

The recent "transformation" of State Parks, which is merging the OHV program and the larger State Parks together has thus far been a total failure. Look no further than what is happening at Oceano Dunes. Look at the gross misuse of our OHV Trust Fund dollars being wasted on ridiculous programs to shut down OHV, camping and public access to the Park. Ever since the larger State Parks has taken control of running our California OHV Program and the SVRAs, we have seen nothing but poor management and a lack of OHV representation of how our SVRAs need to be run. For over 3 years now, State Parks has yet to even appoint a Supervisor to run the Oceano Dunes SVRA. The California Coastal Commission (CCC) is working around the clock, alongside the special interest funded bureaucrats and developers, to shut down the ODSVRA. Meanwhile Parks has no one locally in charge of running and defending the Park against the CCC's overreach of power to shut it down. The local ODSVRA people are working hard, but the overbearing Sacramento elite are determined to shut it down.

At the December 2019 Air Pollution Control District (APCD) Hearing in SLO, the APCD ordered the closure of 48 acres of prime beach camping, which would begin late December 2019. Just prior to the sold out Christmas and New Year's holidays, the CCC issued an early emergency closure of the 48 acres "foredunes" area for "instrumentation" that was never installed. This closure reduced the available camping area at ODSVRA by more than 50%. By the CCC pushing forward this emergency closure ahead of schedule, Parks failed to meet the requirements of the Stipulated Order of Abatement and CEQA, to properly model and survey these closures. In other words, these areas shouldn't have been closed, yet State Parks continues to show no back bone to stand up to the elites.

Almost immediately following, Parks began implementing many new projects to shut us down, all of which being paid for using the OHV Trust Fund. They began by spreading hay bales all over the 48 acres, then installing surveillance equipment to monitor for rodent activity at the foredunes. Well, there were no rodents, and guess where all the hay has gone? Due to these closures not being properly modeled, the high tides have been reaching well within the fence lines and pulling the hay into the ocean. Even better, the remaining hay is being blown out of the closures and going airborne towards the surround residential areas. Does this sound like a well thought out plan? Well...no it doesn't. They aren't worried about it though, because they didn't pay for it, they've used your OHV dollars for everything.

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## Fires at Carnegie

July 16, 2020, the fourth fire in three years took off at Carnegie SVRA. This time, 243 acres were burned before controlled. As of today we don't know what this may mean for fall riding, but the novice access to the back hills is part of the area burned. Until we have access to the expansion, the access points for beginner and intermediate riders is somewhat limited. Without Pottery Loop and Juniper, this access to the broader park will be severely compromised. In addition, I understand the water tower area was damaged. This informal open area is another great spot for newer riders to get accustomed to sharing the trails with others.

While we have no reason to believe this fire was a deliberate attempt to harm Carnegie SVRA, the numbers of fires at this park is definitely higher than the norm in the surrounding areas.

On July 4th, 2020, one of Carnegies regular visitors, videoed and then removed several charcoaled, still embered logs strewn along one of the more remote trails at Carnegie. What? This has to be deliberate and was fortunately discovered. The area was dry, the day was hot. There are few riders out at Carnegie this time of year, but clearly someone thought it was appropriate to place several half burned logs about

three feet off a quiet trail mid day of fire and red sticker season.

The State has been made aware of this discovery and investigations are underway, but it is my hope that by publicizing this, the concern felt by our community will be shared by others. Fire is no joke, and if this is some sort of misguided effort to undermine OHV at Carnegie, the potential harm is horrible to contemplate.

We've said it before, but we'll say it again: "If you see something, say something."

Our community is going to have to take this on, to both protect ourselves and to build our relationships with influencers that we can trust. Carnegie SVRA is our park. For many of us, our vacation home. We can be suspicious and prone to conspiracy theories. We may be correct on both counts, but this will not help us protect our park, or to get our expansion open.

As always at CORVA, grass roots advocacy is where it both begins and ends. Both the wins and the losses are ours to own. Each one of us has a contribution to make. "See Something, Say Something." Half burned logs, off trail riding, etc, hurt all of us.







## Comfort Zone 2.0 VINNIE BARBARINO

In the spring 2018 edition of the ORIA I wrote an article named "Comfort Zone." It was all about how I was stepping out of my comfort zone to be more active in keeping our trails and riding areas open. I encouraged you to do the same.

My plan was to write a "Comfort Zone" piece in every edition. That didn't happen. I was elected to CORVA Southern Director and then started writing a Southern Report for every issue.

With this stupid Covid thing going on, I'm pretty sure we are all somewhat out of our comfort zone. Being out of your comfort zone is usually a good thing. It's how change comes about.

Being out of your comfort zone means taking risk. Risk of making mistakes, risk of sounding stupid in front of people, risk of losing money, whatever the case may be, it's a good thing.

Taking risk and being out of your comfort zone is how we win fights to keep our trails and riding areas open for everyone. I challenge all CORVA members to get out of your comfort zone, take a little risk and join the fight. Wherever you are, north district or south



district or anywhere in between, get involved! If you want to know where to start, email one of the board members. Our email addresses are in this newsletter on the back page.

I am going to step out of my comfort zone and try to start collaborating with other land use organizations. I am going to go to a Cal4Wheel quarterly meeting here in the south. The next one is in October. By the way, I am a Cal4Wheel member. I am an AMA District 37 Dual Sport member as well. I challenge everyone to be members of multiple organizations.

Thw Sand Sport Super Show and The Off Road Expo are cancelled. We are working on getting a permit for our annual Truckhaven Challenge event in January. Last month, July, there was a California Coastal Commission meeting on Zoom. Five CORVA board members made comments in support of Oceano Dunes. I'm pretty sure that was the most member comments from any organization. However, there were several organizations that made comments. Rest assured that CORVA is working on it.

Tonight I'll be going to a Dirt Devils of Southern California meeting for the first time in a while. They are a 4 Wheel Drive Club I belong to. Looks like I'm going to miss the Orange County Dualies dual sport club meeting again on Thursday. I have a conflict. They are both great clubs that have received CORVA awards in the past. Check them out.

I hope everyone is safe and healthy. Remember it's easy to socially distance out on the trail. It doesn't matter if you're in a 4x4, a side by side or on a motorcycle or ATV.

Remember, get out of your "comfort zone" and help us fight the fight!





## CORVA Land Use Report JULY - SEPTEMBER 2020

## **Great American Outdoors Act Becomes Law**

In a rare display of bipartisan statesmanship, Congress sent HR 7092 to the President who signed the bill into law. Although this bill provides substantial funding to address the backlog of maintenance primarily in America's National Parks, something that nearly everyone supports, we find it ironic that Congress can agree to fund public lands infrastructure but cannot agree to provide an unemployment package to assist those out of work due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, this bill was supported by a wide array of recreation and environmental interests, including the outdoor recreation industry.

Although the bill will definitely be a help to America's National Parks and there will probably be some benefit to recreation on USFS and BLM lands were 80–90% of OHV recreation takes place, we see few if any provisions in the bill that would assure funding for motorized recreation areas.

The bill will provide a very substantial amount of

funding of historical proportions (\$900 million/year) for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The LWCF has at times been controversial among advocates of motorized recreation because it has the potential to tie up land through federal acquisitions without any assurances that the land might be used for motorized recreation and not added to the wilderness system, for example.

The bill establishes a specific fund, the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund for depositing 50% of all revenue from oil, gas, coal, and renewable energy development on federal land, not to exceed \$1.9 billion per year for 5 years, for a total of nearly \$20 billion. That is real money, even in today's world of multibillion-dollar legislation. One must wonder how long the US Treasury can continue to "print money", even for such a worth cause. Fortunately, there is some provision for oversight by the GAO who must report on the effectiveness of the program each year.

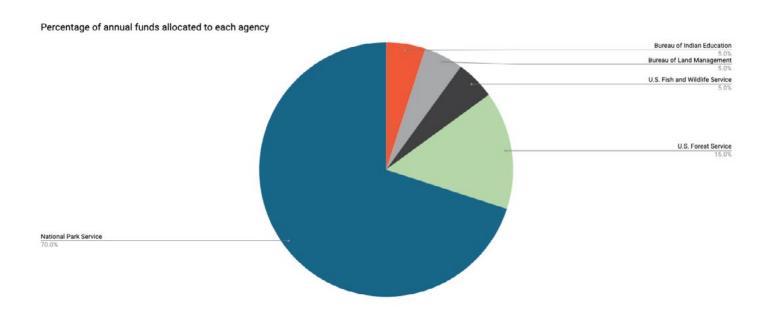








#### LAND USE REPORT



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The allocation of funding is important to understand because 70% goes to the US Park Service where little if any land is open to OHV use.

Below is a breakdown of the annual funding allocation from this bill.

- National Park Service 70%
- Forest Service 15%
- Bureau of Indian Education 5%
- Bureau of Land Management 5%
- Fish and Wildlife Service 5%

\*\*Note: The percentage of funds allocated to each agency will be based off the amount of revenue derived from oil and gas development each year and is not to exceed \$1.9 bill for any fiscal year. \*\*

The bill specifies that federal land agencies shall submit a list of projects to Congress not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this section to be funded for fiscal year 2021 that:

"(1) are identified by the Secretary and the Secretary of Agriculture as priority deferred maintenance projects; and

- "(2) as of the date of the submission of the list, are ready to be implemented.
- "(h) Submission Of Annual List Of Projects To Congress.—Until the date on which all of the amounts in the Fund are expended, the President shall annually submit to Congress, together with the annual budget of the United States, a list of projects to be funded from the Fund that includes a detailed description of each project, including the estimated expenditures from the Fund for the project for the applicable fiscal year.

We have already been contacted by National Forests regarding a priority list of "NEPA Ready" projects that are to be submitted for funding consideration. Hopefully, some will receive funding during 2021.

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## **VORRA Makes History**

VORRA (Valley Off Road Race Association) held its first race of 2020, on July 18th in Fallon Nevada. Leading up to the race, many questioned if the race would happen. The first two races of the season were canceled due to COVID-19.

VORRA made some changes to help keep everyone as safe as possible. First, all activities were moved to the Start/Finish area in Salt Wells, Nevada. Tech and registration were divided into groups related to different classes. Only driver and co-driver were permitted in the tech area, while only one team at a time were allowed in the registration area. VORRA provided masks, hand sanitizer, hand washing stations, and gloves to all. Social distancing was promoted in and around the pit area, as well as

during the driver's meeting. To help keep the crowd down, the driver's meeting was also broadcast live on Facebook and Instagram.

Race day- This race turned out to be the biggest race of VORRA's 45-year history. 126 racers took the green flag! To hep promote safety, VORRA split the day into 3 races. At 7am sharp. 32 motorcycles and quads took the green flag. Kadin Guard Bike # N18, took the early lead and never looked back. Running the 41.5-mile course his first time around in 39:48. Finishing 3 laps in 2:03:04. An average of 60.85 mph and 14 minutes ahead of his closest competitor. This was the first time, anything or anyone has ever finished a VORRA race over 60 mph average!





Race two consisted of UTV's. 44 UTV's ranging from Can-am's, Polaris, and Yamahas were just a few of the manufacturers that took the green flag and attempted to conquer the rugged racecourse. Ranging from slow rocky canyons, to fast roads, technical sand sections, whoops, and a tight canyon, this track offered just about everything. After the first couple laps, the top 5 vehicles were separated by less than 2 minutes on time. The Flowers family, running in their first VORRA race, took home the win in the Pro UTV Turbo class. Taking the overall win, in his Monster Energy sponsored Can-Am, mega star Cameron Steele took home the top prize. Followed close behind was Beau Judge, in the No Limit Sponsored Cam Am. Judge, started the race and had a mechanical issue just 100 yards into the race. Remarkably, Judge was able to pass every vehicle on the track and finish first physically but lost out to Cameron Steele on time.

At 4pm, it was time for the big boys to hit the track! 46 trophy truck, class 1's, and many other classes took off to race into the night. The overall winner for the unlimited class was none other than, Cameron Steele. Sweeping the 4-wheel classes and winning in his Monster Energy sponsored trophy truck by over 34 minutes! Class 10 and Group-T both had great races. In the end, the Group T winner turned out to be

Trevor Hausman, who survived the wicked course and won, beating out the 14 other trucks in his class. One of the best races to watch was in class 10. The top 3 finishers finished within 10 minutes of each other. Tony and Zack Mclaren took home the win! Local favorite Kenny Ott brought home 2nd place, and Steve and Travis Bradford finished in 3rd with smiles all around!

This track seemed to be a bit tougher on all the classes. Of the 46 vehicles taking the green flag in the 3rd race, only 13 vehicles actually finished all of the laps. The heat, along with a long sand section made it difficult on equipment, particularly drive trains. Due to the lack of racing, it was interesting to note the different homes of the racers. Drivers travelled from Arizona, Nevada, Utah, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Southern California, and Colorado.

Next up, is a return to Yerington Nevada, on Labor Day weekend! This was a long-standing race that went away in 2015. This race is both a competitor and fan favorite, the town of Yerington really enjoys supporting VORRA as well! Tech and registration will take place in downtown Yerington, and a parade take place Saturday evening down main street. Please visit vorraracing.com for all the details. We will see you in the dirt!







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#### **Additional Pending Federal Legislation**

H.R. 316 (LaMalfa): Guides and Outfitters Act Summary: This bill would amend the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to allow the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to issue special recreation permits and fees for off-highway vehicle use on certain federal recreational lands, as defined. This bill is the successor to H.R. 289 of the 2017–2018 Session. Status: 2/07/2019 Referred to the House Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry

H.R. 403 (Panetta): Clear Creek National Recreation Area and Conservation Act Summary: This bill would establish the Clear Creek National Recreation Area in San Benito and Fresno Counties to promote environmentally responsible off highway vehicle recreation and to support other recreational uses. This bill would direct the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to designate 21,000 acres of land adjacent to Clear Creek as wilderness and would name this area, "Joaquin Rocks Wilderness". The bill would also reopen the 63,000-acre Clear Creek Management Area for public outdoor recreation, including off-road vehicles and hiking. This bill requires BLM to develop a plan including educating visitors about the hazards of asbestos. This bill is a reintroduction of H.R. 1913 from the 2017-2018 Session. Status: 2/05/2019 Referred to the House Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands

## House passes Protecting America's Wilderness Act

The House passed legislation aimed at providing additional protections for more than 1 million acres of public land on the West Coast on February 12, 2020. The package combines six land protection bills that passed out of the House Natural Resources Committee and would designate roughly 1.4 million

acres in Colorado, California and Washington State as federally protected wilderness.

Logging, mining and drilling would be prohibited on the land and no new roads or infrastructure would be able to be built in the areas. Nearly 1,000 miles of river would also be added to the National Wild and Scenic River System. The bill passed in a 231–183 vote, with six Republicans voting for it. It is expected to face an uphill battle in the Republican–controlled upper chamber. Rep. Diana DeGette (D–Colo.), who helped lead the efforts on the bill, noted it is one of the largest wilderness protection packages to be brought up in the House in more than a decade, arguing its passage would be beneficial for both the environment and the economies in the areas.

Critics of the measure raised concerns that the new protections could have unintended negative consequences, arguing it could limit public access to the land and increase the risk of wildfires in the areas. Doug La Malfa (R-Calif) stated his opposition to the bill. "We have seen the devastation that wildfires cause in Northern California time and time and time again. So why are we putting more land into this restrictive wilderness category which will make it even more difficult to effectively manage forests and to access them?" he added.

#### **BLM Proposes Amending the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan**

Many of you will remember the DRECP and the massive effort that went into drafting this Plan. This was a consensus plan that set aside desert recreation and conservation areas and protected them from energy development. Some areas such as the five desert BLM OHV areas, including Spangler Hills, Johnson Valley, Stoddard Wells, Rasor, and Dumont Dunes are protected under the Dingell Act.





#### LAND USE REPOR

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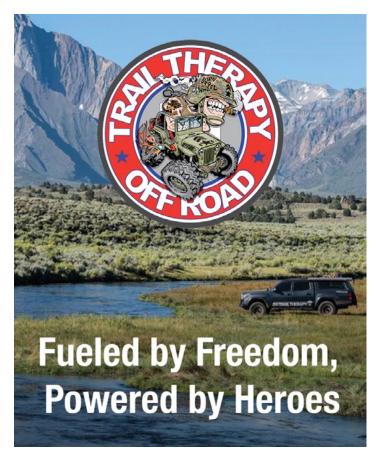
Other areas such as Jawbone Canyon and Dove Springs remain unprotected and have been targeted as potential areas for wind energy development.

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – In response to President Trump's order to review regulations that unnecessarily impede energy development, the Bureau of Land Management announced in March that it will consider amending the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) to seek greater opportunities for renewable energy generation.

On September 14, 2016, the BLM issued the Record of Decision for the DRECP, which made only 7 percent of the area available for renewable energy leasing.

"We need to reduce burdens on all domestic energy development, including solar, wind and other renewables," said Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Katharine MacGregor. "This process will help us find ways to make more federal land available for renewable energy projects as well as wireless broadband infrastructure."

The entire DRECP planning area covers approximately 22.6 million acres of both federal and non-federal land in seven counties: Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino and San Diego. The Federal Register notice specifies that the BLM will consider amendments to the California Desert Conservation Area, the Bakersfield Resource Management Plan, and the Bishop Resource Management Plan.











#### **CALIFORNIA LEGISLATION UPDATE**

#### Senate Bill 1024 (Jones) Off-highway vehicles:

Summary: This bill would establish a vehicle identification program for competition off-highway vehicles that do not meet the emissions standards established by the California Air Resources Board, as defined. Status: Ran out of time to be considered, will be reintroduced next year

### Senate Bill 1032 (Allen): State parks: Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Commission.

Summary: This bill would expand the areas of expertise and diversify of the appointees to the Off–Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Commission within the Department. This bill would also remove the January 1, 2023 sunset date, making this a permanent commission. Status: Author not pursuing the bill this year.

#### Assembly Bill 2316 (Obernolte) Vehicles: offhighway vehicle recreation: City of Needles.

Summary: This bill would authorize the City of Needles (City) to establish a pilot project allowing off-highway vehicles to utilize specified combineduse highways, until January 1, 2026, as defined. This bill would also require the City to develop and submit two reports to the Legislature evaluating the

effectiveness of the pilot project by January 1, 2025, one of which would require consultation with the Department, CalTrans, and the California Highway Patrol. 2 Status: Author not pursuing the bill this year.

## Assembly Bill 2551 (Bauer-Kahan) Off-highway vehicular recreation: Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area: Alameda-Tesla Expansion Area.

Summary: This bill will authorize the Department to divest approximately 3,100 acres of land within Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area for conservation purposes if the Department determines, through a public process, that disposal of the land is in the public interest. Additionally, this bill would exempt this transaction from the state's surplus property process. Status: Author not pursuing the bill this year.

## Assembly Bill 2761 (Gallagher) Off-highway vehicles: reciprocity.

Summary: This bill would limit California's off-highway vehicle registration reciprocity provision to only those states that recognize California's registration of off-highway vehicles, as defined. Status: Author not pursuing the bill this year.









## Assembly Bill 3030 (Kalra) Resource conservation: land and ocean conservation goals.

Summary: Specifies that it is the goal of the legislature to protect at least 30 percent of California's land areas and waters and help advance the protection of 30 percent of the nation's oceans by 2030. Status: Died in committee

#### **State Parks Update**

Governor Gavin Newsom announced the appointment of Armando M. Quintero, of San Rafael, as the new director of the California Department of Parks and Recreation. California State Parks welcomes Mr. Quintero to the department and looks forward to his knowledge and leadership.

An experienced park professional with expertise in park operations, outdoor education, equity and access, and diversity and inclusion in hiring and retention, Quintero is an environmental scientist by training. Since 2015, he has been Executive Director of the Sierra Nevada Research Institute at the University of California, Merced, where he was also Director of Development from 2008 to 2014. He has also served as a member of the California Water Commission since 2014.

Quintero held multiple positions at the National Park Service from 1976 to 1998, including Chief of the Special Park Uses Group and District Ranger at the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Personnel Staffing Specialist for the National Park Service, Park Ranger and Supervisory Park Ranger at the Point Reyes National Seashore and Park Ranger at the Sequoia National Park and at the John Muir National Historic Site.

California State Parks would like to express its deepest appreciation to outgoing Director Lisa Mangat for her many years of remarkable service and



leadership during a key transformational time at the Department of Parks and Recreation. Mangat became the department's director in 2015, after serving as acting director in 2014.

#### **OHV Division Update**

Welcome news for the OHV Division is the appointment of Sarah Miggins as Deputy Director by Governor Newsom. Sarah has recently served as Chair of the OHV Commission and comes from a background as Executive Vice President of the American Conservation Experience (ACE) which provides crews for many types of trail maintenance and restoration projects, including OHV projects. She also served as Executive Director of the Southern California Mountains Foundation which is active in the San Bernardino National Forest. She has shown considerable aptitude as Chair of the Commission, taking on complex issues such as the Oceano Dunes and the Carnegie Expansion. We look forward to her leadership as Deputy Director of the OHMVR.



#### Recent OHMVR Commission Appointments

#### **Roger Salazar**

Appointed by Governor Gavin Newsom in 2020, Commissioner Roger Salazar brings a lifelong family history of off-roading to the OHMVR Commission. As a boy, he would accompany his father and uncles on trips through the Rubicon Trail and learned to drive on his Dad's 1978 Jeep CJ5. The earliest known photograph of his father is as an infant in front of the Salazar family 1946 Willys Jeep. There has been a Jeep in the Salazar family continuously for nearly 75 years.

Commissioner Salazar has run the Rubicon Trail multiple times and participated in dozens of Jeep/Jeepers Jamborees, Easter Jeep Safaris, and California Four Wheel Drive Association off-road events. A California native, Commissioner Salazar is a Life Member of the California Four Wheel Drive Association and of the California Off-Road Vehicle Association (CORVA). He is also a member and an officer of the Sacramento-based Sierra Treasure Hunters 4 Wheel Drive Club and an associate member of Red Rock 4-Wheelers of Moab, UT.

Commissioner Salazar believes we must strive to balance responsibly maintaining public access to off-highway motor vehicle recreation areas and preserving and protecting the environment so that future generations of Californians from all backgrounds can continue to enjoy the outdoors.

#### Tina Brazil

Tina Brazil has been appointed to the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Commission by Governor Newsom. Brazil has been a public safety dispatcher at the California Highway Patrol since 1997. She is president of the CHP-Public Safety Dispatchers Association and senior vice president of the California

Statewide Law Enforcement Association. As a dispatcher for more than 27 years, more than 18 of them as a CHP public safety dispatcher at the Merced CHP Communications Center, Tina Brazil is an expert in handling any emergency call for help and dispatching officers to a scene.

"There are some advantages to being a CHP dispatcher," says Brazil, "such as mobility within the state and upward advancement, but they don't counterbalance some of the other problems, which I believe that my very motivated association can help with—together with willing administrators."

She also serves on the CSLEA Political Action Committee, Foundation Committee, Membership Event Committee and as a Legal Defense Fund trustee.

#### **OHV Trust Fund Update**

#### STAFF REPORT: Off-Highway Vehicle Trust Fund

Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Budget and Off-Highway Vehicle Trust Fund Condition Fiscal Year 2020-21

The Budget Act of 2020 was signed by Governor Gavin Newsom on June 29, 2020 for the 2020/2021 fiscal year (FY).

The budget includes \$72,387,000 for State Vehicular Recreation Areas (SVRAs), Division headquarters, statewide projects and programs, and administrative costs. This represents an increase of \$72,000.

The Grants and Local Assistance program appropriation is \$36,000,000. Local assistance funding includes a \$1,000,000 transfer from the State Parks and Recreation Fund and is unchanged from last fiscal year.





#### .AND USE REPORT

#### « Continued from previous

The Grants and Local Assistance program also administers a federal assistance program of the United States Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration. The Recreational Trails Program provides support for motorized recreation. The Governor's budget includes spending authority of \$9,000,000 from the Recreational Trails Fund which is the same spending authority as FY 2019/2020. Capital Outlay Capital Outlay Projects in the amount of \$20,575,000 is authorized for various projects within SVRAs.

## Soil Conservation Standards and Guidelines Update Report

Beginning in 2004, the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division of the California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), working with the California Geologic Survey (CGS) and other partners updated the 1991 Soil Conservation Standard and Guidelines to create the 2008 Soil Conservation Standard and Guidelines (2008 Standard and Guidelines), per Assembly Bill 2666 (Maldonado 2004). The 2008 Standard and Guidelines provides guidance in the design and management of off highway vehicle (OHV) recreational facilities to ensure soil loss, erosion, and sedimentation are minimized. The OHMVR Division is currently coordinating with CGS and the Department to update the 2008 document, as per Senate Bill 249.





## Bear Valley 4x4 Club Presents Three Vocational Scholarships

The Big Bear 4x4 Club located in the San Bernardino Mountains is issuing scholarships that support off-road careers.

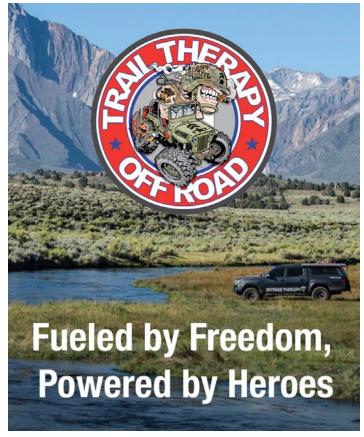
Developed in 2019, the family friendly non-profit organization was looking for a way to support the community. So, they developed a scholarship to support youth education in primarily two-year programs in auto mechanics, plumbing, iron and electric, HVAC systems, cosmetology, firefighting, forestry, law enforcement, and the like.

We are proud to announce this year's scholarship winners are Kyle Azevedo, Alexis Berg, and Alec Burton. Each received \$1,000 for pursuing education in firefighting, law enforcement, and welding, respectively.

"Our club is comprised of individuals who know young people who have obtained degrees in subjects that they never use because they can't find a job. We decided to support "hands-on" occupations that directly pertain to our club's mission" said Don Alexander, club member.











Unlike other scholarships that focus upon GPAs (grade point averages) for four + year college institutions, the Bear Valley 4x4 Club accepts students with an average GPA of 2.7 or better from 9th grade to their senior year. Students must attend local high schools, be community residents, and United States citizens. And they may reapply for the scholarship for a maximum of two years. Lastly, a club committee evaluates students' applications for their commitment to a vocation and their likelihood for success.

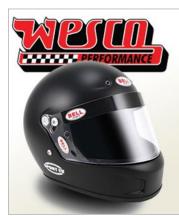
Don Alexander said, "Last year we presented a scholarship to a young lady who was working to become a Paramedic. She participated in ride-a-longs with the local fire department and took college classes concurrent with her high school courses."

## NEXEN TIRE

The Bear Valley 4x4 Club issued three scholarships in 2020 due to a generous donation by Nexxen Tires. The club is holding a raffle for four tires of any type manufactured by Nexxen. Tickets are available for \$10 each at All J Products, 41610 Brownie Lane, Big Bear Lake, (909) 866–4800. You can support youth education and the off-road community by buying a raffle ticket today!







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Jim Suty, President 15131 Garcal Drive San Jose, CA 95127 805-994-9309

E-mail: jim@oceanodunes.org www.oceanodunes.org

September 2, 2020

Dear CORVA Board of Directors,

Friends of Oceano Dunes would like to thank the C.O.R.V.A. Board of Directors and members at large for your \$10,000 donation to our legal defense fund for protecting continued access to the Oceano Dunes SVRA.

The battle for camping and OHV recreation is a continuous fight and Friends of Oceano Dunes (FoOD) recently won a landmark victory against the California Coastal Commission (CCC), but the battle is far from over.

The CORVA donation will ensure we are able to continue funding the 5 lawsuits we have recently filed. FoOD feels the CCC, local Air Pollution Control District, California Air Resources Board, and California State Parks have overreached their authority, mislead the public, and withheld information in regard to the dust control measures surrounding the ODSVRA. FoOD and our supporting members appreciate your donation and support in our future successes at the Oceano Dunes SRVA.

Sincerely

Jim Suty

President - Friends of Oceano Dunes

Friends of Oceano Dunes is a 501(c)(3) California Not-for-Profit Public Benefit Corporation, comprised of over 28,000 supporters. We represent environmentalists, equestrians, campers, fishermen, families and off-road enthusiasts who enjoy the benefits of Public Access through Responsible Recreation at the Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area (ODSVRA). We want to maintain Access For All!

Page 1 of 1

During the August 24th 2020 Board of Directors conference call, the Board of Directors voted to approve a donation to Friends of Oceano Dunes from our CORVA Legal Fund. We are pleased to assist Friends of Oceano Dunes, who have been tireless in their defense of Oceano Dunes SVRA!





## South Cow Mountain ASHLEY POGGIO

CORVA recognizes the outstanding work that was done to re-open South Cow Mountain following the 2018 Mendocino Complex Fires.

There were several OHV clubs and groups that came together, worked long hours, holidays, and weekends alongside Bureau of Land Management staff to make the reopening of South Cow Mountain such a success. These clubs and groups came together, put aside any differences, worked and collaborated with BLM staff, and put in over 3,143 volunteer hours in approximately 24 days to reopen South Cow Mountain on June 3rd, 2019.

The appreciation for the work that these clubs and groups contributed to reopen South Cow Mountain cannot be understated. In conjunction with BLM staff, they surveyed trails for maintenance issues and hazards so emergency trail work could be prioritized

to the trails with the greatest need, they installed no-dig barriers to delineate trails, installed post and cable barriers to protect sensitive areas and habitat, installed trail signage, installed wattles to minimize erosion, brushed and removed downed trees, cleaned up post fire damage in the campgrounds and staging areas, and repainted recreation facilities, signs, and gates. With all of the hard work, dedication, and help from volunteers, the BLM Ukiah Field Office was able complete critical post fire repair and maintenance work needed to reopen South Cow Mountain. The combination of work done between BLM staff and all of the work and help from volunteers, resulted in the BLM Ukiah Field Office not only reopening South Cow Mountain, but reopened South Cow Mountain in a better condition than it was before the start of the Mendocino Complex Fires.



Some of the clubs and groups that came out and played major roles assisting BLM in reopening the South Cow Mountain OHV Recreation Area:

- Mendocino 4x4 Club
- · Friends of Cow Mountain
- Post Wildfire OHV Recovery Alliance (PWORA)
- Black Diamond 4x4 Club
- Santa Rosa 4x4 Club
- North Bay Motorcycle Club
- Wine Country Rock Crawlers
- Marin County Motorcycle Association
- 707 Trail Riders
- Napa Valley Climbers
- Overland Bound

Some of the clubs and groups that significantly assisted BLM staff with the post fire repair and restoration efforts needed to reopen South Cow Mountain are:

Mendocino 4x4 Club - The Mendocino 4x4 Club adopted Trail 23 and Trail 25 through our newly created Adopta-Trail program. Trail 23 and Trail 25 were heavily impacted by the River Fire (part of the Mendocino Complex Fires) and resulted in a substantial amount of maintenance work that needed to be done before these trails could be reopened to the public. The Mendocino 4x4 Club worked on these trails clearing brush, removing downed trees, installing culverts, delineating the trails, installing erosion control features, and improving the trail tread. The work they accomplished resulted in most of Trail 23 and all of Trail 25 (almost 9.5 miles of trail), being included in the list of trails that were open to the public on June 3, 2019. In addition, they also assisted BLM with repair work on the Safety Course Road and the Buckhorn Campground.



- Friends of Cow Mountain The Friends of Cow Mountain had received grant funding from the California State Parks OHMVR division to do trail maintenance and brushing on the following motorcycle trails: Trail 12, Trail 14, Trail 15, and Trail 16. All of these trails were also severally impacted by the River Fire, and required a substantial amount of repair and maintenance work. In addition, they also completed a reroute project on Trail 12, which helped protect several sensitive areas and resolved trail trespass issues that had worsened after the fire.
- Post Wildfire OHV Recovery Alliance The Post Wildfire OHV Recovery Alliance worked closely with our BLM staff and greatly assisted us with organizing, planning, and implementing volunteer work days so we could accomplish a lot of the post-fire repair and restoration work that needed to be done before South Cow Mountain could reopen to the public on June 3, 2019. In addition, they also led volunteer groups tasked with signing trails, delineating trails, clearing brush on trails, and installing barriers in areas with sensitive habitat that was left exposed following the fires.

Ashley Poggio Outdoor Recreation Planner, Ukiah Field Office Bureau of Land Management, California Department of Interior, Region 10





## Congratulations to the 2019 CORVA Award Winners!

This year the Board of Directors had some wonderful candidates for our CORVA Annual Awards. We honor all the recipients of the awards, who follow in the footsteps of the previous winners.

### George Thomas Memorial Trophy For Off Roader Of The Year: Bruce Whitcher

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.

#### Los Aventureros State Conservation Award: Pt Mugu 4WD Club

This award is presented to the individual club, which during the year, has contributed the most towards conservation. Please contact us for more details.

#### Past Presidents Trophy: Paul Slavik

This trophy is sponsored by the Past Presidents of CORVA. Unlike the aforementioned trophies which are voted upon by the CORVA Board of Directors after hearing nominations, this trophy is at the sole discretion of the Past Presidents. The recipient is an individual who has shown great merit and achieved honorable accomplishments on behalf of the off-road community.

### Looney Duners Trophy to Charity: Pt Mugu 4WD Club

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.

### American Buggy Association Political Activism Award: Karen & Jim Suty

To have one's name added to this plaque requires exceptional activity in dealing with elected officials and civil servants. This means personal contact as well as effective letter writing. While significant success is not always possible, it is important that some progress toward a goal was achieved. In addition, this person's efforts should always increase the perception of CORVA as a political powerhouse.

#### **Northern & Southern Club Awards:**

#### Northern Club: Sierra Snowmobile Foundation

#### Southern Club: Inland Empire 4Wheelrs

These awards are given annually to one club in each region, Northern and Southern. Each club shall submit what it deems to be its outstanding project for the year. These projects will be considered by the Board of Directors, which shall award the trophy to that project it deems best bolsters the image of off-roading. If your club has done a project please apply.



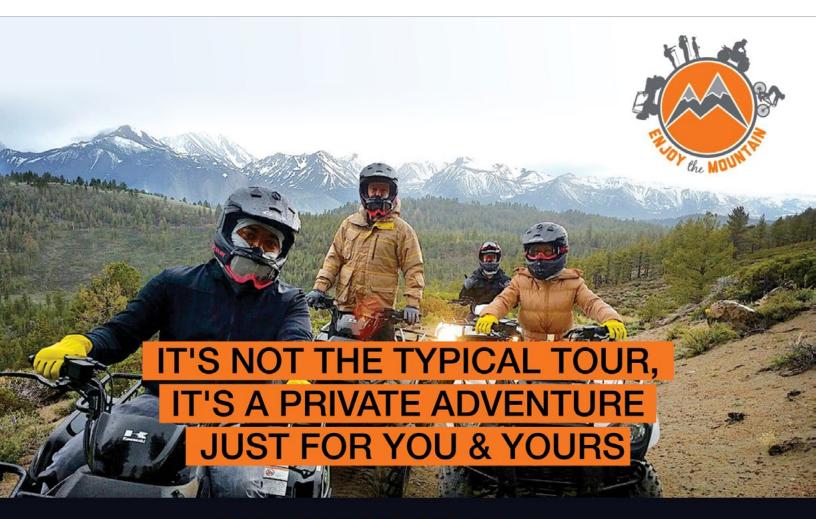












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When you promote CORVA by wearing a shirt or hat, displaying stickers, etc. you are helping spread the word to your fellow off-roaders. Show them you support CORVA - Order Today!!

We make the process easy too. Order online at the **CORVA Store** and we will get your order processed quickly. Once we have received your order, we will

send you a confirmation email so you will know when your items have shipped.

All orders are shipped via USPS. You can expect to receive your order quickly, usually no more than a week.

Thank you for helping to support CORVA. Don't forget to order extras to give along with a Gift Membership for all those off-roaders in your family! If you have any suggested items that you might want that are not listed, send us an email. We are always looking to promote CORVA!



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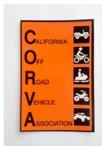
CORVA Bear Patch



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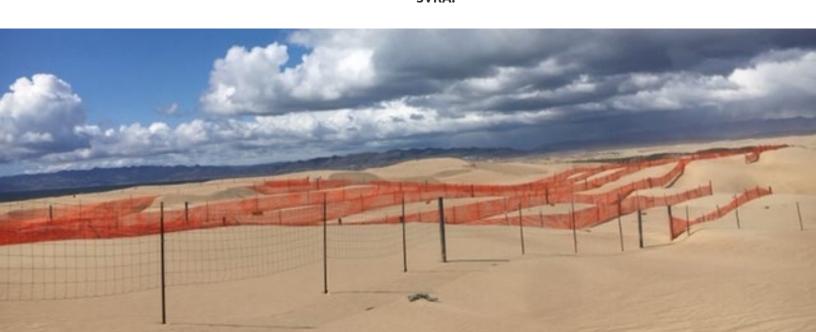
More recently, Parks has been installing miles of non-biodegradable orange fencing at the dunes, per the SOA (Stipulated Order of Abatement). Plastic fencing which has already become buried by the sand and reclaimed to the dunes. For those who don't know about the SOA, it was an agreement made between State Parks and the APCD, and probably one of the worst deals of all time. The SOA essentially gave the APCD a blank check and free reign to begin having Parks install as many fences and closures as they see fit, with no explanation. The APCD claim it is all necessary to meet a dust particulate reduction as dictated by their SAG (Scientific Advisory Group), and based upon all of SAGs false perpetuated junk science. In reality, everything the SAG, APCD and CCC are saying and doing, is whatever best fits into their biased anti OHV narrative to remove OHV from the Park. It is all just smoke and mirrors...and OHV is paying for all of it.

Recently, the Scripps Institute has conducted its own independent research study, and has submitted their report to State Parks and the Off Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Commissioners. The Scripps report has shed a breath of fresh air and some much needed new light on the subject of natural saltation, dust particulates and air quality from in and around the ODSVRA. In other words, it is all natural and not caused by OHV! The claims from the APCD and SAG are inaccurate and unfounded, and the Scripps study just proved it.



With the gates to ODSVRA now closed due to the recent Covid 19 restrictions, the surrounding local economy has been devastated. The tourism which bringing revenue into the community has come to a screeching halt. Nearly all of the retail stores, restaurants, hotels, rental companies and other small businesses from the area, are just struggling to stay afloat and find a way to make ends meet. Sadly, many of these businesses will not survive. This paints the perfect picture of what the local economic impact to the surrounding communities would look like with closure of Oceano Dunes SVRA. We cannot let this happy to our families, businesses and community. It is time for each and every one of us to get involved, stand up and have our voices heard. What is happening to Oceano has set a very dangerous precedent, and your local SVRA or riding area could be next.

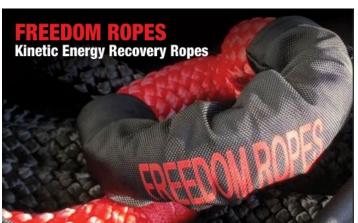
Please go to https://www.oceanodunes.org, and join us in our fight! Help us save Oceano Dunes SVRA!

















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Richard Poolis	\$10	Joe & Criss Rodriguez	\$10	Joseph & Danielle Brightenstin	e\$10
Eugene Lane	\$10	Christian Thompson	\$10	Jose & Nancy Ramirez	\$10
Joseph & Darlene Bradley	\$10	Christopher Caban	\$10	Jeff Craft	\$10
Greg Wright	\$10	Michael & Gloria Barosko	\$10	Brian Fisher	\$10
Scott & Laura Davidson	\$10	James Standley	\$10	Boris Nestoiter	\$9
Danny Williams	\$10	Lance & Stephanie DesBaillets	\$10	John & Kathy Bonner	\$5





### **Welcome New CORVA Board of Directors!**

We held our CORVA Annual Meeting by conference call this year with the Part 1 conducted on April 27, 2020 and Part 2 conducted on My 18th.

During Part 2 votes all members of CORVA were invited to submit proxy votes and vote on behalf a number of members, or vote individually with all the votes tallied and cross-checked.

We welcome the following new CORVA Board of Directors Members:

**Dave Cundy:** Assistant Southern Regional Director – Clubs

Jared Macleod: Vice President of Education

### **Board of Directors**

PRESIDENT — KEN CLARKE

ken.clarke@corva.org

PAST PRESIDENT, DIANA MEAD

diana.mead@corva.org

**VP ADMINISTRATION — VACANT** 

VP LAND RESOURCES & PUBLIC POLICY — BRUCE WHITCHER

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**VP EDUCATION — JARED MACLEOD** 

VP SALES & MARKETING — CHARLES LOWE

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TREASURER — MIKE MOORE

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SECRETARY — VACANT

N. REGIONAL DIRECTOR — KEN CLARKE

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ASST. N. DIRECTOR, LEGISLATION — VACANT

ASST. N. DIRECTOR, GRANTS — BRUCE BRAZIL

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ASST. N. DIRECTOR, CLUBS — LORI LEWIS

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N. REGIONAL SECRETARY — VACANT

S. REGIONAL DIRECTOR — VINNIE BARBARINO

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ASST. S. DIRECTOR, LEGISLATION — BOB HAM

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ASST. S. DIRECTOR, GRANTS — ED STOVIN

ed.stovin@corva.org

ASST. S. DIRECTOR, CLUBS —DAVE CUNDY

**REGIONAL SECRETARY — JIM WOODS** 

jim.woods@corva.org

MANAGING DIRECTOR — AMY GRANAT

amy.granat@corva.org

916-710-1950





#### 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.

We work with land managers for responsible off-highway vehicular access and recreation opportunities. Secondarily, 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 as well as at the county and local levels. 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. For more information, contact Amy Granat, Managing Director:

amy.granat@corva.org or 916-710-1950

### **On-Going Meetings**

#### **Friends of El Mirage**

www.elmirage.org

2nd Wednesday

#### **Friends of Jawbone**

www.jawbone.org 3rd Wednesday

#### **Board Conference Call**

4th Monday

#### **Get in Touch**

Want to contact CORVA? Send an email to info@corva.org or call 916-710-1950.

### **Off-Roaders In Action**

Fall 2020

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