

OFF-ROADERS

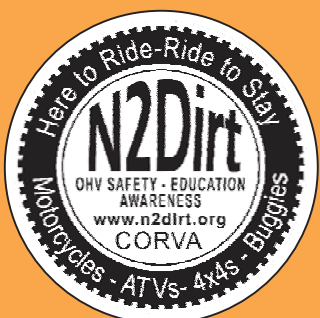
In Action

OHV Lobby Day - April 7th - Don't Miss It!



**Free 90 Day
Membership to
Prospective
Members**

The CORVA Truckhaven Challenge held in January was fun for all ages and open to all vehicle types. Here a Jeep makes its way over the steep hills. Thanks to all CORVA members for attending! (Photo by Terry Work.)



Family Fun Days Apr. 18-20th!
**BRC Wins USFS Appeal to
Protect Access to Trails
in Roadless Areas**

the backyard
sandbox
just got **BIGGER**



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WHAT IS CORVA?

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

The group is composed of the owners of "Green Sticker" vehicles such as ATV's, motorcycles, 3-wheelers, trials bikes, and dune buggies, as well as "street-legal" 4X4 vehicles, dual sport motorcycles, bajas and desert racers.

The main purpose of CORVA is to 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 Sacramento and Washington, DC. We work closely with the State Department of Parks and Recreation providing input to the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Program from the users' standpoint. We provide a valuable resource to land managers in the form of dedicated OHV enthusiasts who believe in responsible vehicular access.

A portion of the budgets for California's national forests and the public lands administered by the BLM is funded by grants from the Green Sticker Program. We work with the land managers to formulate the grants and give our input about the grants to the OHMVR Program which administers them. We also review how effectively our Green Sticker money was used in each program.

We are active at all levels of the land management public process with both the BLM and USFS. We do this by commenting on environmental documents on as many issues as possible and maintaining close relationships with personnel in the field as well as the staff.

We coordinate with other multiple use organizations ranging from snow-mobiles to horse enthusiasts to protect multiple-use rights from the environmental extremists. **We are "dedicated to protecting our lands for the people, not from the people."**

If you would like to join the fight to protect our public lands for multiple-use recreation, fill in the application in this issue and send it in! If you would like more information, contact us at 1-800-42-CORVA!



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(COVER PHOTOS NEEDED! Send your action shots to Erin Dyer.
Digital photos 12" X 13" in 300 dpi, or higher, preferred.)

CORVA

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Step Up

By Ed Waldheim
President

Well folks, after 15 years of being president of CORVA it is time for others to "Step Up" in leadership roles in CORVA.

On April 19-20, 2008 CORVA will have their "Fun Days" in California City and on April 20, 2008 in the morning CORVA corporation will have its Annual Meeting where reports will be presented and officers elected.

Now this is very appropriate to have our Annual Meeting in the desert, in an area we ride, rather than being in a hotel room where everyone is wishing they could be riding. Here we will have our meetings and then off to the trails we will go.

After all these years, it has become very apparent that our job in CORVA will never be done. I first started advocating for access to public lands in 1978. I can't believe it has been that long that I have been working on land use issues. I have worked all those years only to find that today we have more challenges and attacks on our access than ever before.

CORVA has been a leader throughout this period and will continue to be so, but only if you, the reader, member, and general recreationist public "step up" to the task. Why am I saying this?

Besides the constant vicious attack by the environmental zealots, we now have the new threat that is wind, solar and thermal energy production that is requesting closure of our recreational areas to promote their corporate earnings and renewable resource plans. If that was not enough, you now have military base expansions into our riding areas. Yes, you heard me; our Open Areas are now under threat of closure.

On top of that, the Los Angeles City Council at their San Fernando Valley hearing on Friday Feb 1, 2008 denied a

permit to build a motocross track in an industrial area. This is one of the biggest travesties that I have ever witnessed. Stan Gale from Sun Valley Motocross has been working for years and jumped through many planning stage hoops to get a top-notch motocross facility build in the community of Sun Valley. This is an industrial area in the City of Los Angeles. The proposed plan would bring motocross to the area and help kids in the urban areas find a great place to recreate. He has had nothing but problems from the city, but working through the process it was already approved by the Zoning Board. It was appealed, but again it was upheld. Mr. Gale has worked tirelessly to address all issues of concern.

Now at the recent City Council hearing, it was brought for a final vote. When we arrived at the hearing there where hundreds of folks to protest the proposed plan for "mandatory neutering" of animals. By the time we got into the hearing room, I was shocked to hear Council Member Tony Cardenas make one of the most vicious and vile presentations to the council I have ever heard in my life from a public official. He said, "I will never let my family or I get on an off road vehicle," and "This is the biggest nuisance proposal that I have ever heard and my constituents will not stand for this." He also stated, "This is not the end, because I am sure the applicant will go to the courts to get this done." He further sated, "Again this is a nuisance and I will not let my family or myself become part of this sport."

After I recovered from my shock of a public official behaving like a mad man I realized he had no clue what he was talking about. He will spend millions on gang, graffiti and other social ills, but a sport that

could help children to take pride in their own actions, that he called a "nuisance" is ridiculous.

We had over 150 supporters in attendance at this hearing. Attendees wore jerseys and came to represent the family recreation we enjoy. It was a great sight. Although we had 150 people in attendance to support this facility, most did not even get a chance to speak and share their support of this worthwhile facility.

I sincerely hope every single person at that meeting will canvas Los Angeles City and remove these City Council members who have no clue about our recreation and who chose to blatantly disregard the voice of their constituents present. This is the same City that all their residents who recreate have to travel long distances to enjoy their favorite sport. So it is time to "Step Up" Los Angeles City residents and do not take this abuse by your elected officials. You need to make a point to meet these council members.

Regarding our desert issues: When all the management plans in the BLM's California Desert District were completed, the BLM made sure that there was a recreation element in these plans. Thus we have "Limited Use Areas" with trail only opportunity, and "Open Areas" with unlimited riding opportunities. Those Open Areas now in Johnson Valley are under attack. CORVA is working closely with the energy folks and starting to figure out exactly what the military expansion of 29 Palms Marine Base is all about. These threats are in direct conflict with our recreation opportunities in the desert.

Now if that was not enough, BLM California Desert District under the

-In Overdrive - cont'd. on page 6 -

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CaPitol News

OHV Lobby Day - April 7th, 2008 – Join Us!

By Erin Dyer, CORVA State Secretary & Editor

This year the California League of Off Road Voters (CLORV), of which CORVA is a founding member, will converge on the State Capitol to meet our legislators. This annual event, known as OHV Lobby day, has grown over the years from a group of a few people to a large group that really attracts attention. Each person attending has a desire to keep our public lands open and we need you to join us!

If you have ever sat around the campfire complaining about how we are losing trails and riding areas, here's your chance to make a difference. Meet other off-roaders who hold the same set of values, let them show you the ropes on how to speak to your legislators, let these veteran off-roaders guide you on this day and help remove all nervousness and awkwardness you might be feeling when talking to legislators. You will come home invigorated, energized, and excited at all the work the off-roading organizations in your state are doing on your behalf. You will get excited when you meet legislators that say, "I agree with you. Let me know what I can do to help." To realize that there are some legislators that really do have our same beliefs on public access is a good feeling.

Our goal is to educate ALL the legislators about our sport, our beliefs in access for all, and our values of family recreation. There are legislators that take an active role in understanding what we are talking about, even if they were never outdoors enthusiasts themselves. For those few moments where we can open their minds to new thoughts and let them see there is another side to the "green" agenda, it is all worth the long trek to Sacramento. For some legislators, this is their first access to the OHV community. They get a different picture in their heads once they meet us. They see educated, business people, with family values and respect.

The success stories are there, but we have to get out there and find them.

Won't you join us for the 14th Annual OHV Lobby Day on April 7th, 2008? Please register online at www.clorv.org or call the CLORV office (661) 864-1158. Have your club pay the travel expenses for one person to attend. To save expenses, fly up just for the day and take another flight home Monday night.

Or, if you can, dress the kids in their OHV gear and bring the entire family. I enjoy showing photos when I visit the legislators office's. I show photos of breathtaking scenery, family birthdays, grandma and the grandkids and single track trails.

Wear business attire and your CORVA orange jackets (contact CORVA Storekeeper Bud Shick – see phone number at back of newsletter). Our goal is to cover the State Capitol in orange on that day.

-In Overdrive - cont'd. from page 4 -

leadership of Steve Borchard, together with all his Field Managers, are having a heck of a time managing our public recreation dollars with only \$1.2 million dollars of funding. That funding is for 11,000 million acres of public land that he has the responsibility to manage. So it does not take a scientist to realize this is almost an impossibility to do.

To the forest: US Forest Service Region 5 (which includes 19 California Forests) are undergoing Route Designation Process. CORVA member Bruce Whitcher and CORVA Board members Kyra, and Amy Granat are our leaders in working with all of the forests. This CORVA team is working with the local riders and OHV organizations to make a cohesive team. This is going to be another one of those challenges that we need you to "Step Up" and help us. Make no mistake, if a trail is not signed open, everything else is closed. Both BLM and USFS are adopting this. We argued successfully for 18 years against

Let's get together and make a difference on April 7th, 2008.

California League of Off Road Voters, Inc.
(CLORV).

This event is sponsored by the California League of Off Road Voters, Inc. (CLORV). The California League of Off Road Voters is comprised of politically active members of the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) National, the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) District 36, the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) District 37 Off Road and Dual Sport Divisions, the American Sand Association (ASA), the California Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs (CA4WDC), the California Nevada Snowmobile Association (CNSA), the California Off Road Vehicle Association (CORVA), the Friends of Oceano Dunes (FOD), the Off Road Business Association (ORBA), and the San Diego Off-Road Coalition (SDORC), which collectively have over 100,000 members.

Please continue to visit the CLORV website for more information on Lobby Day as the event approaches or call the CLORV office (661) 864-1158.

this, and now we have lost that long battle. It is incumbent on every single one of you to know exactly what areas you can and cannot ride. You need to get a map and follow only the Designated Trails or find the Open Areas that allow all access riding.

To the California State OHV Program: You all know that the OHMVR program has been extended by new legislation SB.742 on October 12, 2007. Due to the wording of SB.742, Daphne Greene, Deputy Director has to put all the work of the OHMVR Division of State Parks into regulations. She is asking for input from all on what you would like to see to make the OHV program better. Go to www.corva.org for the State OHMVR website link. This legislation has also increased our registration fees from \$25 to \$50 every 2 years. This additional funding should help us with our operation and maintenance, law enforcement, education, and yes, restoration (which actually means obliterating a closed or illegal trail).

-In Overdrive - cont'd. on page 20 -

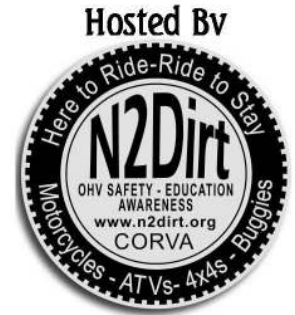
N2Dirt Presents:
CORVA 2nd Annual

CORVA's 40th Year Celebration!

Family Fun Days

& CORVA Convention

April 18 to April 20, 2008
California City, CA



AT CAL CITY 20 MULE TEAM ROAD & ESSE RD. - FOLLOW THE SIGNS

You Don't Want To Miss This Fun Filled Weekend!

- **FREE EVENT ENTRIES** to all CORVA Members, including immediate family members. **NO CAMPING FEES.** Just a whole lot of fun. New members are welcome to join us.
- **OPEN TO ALL TYPES OF OFF ROAD VEHICLES.** Bikes, Quads, Buggies, 4X4's, Baja's and UTV's. All vehicles must be currently registered, green, red or licensed.
- **SATURDAY FUN FILLED EVENTS, DISPLAYS AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY.** More new and exciting challenges, crazy dog show, vendor alley, booths and guest speakers.
- **SATURDAY AFTERNOON EVENT AWARDS** available for ALL ages & skill levels.
- **SATURDAY NIGHT A NIGHT OF DESERT ENTERTAINMENT,** CAMPFIRE and BAR-B-QUE. BBQ menu and donation amount to be posted.
- **SATURDAY NIGHT RAFFLE!** Shorter, sweeter and much more fun!
- **SUNDAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST** for a nominal fee to benefit N2Dirt Educational Programs.
- **SUNDAY N2DIRT POKER RUN.** Proceeds support N2Dirt's Educational Programs.
- **SUNDAY ANNUAL CORVA MEETING.** Hear the latest reports and election of Directors.
- **LAWSUIT UPDATES - GUEST SPEAKERS - WORKSHOPS - DISPLAYS** and much more!

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
WWW.CORVA.ORG

All events are tentative. More events may be added later. Volunteers, clubs are encouraged to host an event. Contact Dan@n2dirt.org for details. CORVA annual membership is \$30 & includes the monthly newsletter. Sign up on the website or at the event.

CORVA is "Dedicated to Protecting Public Lands For the People, Not From the People."

Year of the Underdog

By Larry E. Smith, Executive Director
Americans for Responsible
Recreational Access

Washington Newsletter (Feb. 2008) - The year 2008 is beginning to shape up as totally unpredictable. If things continue as they have thus far, it will be known as the year of the underdog. The Giants defeat the Patriots in the Super Bowl, John McCain pulls a surprising comeback after sinking in the polls in the summer of 2007, and Barack Obama proves to be a strong challenger to Hillary Clinton. What a year, and we are only 30 plus days into it.

The Federal Reserve announces a surprised reduction of 3/4 of a point in interest rates and it did so without even convening its regularly scheduled meeting in Washington but rather over a late night conference call on a secured telephone line.

President Bush delivers his last State of the Union address to a joint Session of Congress, but has to share the news limelight with the unexpected endorsement of Barack Obama by Teddy Kennedy and his niece, Caroline Kennedy, the daughter of former President John F. Kennedy.

All of this is a bit like when the airline pilot announces to everyone that they should tighten their seat belts in anticipation of unexpected turbulence. You hope the pilot is wrong but you don't want to take a chance that he/she isn't. 2008 is going to be one of those "tighten your seatbelt" years.

2009 Budget

The news we heard about the FY09 Federal budget doesn't give us much comfort about unbuckling that seatbelt. In fact, we are in for one rough ride.

The Bush Administration submitted to Congress its proposed budget for FY 2009 and public lands suffered a hard hit squarely in the jaw. What additional money the Forest Service received was for fire fighting purposes only.

One publication suggested that the Forest Service change its name to the Fire Service. To make up the difference, the

recreation budget and the budget for the maintenance of roads and trails were hit hard.

The proposed budget for trails is being cut by a whopping 33% from what was finally appropriated in FY08. And the recreation budget is being cut 8% from what was received last year. Please use the link below to see a chart of recreation budgets.

http://www.arra-access.com/arra/washingtonnewsletter_feb2008.html

This budget proposal has severe implications for the Travel Management Rule. Already, we are seeing signs that certain National Forests are choosing to not to consider user created routes as a part of the implementation process of the Travel Management Rule and all in the name of limited budget resources. From day one, we were concerned that inadequate resources would adversely impact OHV recreation and we are beginning to see this fear come true.

The discussion accompanying the budget submission, especially the section dealing with the Recreation budget, speaks to the Travel Management Rule and the amount of resources the agency is devoting to that effort. While the talk is encouraging, we remain concerned that the individual forest districts are not seeing the actual funding and are therefore taking steps to short circuit the implementation process.

Trails are already inadequately maintained. With less money available for this purpose, we can expect that less work will be done to maintain these trails, eventually leading to more trail closures. This is a slippery slope for an agency that can only seem to fight forest fires and does less and less for the recreating public. This is a very sad state of affairs.

ARRA will once again head to the Hill to fight for more money for the recreation and trails budgets. It's going to take some heavy lifting and even so, there's no guarantee that even if we succeed in getting the Congress to appropriate more

funds, that the money will find its way to the forest districts so the spirit of the Rule is fully honored by involving public input in the process. The whole purpose of the Rule is to design and designate a trail system that works and providing quality user maps is critical if users are to identify and stay on the designated route system.

If we don't try to get more money for this purpose, we know the answer. If we try and succeed, we have a chance. Stand ready to help out in this effort. We will soon be sending you an ARRA alert asking you to contact your Representative and Senators.

2008 Elections

The results of Super Tuesday are in and the winner is ????. John McCain seems to be picking up speed in terms of distancing himself from his two competitors, former Governors Huckabee and Romney. Even so, some in the conservative wing of the party, along with folks like Rush Limbaugh, simply don't like McCain. McCain is closer to getting that brass ring, but he's going to have to take a few more trips around the merry-go-round of primaries before finally getting the prize. If McCain is the nominee, I can't believe that Russ Limbaugh will begin advocating support for Hillary or Barack, but then, it's a crazy year!

And, on the Democratic side, only one word describes the situation, "wow." The battle shaping up between Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama is one for the history books. We have had women presidential candidates before and black presidential candidates as well, but Clinton and Obama seem to be in an entirely different category and either one can give the presumptive Republican nominee, John McCain, a very strong competitive race.

The reason I even mention all of this is the fact that all other issues will fade into the background while presidential politics take center stage. Congress will be unable to do little more than pass an economic stimulus package and appropriation measures.

So, issues we care about such as access to public lands for recreation, the Forest Service Travel Management Rule, trail maintenance and the like, will just be a small blip on the political radar screen.

- Underdog - cont'd on page 21



12th Annual Moose Anderson Days

April 26 - 27, 2008.

PRESENTED BY THE FRIENDS OF JAWBONE

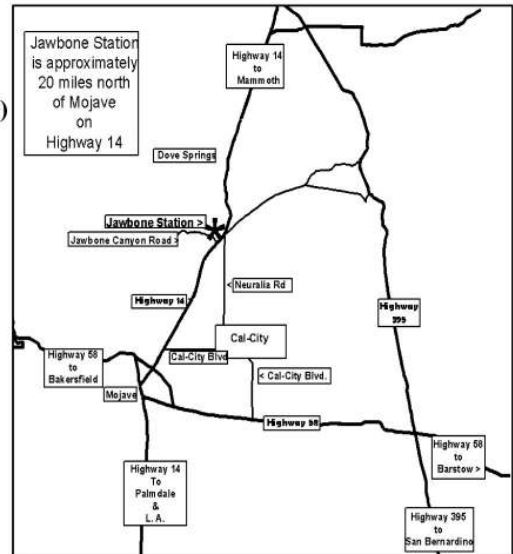
SATURDAY, April 26

- Sign up starts at 8:00 a.m. SHARP! Plan to arrive early.
- Breakfast (Sat. and Sun.) 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. (\$3.00 donation to Friends of Jawbone)
- Projects start at 9:00 a.m.
- 50/50 drawing and Door Prizes
- Raffle for a Honda Generator (donated by Honda)
- 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, April 27

- Breakfast 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. (\$3.00 donation)
- 4 X 4 tour (\$10.00 fee)
- Off Road Poker Run (\$5.00 per hand-a fundraiser consisting of a 30-40 mile fun ride on your motorcycle, ATV, or other off-highway vehicle-multiple hands may be purchased)
- Awards 12:30 p.m.

NOTE: You must be pre-registered to be guaranteed a free T-Shirt and lunch.



PLEASE FILL OUT ONE REGISTRATION FORM FOR EACH PARTICIPANT

ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST BE REGISTERED. YES, I WANT TO HELP ON SATURDAY! (PLEASE PRINT)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

Phone_(_____) _____

Emergency contact name _____

Phone_(_____) _____

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

I WANT TO HAVE FUN ON SUNDAY - SIGN ME UP FOR:

4X4 TOUR (\$10.00 Fee per vehicle) _____ x \$10 = \$ _____

Off Road Poker Run (\$5.00 fee per hand) _____ x \$5 = \$ _____

Please make check payable to Friends of Jawbone

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(760) 373-1146

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Pre-registration MUST be
Postmarked by April 15

Land Access

In OHV debate, who's running the show?

Submitted by Kevin Ludwig
Editorial to *The Daily Planet*

After reading the recent article concerning the Marshall Creek bypass has me wondering what is happening to the area I call home. Growing conflict between outdoor user groups has me wondering who's running this show and are they doing a good job to support the needs of all residents in San Miguel County.

I agree that our beautiful box canyon is a place that we all strive to preserve for generations to come, but sometimes it's wise to look beyond our very green and often narrow mindset to solve problems.

I don't know, thinking outside the box maybe?

Discussions surrounding the direction of our area's national forests make me believe the few, but very outspoken, groups

forgot to go to kindergarten the day we all learned how to share. Before I am labeled as a two-stroke huffing/polluting bigot, I urge and challenge residents and representatives of our county to pull your head out and listen to something that may lie beyond your thoughts concerning this issue.

The overwhelming and blind hatred toward anything OHV that our town has become known for has gotten a bit out of control. Even with strong support to maintain and better our multiple use trail system our county representatives turn a blind eye to a vast majority.

If that was not an obvious and disrespectful display of a preset agenda I fear what actually goes on in the radical

minds of those who are supposed to represent everyone in San Miguel County. It doesn't take much more than a level head to realize widening already abundant wilderness areas and shutting down more and more trail networks from those who enjoy equestrian, mountain biking and motor sports will only increase traffic in all surrounding areas. Not to mention the handicapped and those who are not used to breathing at 10,000 feet. Are they not entitled to the beauty that every one of us take for granted every day?

Simply put, trying to get rid of OHVs here does not mean a victory in your grand scheme of everything green. Lack of tolerance and the inability to compromise is a loss to both sides. However, some elitist minds seem to have serious trouble wrapping their heads around this.

Furthermore, in the face of beetle kill, diminishing aspen groves, and growing fire danger due to improper thinning and cleaning of deadfall I think that OHV traffic is clearly at the bottom of the list of the "terrible things" happening in our forests today. I won't even dive into the hypocrisy of unwanted air pollution that OHVs cause

-OHV Debate - cont'd. on page 21 -

Recreation Group Wins Forest Service Appeal to Protect Access to Motorized Trails in Roadless Areas

By Don Amador, BRC Western
Representative, Blue Ribbon Coalition

EUREKA, CA (January 14, 2008)—On January 10th, an Appeal Deciding Officer for the USDA Forest Service reversed a decision that would have closed over 14 miles of historic off-highway vehicle (OHV) motorized trails in a Northern California Forest.

This decision was in response to appeals filed by the BlueRibbon Coalition (BRC) and Del Norte County to the Smith River National Recreation Area (NRA) Road Management and Route Designation Project on the Six Rivers National Forest.

In early November, the County and BRC filed appeals based on concerns that the Six Rivers National Forest's Decision Notice and FONSI approving Alternative 2, as modified, would close many important motorized trails to local users. BRC

believed the Ranger District had misinterpreted the 2001 Clinton Roadless Rule as prohibiting the designation of motorized trails in roadless areas.

Currently, the 19 National Forests in California are in various stages of route designation as required by the nationwide Forest Service Travel Management Rule. The NRA's process was one of the first projects completed where a final decision notice had been issued.

Don Amador, Western Representative for the BlueRibbon Coalition, states, "I think our main goal in filing this appeal was to champion the concept that important OHV travelways in roadless areas should not be arbitrarily and summarily excluded from the route designation process.

Some of the most highly valued and

scenic motorized trails in our National Forests exist in roadless areas."

"This decision clearly supports BRC's continuing legal viewpoint that the 2001 Clinton Roadless Rule allows for motorized trails to be designated in roadless areas. As the route designation process continues on other Forests it will be important for local user groups to highlight important OHV routes that already exist in roadless areas so they may be included as meaningful options in the travel management plan," Amador concludes.

The appeal decision is available at: www.sharetrails.org/files/SmithRiverNraBrcAppealDecisionJan14.pdf

The BlueRibbon Coalition is a national recreation group that champions responsible use of public and private lands, and encourages individual environmental stewardship. It represents over 10,000 individual members and 1,200 organization and business members, for a combined total of over 600,000 recreationists nationwide. 1-800-258-3742. www.sharetrails.org

The Friends of El Mirage Presents

THE 9TH ANNUAL EL MIRAGE DAYS

At El Mirage Cooperative Management Area
Saturday and Sunday, May 3-4, 2008

**COME SHARE IN A WEEKEND OF
WORK, PLAY, AND FUN!**

Saturday – Work Projects

- Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. sharp at the Visitor Center located on Colusa Road.
- Work projects begin at 8:30 a.m. sharp.
- Free BBQ lunch at 1:00 p.m. at Visitor Center
- Raffle drawings and 50/50 drawing at 1:30 p.m.

Pre-Registered Volunteers on Saturday Receive:

- Full breakfast (\$3.00 donation)
- Free T-shirt
- Free raffle ticket
- Free snack bag
- Free BBQ lunch
- Free goody bag

Sunday – Poker Run

- Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. sharp at the Visitor Center located on Colusa Road.
- Only \$5.00 per Poker hand
- Open to all off-road vehicles
- Trophies for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place
- **Come early for a pancake breakfast for only a \$3.00 donation!**

Friends of El Mirage, 75 Colusa Rd, El Mirage, CA 92301
Information: 760-252-6000

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City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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Directions from San Bernardino

Highway 15 North to Highway 395 North
Highway 395 to Rancho Rd. in Adelanto
Turn LEFT on Rancho Rd.
At stop sign turn RIGHT on Koala Rd.
Koala Rd makes sharp curve to left which is El Mirage Rd.
El Mirage Rd. to Mountain View Rd.
Turn RIGHT on Mountain View Rd. - El Mirage Rec. Area

Directions from Los Angeles

Highway 5 North to Highway 14 to Pearblossom exit
Highway 138 East to Victorville
Highway 138 to Highway 18 to Victorville
Turn LEFT on Sheep Creek Rd.
Turn RIGHT on El Mirage Rd.
Turn LEFT on Mountain View Rd. - El Mirage Rec. Area

Participants include members of:

*Southern California Timing Association - Wind Wizards Land Sailing Club - El Mirage Chamber of Commerce -
California Off Road Vehicle Assoc. - American Motorcyclist Assoc. District 37 - Inland Empire Film Commission*

Forest News

Forest Service Moves One Step Closer to New Planning Rule

Preferred alternative for Final Environmental Impact Statement of the 2008 Planning Rule is released

News Release - USDA Forest Service, Washington, D.C.

WASHINGTON, February 7, 2008 — The U.S. Forest Service has moved one step closer to finalizing a new planning rule that will engage the public in the development, implementation and monitoring of forest plans. The release of the agency's Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the 2008 Planning Rule identifies the Forest Service's preferred alternative and is a procedural move towards the implementation of a new planning rule.

The planning rule is important because it brings people together with the Forest Service to develop land management plans which provide the framework for all resource and recreation management on national forests and grasslands nationwide.

"The process of developing a forest plan is a public service that ensures a great future for national forests on behalf of the American public," stated Joel Holtrop, Deputy Chief of the National Forest System. "We're proud of this vitally important planning process and yet we recognize that improvements were needed to emphasize more public collaboration, to be more adaptive to changing environmental conditions, and to ensure the protection of wildlife. The preferred alternative encompasses all of these elements."

After receiving and considering more than 79,000 comments on a draft environmental impact statement, the Forest Service developed 'Alternative M' as their preferred alternative. The alternative is based on public comment and builds on the 1982, 2002, and 2005 Planning Rules and years of professional forest planning experience. The preferred alternative provides extensive public participation and offers an approach to quickly respond to changing natural resource conditions.

"This preferred alternative expands public involvement by requiring early and frequent public dialogue in all phases of the development, implementation and monitoring of land management plans," stated David Dillard, Director of Ecosystem Management Coordination. "

This exceeds National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements for public involvement. Our goal is to create strong, relevant conversations that address local issues as well as incorporate the latest available science and technology in the plans. Additionally, all plans and projects developed under those plans are expected and required to comply with NEPA."

The preferred alternative is responsive to changing conditions because adaptability is built in the approach. Plans will be able to adjust more quickly to changing conditions such as those brought about by climate change. By doing so, they will better protect resources of the forest and address the concerns of the surrounding communities.

Alternative M requires improved monitoring and sustainability standards for wildlife protection as well as the requirement for an Environmental Management System to be in place prior to the implementation of approved projects. In addition, Forest Service Timber Policy will not be affected by the preferred alternative because resource protections for timber management activities have not changed.

The FEIS will now be sent to the Department of Agriculture for a decision on a final rule for forest planning. The Record of Decision and final rule will be published in the Federal Register in approximately 30 days. Additional information on the planning process can be found at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/emc>.

The mission of the USDA Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs

of present and future generations. The agency manages 193 million acres of public land and is the largest forestry research organization in the world.

[Note: Your Northern CORVA Board members, Amy Granat and Kyra, along with CORVA member Bruce Witcher, are working hard on the USFS Route Designation Plan on your behalf. If you have any USFS questions or want to get involved, contact Amy at amy@corva.org - Erin Dyer, Editor]

Do Your Part, Get Involved in Land Use

Elections!

It's time to start thinking about the next election of CORVA officers. The next election will take place at the CORVA Convention held April 18 - 20 at Family Fun Days. We have to start early and ask all members to consider running for office.

We know there are many members who can find some time to put their experiences to work for our great organization. We need Board members to help replace those that have served many years. We have 4 Board meetings per year (conference call participation is available) and do most work via email.

Please contact Geoff Teare at geoff@corva.org for more info.

Public Lands

It's No Surprise

Nature Conservancy Study Finds Outdoor Recreational Activities are Declining

By Candace D. Oathout, Chair
Citizens Against Recreational Eviction - USA

I was amazed the other day to read that a study funded by the Nature Conservancy demonstrating that outdoor recreational activities are declining came as a surprise to anyone. The study looked at camping, backpacking, fishing, hunting, and visits to national and state parks and forests.

It found that since the 1980's there has been a drop of 18 to 25 percent in per capita participation in these activities. I don't know why anyone should find this surprising as it is the consequence of ardent environmental rhetoric concerning man's impact on his surroundings.

It has become harder to hike, camp or backpack as more land has been declared off-limits through designation of wilderness areas, endangered species habitats, roadless areas, wilderness study areas, and a myriad of other designations that are proposed specifically to deny the public the opportunity to enjoy natural surroundings.

It is interesting that the study focused only on hiking, backpacking, camping, hunting and fishing. While these activities are among the least controlled, there are

still almost insurmountable pressures applied to keep the average person from even considering recreational pursuits in parks and forest whether Federal or more local.

The decision by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to protect the Mississippi River while allowing both motorized and non-motorized recreational opportunities provides a timely example that demonstrates why outdoor recreation in natural areas is declining.

The DNR has proposed a bold compromise that, unfortunately, will probably lead to another series of challenges and lawsuits by relatively small groups of noisy people who are determined to force their view of appropriate recreational use on everyone who would like to use public lands. They seek to enforce the ongoing divisive argument that, "my way to recreate on the forest is superior to yours". It is the same argument that is used to exclude equestrians from hiking trails, joggers from equestrian trails, mountain bikers from almost all single

track multiple-use trails and motorized trail users from almost all forest lands.

According to Jerry Maertens a member of the Mississippi Headwaters Protection Alliance even existing roads and trails on DNR lands must be closed because there is a designated canoe trail on the river. Bear in mind that the trail extends along more than 420 miles of the river while the motorized accommodations being considered amount to approximately 132 miles of roads and trails on 45,290 acres of public land. Again, the argument is my recreational use is superior to yours; therefore yours must be limited so it does not interfere with mine.

The true circumstances are that non-motorized forest users, those who hike or birdwatch among other uses, have almost unlimited access to all forests. Their opportunities to use the forests are limited only by their subjective views on how forest should be used, while motorized recreationalists are being limited to fewer and fewer miles of roads and trails and less and less of the forests.

The Mississippi Headwaters controversy is just one example of the overwhelming pressures that are used to force a particular agenda with regard to public land use.

Perhaps it is time to review a statement made by Mollie Beatie, former head of the US Fish & Wildlife Service. "I believe there is only one conflict, and that is between short-term and long-term thinking. In the

- No surprise - cont'd. on page 19 -



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CORVA's Educational Program is a separate entity from CORVA. It is a 501(c)3 charitable organization. Contributions are tax deductible

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

Off-Roaders In Action is published by Erin Dyer of Mail Management Services. **Please send all advertising to Terry & Faith Work at 4565 West Avenue M14, Quartz Hill, CA 93536 (661) 722-3310 (phone). Or send via email to faith@corva.org or terry@corva.org. Faith Work is available during business hours to answer your advertising questions.**

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www.actionprogram.info

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A minimum of 14 days will be waited for the return of all ticket stubs prior to the drawing. It is the responsibility of the ticket holder to return the stub immediately to be included in the drawing. Winner is responsible for all taxes, title/registration fees, and pick-up or delivery.

Public Lands for the People Inc. (PLP) is a 501[C](3) non-profit corporation (ID#95-4521318) dedicated to the public's use of public lands. PLP was established to educate the people about their rights and the laws that apply to them in their daily activities and help educate the government agencies in their application of the law. In short, we fight to uphold constitutional and statutory rights related to the use of appropriated and unappropriated public lands.

Tickets are available from and stubs must be returned to:
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 Grants Pass, OR 97526
 Phone 541.476.6316 Fax 541.476.9112
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Friends of Sand Mountain

Annual Spring Cleanup



Saturday April 26, 2008 @ 10 am
 Raffle, BBQ, and brief general meeting starting at noon
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For more information, call Diane at (916) 984-6979 or
 write to friends@sandmountain-nv.org

Visit our website at www.sandmountain-nv.org





29th Annual Escarabajo Buggy Club

FRANK RAINES PARK

May 17-18 2008



REGISTER!

1. Fill out form below and mail in with check payable to "Escarabajo Buggy Club". If you are registering more than one vehicle, please make a copy of this form and mail in together with your check.
2. **Registration must be received by May 5, 2008!**

Vehicle Driver/Rider: _____

Address: _____

City State Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Vehicle Class: _____

Class A Buggies
Class B 4x4 / Bodied Vehicles
Class C M/C
Class D Quads

Club Affiliation?: _____

Registration confirmation will be sent by E-mail. By including your
Email address above you will save Escarabajo \$\$\$ on postage!

Registration will also be available at the event at Frank Raines Park
Prices will be:
RALLY - Each vehicle: \$35
Kids (10 and under) on Quad's/MC: \$15

Awards Ceremony following Dinner

REQUIRED SAFETY EQUIPMENT!
green sticker / registration required
4x4's, Baja's & buggies - Metal roof or Roll bar
Quad's/MC's- Helmet, spark arrestor
Suggested Items:
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**Frank Raines Park
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VISIT Our Website at: www.escarabajobuggyclub.com
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Optional Stuff

EVENT SHIRTS (circle size)

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Dinner(s)



TRI TIP,POTATO,SALAD,ROLL & DESERT

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KIDS (10 and under) \$5 = \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Mail completed form(s) with your check to:

**c/o Dawn Thurston
Escarabajo Buggy Club
7 Pacini Ave
Pittsburg, CA 94565**

Registration # _____
Paid Ck # _____

Qty. Shirts _____

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 SHARON ARELLANO
 GEORGE & SUSAN FOOS
 JAMES FIORILLO
 JENS & CHERYL NIELSEN
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 JACK & STEPHANIE NUDELMAN

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 STEVE BARRY
 JOHN VESELINY
 RICHARD HOUSE
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 GARY KIRKPATRICK
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 JIMELLE & SEAN BEAVERS
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 JEFFERSON KREMAN
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BLM News

President Proposes Budget for BLM in FY 2009 to Protect Resources and Manage Uses of Public Lands

BLM News Release, 2/4/2008

With a focus on the protection and sustainable development of public land resources, the administration today requested a \$1.002 billion gross budget for the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management in fiscal year 2009.

The FY 2009 budget proposal includes a \$10 million increase for the BLM's role in implementing Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne's Healthy Lands Initiative, which supports landscape-level restoration work in key areas across eight western states. These targeted areas have experienced numerous pressures – such as population growth, energy development, wildfire, and the spread of weeds – that affect the health of the land.

"Today's budget proposal supports the BLM's commitment to managing for healthy public lands in today's fast-growing, fast-changing West," said BLM Director Jim Caswell. "This funding will enable the BLM to address the key challenges facing our agency in the years ahead."

Director Caswell said the BLM's top priorities in 2009 and the coming years are to protect the health of public land resources, including wildlife habitat; to conserve resources in the management units comprising the National Landscape Conservation System, which includes wilderness areas and other sensitive resource areas; and to protect natural and cultural resources on public lands affected by illegal immigration on the U.S.-Mexico border.

The bureau also will promote America's energy security through environmentally sound development on public lands; deal with increased recreational use of public lands and other impacts resulting from population growth; ensure visitor and employee safety; and maintain working landscapes by ensuring timely

renewals of grazing permits and making forest woodland products available for commercial production.

Besides the increase requested for BLM's role in the Healthy Lands Initiative, operations funding for the BLM increases by \$10.2 million, including funding most of the 2009 fixed costs increases. Other highlights in the administration's proposed BLM budget for 2009 include the following:

An \$11.2 million increase in the oil and gas program to continue remediation of the Alaska North Slope legacy wells that pose significant threats to the Arctic environment.

An increase of \$1 million for continued mitigation of resource damage resulting from illegal immigration and drug smuggling on public lands along the Southwest Border in support of the Safe Borderlands Initiative. This builds on a significant funding increase for Southwest border law enforcement provided in 2008.

Stable funding for the wild horse and burro management.

A re-direction of some funding to areas experiencing rapid growth, where there is a greater need for the protection of resources from off-highway vehicle impacts.

The budget consolidates funding for the National Landscape Conservation System into a line item in the management of lands and resources account and one line item in the Oregon and California grant lands account. This presentation will provide greater visibility and transparency to funding for the system of national monuments and other areas of special designation. The 2009 budget includes \$22.3 million for the system and maintains \$3 million of a \$4.9 million increase provided by Congress in 2008.

- Budget for BLM - cont'd. on next page

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 West El Camino, #352
Sacramento, CA 95833-1945

Name _____

Address _____

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I AM DONATING TO:

Funding work at Sand Mountain, NV	\$ _____
Funding work at Dumont Dunes	\$ _____
Funding work at Oceano Dunes	\$ _____
Funding the California Desert Legal Bills	\$ _____
Route Designation Process	\$ _____
Other	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

Please make checks payable to **CORVA**

Contributions are not deductible as charitable contributions.

- Budget for BLM - cont'd. from previous page -

In order to focus on operational funding needs, the budget reduces funding for land acquisition by \$4.5 million and construction by \$1.9 million. Funding for deferred maintenance is also reduced by \$10 million.

The proposed \$1.002 billion gross budget for BLM represents a net decrease of \$5.8 million from the 2008 enacted funding level. The 2009 budget also proposes a cancellation of unobligated balances of \$24.7 million, which results in a total net budget of \$977.4 million. In the current fiscal year, BLM-managed lands will generate an estimated \$5.1 billion in revenue, including royalties from oil and gas leases.

In a break from past budgets, the department-wide wildland fire management appropriation – starting in FY 2009 – will be reassigned from BLM to the office of the secretary. The change will facilitate better fire-management coordination among four Interior agencies (BLM, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Indian Affairs).

The BLM's proposed FY2009 budget is online at www.BLM.gov.

- No Surprise - continued from page 13 -

long-term, the economy and the environment are the same thing. If it is unenvironmental it is uneconomic. That is the rule of nature." I submit that the more restrictions placed on use of the natural environment the greater the disconnect between people and their environment will be. This, in turn, will inevitably lead to even greater declines in support for public lands that have lost their value in the eyes of the average citizen who simply wants to enjoy their favorite hobby in a natural setting. Perhaps it is not economical to continue to close off use of forest lands to more modern uses.

Member Donations

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Don't Miss the Fun at these Events

Visit the CORVA website at www.corva.org for more information on these events!

- ♦ **April 7, 2008 - 14th Annual Off Road Lobby Day - Sacramento**
- ♦ **April 18 - 20, 2008 - CORVA's 2nd annual Family Fun Days, California City** (see flyer elsewhere in this issue)
- ♦ **April 26-27, 2008 - 12th Annual Moose Anderson Days Clean Up & BBQ - At Jawbone Canyon Visitor Center.**
www.jawbone.org for more information
- ♦ **May 3-4, 2008 - 9th Annual El Mirage Days - Clean up & BBQ in El Mirage Dry Lake.** www.elmirage.org for more information
- ♦ **September 2008 - CORVA Southern Jamboree**
- ♦ **October 25-26, 2008 - CORVA Northern Jamboree**
- ♦ **January 24-25, 2009 - Truckhaven Challenge Poker Run**
- ♦ **February 2009 - Desert Vipers Grand Prix in Adelanto**

In the Governor's budget we have recognized that the Governor is adding 84 new positions to the OHMVR State Parks staff. This is a bone of contention at this point. We are trying to figure out exactly where are these 84 new positions going to? Are they for our benefit? It is OHV money that will pay for these new positions and we need to make sure that if these are added that we get the benefit for all our recreation areas with these new positions. This could be in the form of staff assistance to BLM, Forest, and City and Counties; it could be in the form of statewide education for all our areas. But, as taxpayers in this system, we still need to be vigilant on these expenditures.

OK Now this is where you and I come into the picture. We have to volunteer our services as trail maintenance workers, signing crews, visitor services, trash clean-up crews, and the list goes on. After all, it is our recreation area, so why not take pride and take a stake in your favorite riding area. CORVA started Friends of Jawbone, Friends of Dumont Dunes, and Friends of El Mirage, California Trails Users Coalition (CTUC) and all its many divisions, all for the specific reason to work in specific areas where we recreate. These friends groups provide community based leadership, support, and volunteer workforce to the agencies that provide us with recreation. "Step up" and volunteer in all these areas.

CORVA continues to have its presence both in Sacramento and Washington DC to work with our legislators. Lobby Day is coming up April 7, 2008 in Sacramento. "Step Up" and join us there. CORVA continues to be engaged with legal representation in issues where legal council is needed.

So CORVA is looking for dedicated volunteers to "Step Up" to the leadership role in any capacity you would like on the CORVA Board or as Field Representatives for your local district or riding area.

Check our web site www.corva.org and see all of the meetings and shows that we have coming up in which we work with the various agencies. CORVA has set the bar pretty high and we need to make sure that you, the recreationist, assists us to keep that bar high.

Sign up a friend for a new membership, come to the "Family Fun Days" event April 18-20, 2008. This is expected to be a really fun time for the whole family! More importantly, though, join our leadership to assist in the many tasks we have to make sure we work on keeping our freedoms to ride available to us. If you do not "Step Up" and join us with membership, donations, and volunteer work, you will just give in to the environmental zealots. Think about that.

See you all on the trail or at the CORVA Family Fun Days event and CORVA Annual Meeting 4/20/2008 — yes, in the desert at California City. Bring the family, bring the toys!

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as you drive around in a Subaru that is dated far before any modern emissions standards. Or maybe you fit the 2-ton SUV for a family of three but you helped to "save" the Valley Floor so that makes everything better. Even those who have electric powered vehicles are simply shoveling more coal into the furnace far away.

Our county commissioners' outright unwillingness to cooperate with anyone or anything OHV is not only driving a good number of tourism dollars from our isolated communities but also hurts neighboring communities who, believe it or not, rely on this menacing recreation group each year to survive.

I have seen our town and county make too many unnecessary mistakes recently and a revamp of a road that already exists through Marshall Creek is one of many proposals I have seen to help alleviate a growing conflict between user groups yet still nothing is done. Chief complaints on this issue from a slim number of residents in Telluride state concerns about unwanted traffic. This bypass would remove most OHVs from the town and still it is denied.

In the hopes of preserving the rights that myself and many others hold to enjoy motorized access in our beautiful county I believe this bypass is in the best interests of both parties. Maybe a third time is the charm and this letter will actually be heard by our county representatives in round three. Or, more likely, it takes something more than overwhelming support by the people to get through to an obvious and narrow-minded agenda.

- Underdog - cont'd from page 8 -

That's simply the reality of things in an election year, but that doesn't mean that we give up or don't keep trying to make a difference.

We are going to continue to point out the inadequacies of the Travel Management Rule implementation process. We are going to continue to seek more federal funding for recreation and trail maintenance, fight inappropriate wilderness designations, and begin work on the next phase of the federal Recreational Trails Program. In other words, we aren't going away.

We hope you will continue to join us in this journey. The ride isn't going to be an easy one, but then, what OHV enthusiast doesn't like a challenge. Fasten that seatbelt and hold onto your seat because the rest of the year is going to be quite a ride.

CORVA

California Off Road Vehicle Association, Inc.

Info Line

1-800-42-CORVA

Terry Work (VM# 513)

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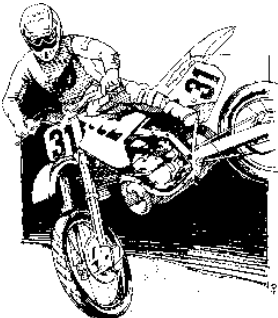

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