

**CORVA**  
CALIFORNIA OFF-ROAD  
VEHICLE ASSOCIATION  
[www.corva.org](http://www.corva.org)

# OFF-ROADERS IN ACTION

## [“Sustainable Parks” Program Threatens OHV Fund](#)

By Bruce Whitcher , V.P. Land Use

### Senators Evans and Simitian Unveil Plan to Keep State Parks Open

*Proposal Could Divert Funds from the OHV Division to State Parks*

On Tuesday, May 8th, 2012 State Senator Noreen Evans (D-Santa Rosa) and State Senator Joe Simitian (D-Palo Alto) unveiled a budget proposal to keep open up to 50 state parks slated for closure this year while providing a stable and long-term funding solution that will keep all parks open. As many as 70 state parks had been slated for closure beginning July 1, 2012.

The essence of the ‘Sustainable Parks Proposal’ is:

- Providing assistance to non-profit partners working for operating agreements for state parks;
- Finding “new ways of working” in the parks, including allowing parks to become more entrepreneurial and allowing more personnel flexibility;
- Accessing up to \$121 million of existing funding sources that may be appropriately used for park purposes over a five year period, including using up to \$10 million/year of existing funds collected the Motor Vehicle Account, \$21 million from the Local Assistance Program which would possibly consume the entire OHV grant fund, and \$10 million/year from the Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund.

The ‘Sustainable Parks Proposal’ was heard in Senate Budget Subcommittee #2 on Resources, Environmental Protection, Energy and Transportation, which is chaired by Simitian. CORVA attended the meeting and delivered testimony against taking money from the OHV funds. The bill will be heard again in committee on May 23rd. More information will be available prior to the next hearing.

## [Friends of El Mirage Spring Cleanup 2012](#)

By Wayne Ford, CORVA Clubs

El Mirage, CA – Wind and the accompanying dust is just a fact of life in the desert, and sunshine and warm temperatures are not guaranteed either. When you get to the desert and find what I call the “Trifecta” (no wind or dust, and warm weather), it is bound to be a great day. Luckily, we had the “Trifecta” on this weekend in early May for the Friends of El Mirage Spring Cleanup.

Cleanups are great opportunities to volunteer and help keep your favorite riding area or trail open. Most major riding areas have a “Friends of” organization, or an Adopt a Trail program. These are fantastic ways to get involved and put stakes in riding areas or trails, so the locks stay off the gates. In general, off roaders have a bad reputation of leaving trash and burning pallets. We need to change this perception, and we can all help by simply volunteering for ONE cleanup a year.



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

## OMNI Advantage

OmniAdvantage provides you and your family the security of knowing you're covered if there is a need for a loved one to be transported via air ambulance anywhere in our large service area. When available and if the most appropriate aircraft, Air Methods' fleet of aircraft will, at no additional cost, transport you and/or your family member from the scene of an emergency or from one medical facility to another.

Most health insurance providers will pay for at least a portion of the charges for a medically necessary air transport service, but the individual is still often faced with paying for the remainder, which can amount to thousands of dollars. With OmniAdvantage, the once-yearly membership payment assures that the individual – and other covered family members enrolled in the program – will not have to pay anything over and above the amount paid by their health insurance provider.

Let's face it, we plan and save for our retirement and for our children to attend college, but we don't typically plan or save for a catastrophic medical event that can result in expensive financial burdens. Whether it is a severe injury from an auto accident or a heart attack, bad things happen, and of course the need for an ambulance in such events cannot be planned. Emergency air ambulance services are extremely valuable to your community and save lives each and every day. Patients who have been transported by air ambulance because of critical illness or injuries sometimes are surprised by the charges when the bill arrives. Insurance typically only covers part of the cost. Rest assured, the charges are both reasonable and necessary to support this vital lifesaving service in your community. However, now you have access to the most comprehensive national air medical membership plan of its kind to protect your financial security and help minimize costs. Our affordable air ambulance membership plan can mean financial protection from these unanticipated costs.

### OmniAdvantage Membership Plans

The OmniAdvantage program offers membership with one of the nation's leading air medical service providers. Our national presence and rapid response time, coupled with reliable service and a solid safety record, provide OmniAdvantage members a clear sense of comfort and assurance. The OmniAdvantage membership plan costs \$49 annually, providing coverage to the member, their spouse/partner and their dependent children under the age of 26 that live with them and are insured. A special annual rate of \$39 is provided to AAA members and groups of 10 or more. The plans are available to individuals who have insurance coverage.

### OmniAdvantage Membership Program

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

*The main purpose of CORVA is to have fun! We also work with the land managers for responsible off-highway vehicular access and recreation opportunities. 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 enthusiasts who believe in using our public lands responsibly.*

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

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

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

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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**By Jim Woods**

In a recent letter, Congressman Ken Calvert, a member of the Committee on Appropriations, wrote, "The expansion of the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC) located in Twenty-Nine Palms, CA is required to ensure Marines are properly trained to deploy and fight on land, sea and air. The MCAGCC is identified as the only base in the U.S. with a sufficient operating area that meets the training requirements of our U.S. Marines. The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) released five alternatives with varying impacts to the Johnson Valley Off Highway Vehicle Area." He goes on to write that he is "confident that the military will work to strike a balance between meeting their needs" and "respecting the recreational tradition of the area." Well, I say maybe yes or maybe no.

I am sure the staff writer for the Congressman just overlooked that there are SIX, not five, alternatives offered on the EIS. But somehow I don't understand how they can justify any expansion of the military into Johnson Valley when even they, themselves and also President Barack Obama have publicly stated that our military forces will be reduced. Our future methods of battle will not be the same as they have been, and this will change how we train our forces. We can neither justify the cost of acquisition nor the cost of military exercises. Our Congress has re-election interests in mind, rather than the true interests of their constituents. It is amazing how out-of-touch and un-informed they are on the situation. The entire off-road community across the Nation needs to join together and pressure our Congressmen to stop the expansion into Johnson Valley.

Another ongoing issue is the plan by Governor Jerry Brown and the California Legislature to take the entire \$21 million dollars of our OHV Trust and Grant funds in the next budget. By the time this newsletter reaches you, this destruction of the OHV Grant program may have already happened. The Off Highway Vehicle Defense Council (OHVDC) project has retained legal counsel to investigate the legality of the removal of these funds. Legal action is possible, depending on the results of the extensive research. CORVA and many other stakeholders are supporting the N2Dirt OHVDC project. Individuals and clubs are encouraged to send their tax-deductible donations to N2Dirt for the OHVDC Project. You can find more information at [www.ohvdc.org](http://www.ohvdc.org). The [N2Dirt.org](http://N2Dirt.org) website also contains information about the project and N2Dirt.

On a brighter note, GenRight Off-Road owner Tony Pellegrino of has started a membership drive to help us build our supporting membership. At the GenRight web-site customers are directed to sign up for CORVA membership and receive special incentives when they purchase GenRight Products. We appreciate the support of all our Associate Members and encourage you to use them for all your off-road needs. Please support those who support us!

So how can you help OHV access today? For CORVA to be effective advocates, we need your donations to fund our legal and administrative work. So if you can, donate funds. But if you cannot, or if you have already done so, you can make some important phone calls to the Congressmen listed below. When you read our land use report, you can see there is much to defend and the list is not getting shorter. Your participation via the phone and internet is vital to the impact we make on those who ultimately decide where we have access. So make those phone calls! During our April 2012 CORVA Off-Road Caucus in Sacramento one speaker commented that "most final decisions are made by those who get involved." If you are not involved, you have no voice.

Are you involved? Are you helping mold the future of off-highway access and recreation? Make those calls, donate when you can and plan now to attend our October 2012 Southern Jamboree in Johnson Valley. Come see a little of our true California Gold, while you still can!

Please contact the following important Congressmen and let them know you want them to choose Off-Road Access and Recreation for Johnson Valley and the surrounding communities. Tell them you're a CORVA member!

CONGRESSMAN JERRY LEWIS  
1150 Brookside Avenue, Suite J-5  
Redlands, CA 92373  
(909) 862-6030  
1-800-233-1700 (within California)

CONGRESSMAN BUCK MCKEAN  
2184 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-1956  
(202) 226-0683 fax

*Have a great summer,*



# ALL REVVED UP



# NO PLACE TO

(SOME THINGS DON'T CHANGE)  
ONLY NAMES & ACRES

# GO!

## MEET ERNIE...

...an off-road enthusiast...an endangered species.

Millions of acres of public land will be closed to Ernie if proposed legislation is passed. He will be forced to look for alternative recreation.

To date, Ernie has spent billions of dollars on his sport. He buys oil, tires, spark plugs, apparel and a garage full of accessories.

## ERNIE IS YOUR CUSTOMER

He is your parts manager, service manager and sales staff. He is everywhere. Ernie is you.

( THIS FROM THE MID 80'S )

## ERNIE IS LOSING HIS ENTHUSIASM

Ernie is being threatened. Your business and his sport are in danger. The entire off-road industry is threatened.

In California, Cranston's wilderness bill will designate over 12 million acres of public land off limits to off-roaders.

As a result Ernie won't visit his dealer and he won't buy products to support his sport.

## HELP KEEP ERNIE ENTHUSIASTIC

Keep Ernie around. Join and work with **CORVA**, The California Off-Road Vehicle Association, Inc.

Call today for information on how you can help — help save your job and save your business — help save Ernie.

**CALL TOLL FREE**  
**1-800-422-6782**

**[www.corva.org](http://www.corva.org)**

Fighting For Land Use Rights



# CORVA Land Use Resources and Public Policy Report

By Bruce Whitcher

CORVA VP of Land Resources and Public Policy

## Johnson Valley Marine Corps Base Decision Delayed, Due in May-June 2012

The schedule for preparation of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) has been extended. The FEIS is studying alternatives for the Marine Corps to acquire sufficient range and airspace to meet training requirements for sustained, combined-arms, live-fire and maneuver Marine Expeditionary Brigade Training. More time is being taken to complete the related studies and documentation on Off Highway Vehicle Recreation, noise, protected species, and other natural resources and to respond to public comments on the Draft EIS than was originally scheduled. Taking this extra time ensures that the Marine Corps can complete a thorough analysis with the best available information of the potential environmental impacts associated with the six alternatives under study. The new schedule shows a Final EIS being made available for public review around June. In addition, the Department of the Navy's Record of Decision (ROD) will now be released in August-September 2012.

## Clear Creek Management Area Decision Delayed, Again

The retirement of Bob Abby as California BLM State Director and his replacement with Jim McKenna delayed the BLM's record of decision on the CCMA Environmental Impact Statement. CORVA has met with BLM officials to discuss the possibility of continued OHV use in the CCMA, but to date the information has not been encouraging. During recent discussions, the BLM indicated the decision would not be out until later this summer. Reasons for the delay were not given. The BLM indicated an interest in identifying alternative OHV areas, however past discussions have not been fruitful. CORVA will continue to work with BLM and to underscore that there is no viable alternative to OHV use at Clear Creek.

## Court Order Prohibits Motorized Vehicle Travel on 42 Popular OHV Routes

April 4, Placerville, CA -- Forty-two off-highway-vehicle routes that cross meadows in the Eldorado National Forest may be closed to motor vehicle travel this recreation season while the Forest Service completes an environmental analysis, announced Eldorado National Forest Supervisor Kathy Hardy.

The potential travel prohibitions are the result of a February 2012 court order by U.S. District Court Judge Lawrence Karlton. The order said the Forest Service failed to comply with the National Forest Management Act in 2008 when it designated "open for public motor vehicle use" portions of 42 routes that cross meadows. Judge Karlton ordered the Forest Service to "set aside" the decision that designated these segments as open and to reconsider the decision.

A final court order with further direction to the Forest Service is pending. In the interim, Karlton ordered the 42 routes remain closed to motorized public use. The final order will identify specifically where travel will be prohibited until a new environmental decision is made.

"I know that prohibiting travel on these routes will be a big disappointment to forest visitors, but we have to be responsive to the order," said Hardy. "I have a team of people lined up to complete a supplemental environmental impact statement as quickly as possible."

The SEIS is scheduled to begin in April or May 2012 and to be completed by April 2013. Hardy says many popular high county routes may be affected by the closure. Some of these routes include: Barrett Lake Jeep Trail; Squaw Ridge Four Wheel Drive Trail, Clover Valley/Deer Valley Trail, Strawberry Four Wheel Drive Trail, Carson Emigrant Trail, Allen's Camp Motorcycle Trail, and the Bucks Pasture Motorcycle Trail. The Rubicon 4wd Trail is not affected by this court order.

Maps and a complete list of the routes affected by the court order will be posted on the Eldorado National Forest website at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/eldorado>. These maps will be modified to reflect the final court order once it is received. A free-of-charge motor vehicle use map that shows the routes that are open to wheeled motor vehicle use will be available at all Eldorado National Forest offices in June 2012 reflecting the final order.

"I intend to close the routes where it makes sense to do so if the final order prohibits travel on routes that cross meadows," said Hardy. "A route may be closed near a meadow or some distance away depending on how difficult it is to turn a vehicle around." Some routes will also be closed indirectly because they branch off closed routes and will not be accessible.

Continued on next page

## Proposed Forest Plan Amendment Announced for National Forests

This proposed Land Management Plan amendment, which will affect the Los Padres, Angeles, San Bernardino, and Cleveland National Forests, is a result of the Settlement Agreement approved January 3, 2011 for California Resources Agency, et al vs. United States Department of Agriculture, and Center for Biological Diversity, et al vs. United States Department of Agriculture.

The proposed amendment would modify the existing land use zones (LUZ) allocations in selected Inventoried Roadless Areas (IRAs) to include more Back Country Non-Motorized (BCNM) and Recommended Wilderness (RW) areas. An alternate monitoring framework is also proposed. The full details of the proposed action can be found on the project webpage: <http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php/?project=35130>

### Major components of the Proposed Action

The proposed action would change the zoning to “non-motorized” on approximately 300,000 acres of IRAs, and change the LUZ allocation to “Recommended Wilderenss” (RW) on approximately 80,000 acres of Roadless Areas. The majority of the additional non-motorized zones are located in IRAs on the Los Padres National Forest and San Bernardino National Forest. Additions to the Recommended Wilderness allocations are within IRAs on the Angeles and Cleveland National Forests. A preliminary analysis does not reveal any closures of existing motorized routes.

In the Angeles National Forest, the Fish Canyon and Salt Creek IRAs will be combined to create the proposed 40,000 acre Fish Canyon RW area. In the Cleveland National Forest, the proposed 23,000 acre Eagle Peak RW area includes portions of the Eagle Peak, Sill Hill, and No Name IRAs, along with portions of the Cedar Creek and Upper San Diego River undeveloped areas. The 11,000 acre Barker Valley and 5,000 acre Caliente RW areas were also proposed on the Cleveland National Forest.

Revisions include updates to the monitoring requirements for forest health, riparian condition, and biological resource condition. Monitoring indicators were also clarified to reflect current inventory methodology in several areas, and an indicator was added to track unclassified (unauthorized) roads and trails. The revision also includes more details on how monitoring will be implemented, and how projects will be selected for monitoring.

### Public Meetings

The Forest Service will be hosting multiple open house workshops during the scoping period. The content and format of each meeting will be the same. Forest Service staff will be available to answer questions about the proposed action. Maps of the proposed changes will be available for viewing. The meeting times and locations are: •

- May 29, 2012: 4:00 PM to 7:00PM, Avenue Adult Center, 550 N. Ventura Avenue, Ventura, CA (Hosted by Los Padres National Forest).
- May 30, 2012: 4:00PM to 7:00PM, Angeles National Forest Headquarters, 701 N. Santa Anita Avenue, Arcadia, CA 91006.
- May 31, 2012: 4:00PM to 7:00PM, Santa Maria Red Cross, 3030 Skyway Drive, Santa Maria, CA 93455 (Hosted by Los Padres National Forest).
- May 31, 2012: 4:00PM to 7:00PM, Santa Clara Mojave Rivers Ranger District Office, 33708 Crown Valley Road, Acton, CA 93510.
- May 31, 2012: 4:00 PM to 7:00PM, San Bernardino National Forest Headquarters, 602 S. Tippecanoe Ave., San Bernardino, CA 92408.
- May 31, 2012: 4:00 PM to 7:00PM, Palomar Ranger District Office, 1634 Black Canyon Road, Ramona, CA 92065.
- June 1, 2012: 1:00PM to 4 PM, Frazier Park Library, 3732 Park Drive, Frazier Park, CA 93225 (Hosted by Los Padres National Forest)
- June 5, 2012: 4:00PM to 7:00PM, Descanso Ranger District office, 3348 Alpine Blvd, Alpine, CA 91901.
- June 5, 2012: 4:00 PM to 7:00PM, Trabuco Ranger District office, 1147 E. 6th Street, Corona, CA 92879.

### How to Comment

You are invited to participate in the process. Comments should be received within 45 days of the publication of the Notice of Intent in the Federal Register (publication occurred on April 27, 2012). Send written comments to Cleveland National Forest, 10845 Rancho Bernardo Road, Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92127-2107, ATTN: LMP Amendment. Comments and questions may be sent via e-mail to [socal\\_nf\\_imp\\_amendment@fs.fed.us](mailto:socal_nf_imp_amendment@fs.fed.us), or visit the project web page at [http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa\\_project\\_exp.php?project=35130](http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=35130).

**Desert Renewable Energy Plan Development Continues**

CORVA representative attended the DRECP Stakeholder’s Roundtable on April 25-26. We have featured articles on the DRECP in past issues of the ORIA. Maps of Development Focus Areas for solar and wind power generation were made public at this meeting. One of the development scenarios shows encroachment into OHV areas established under the California Desert Conservation Act. CORVA strongly opposes any incursion by energy development into OHV areas.

Senate Bill No. 2X increases California’s renewable energy portfolio standard to 33 percent of all retail electricity sales by 2020 and Executive Order # S-14-08 mandated the development of the DRECP, a major component of California's renewable energy planning efforts. The DRECP, when completed, is expected to further these objectives and provide binding, long-term endangered species permit assurances while facilitating the review and approval of renewable energy projects in the Mojave and Colorado deserts in California.

To oversee the implementation of the DRECP, a Renewable Energy Action Team (REAT) was formed consisting of the California Energy Commission, California Department of Fish and Game, Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Others joining the team include the California Public Utilities Commission, California Independent System Operator, National Parks Service, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Department of Defense. The DRECP plans to release a Draft and Final joint state and federal Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement in July 2012.

**Adopt A Trail**

Wayne Ford-CORVA Clubs



San Bernardino, CA – A big part of keeping trails open is giving back to your favorite riding area or trail. Whether through a “Friends Of” organization or through the Forest Service Adopt A Trail program, we at CORVA ask that you help one way or another. In times of work furloughs and deferred maintenance, it is a great way to help ensure that we can keep riding.

There is no better example of this civic duty than what the Lost Jeeps So Cal accomplished in 2011. They won the award for “Most Hours Volunteered by a Club”, logging over 3322 hours for maintenance performed on Pilot Rock Truck Trail (2N33). This trail connects Silverwood Lake, the 173 area, and the Arrowhead lakes. To see links to the trail, go to [www.lostjeepssocal.com](http://www.lostjeepssocal.com).

Thanks for your great work!

**CORVA NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

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

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State / Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**I AM DONATING TO:**

- Legal Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Lawsuit against Forest Service \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Reopening of Clear Creek Area \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Funding the CA Desert Legal Bills \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Funding work at: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Other Area: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- General Fund (non specific) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please make checks payable to CORVA**

Donations are not deductible as charitable contributions



## *The Confusing Case of the OHV Trust Funds*

by Amy Granat, CORVA Managing Director

By the time you read this, everyone will have heard the fate of the OHV Trust Funds, or perhaps the saga is still ongoing. There is no question the California State Legislature is hungrily eyeing the OHV Trust Funds with a clear intent to steal our money.

At this point the most dangerous proposal has been authored by Senators Simitian and Evans, who have dreamed up a particularly hare-brained scheme to justify stealing these funds. They want to take away the \$21 million currently allocated to OHV Grant Funding, and give it to State Parks to presumably help keep open some of the LEAST visited parks in the state. To qualify that statement even further, the funds that currently go to projects that maintain OHV roads and trails to protect watersheds against sedimentation, work to restore meadows and critical habitats, and help endangered species such as the desert tortoise, will be given to a help keep parks open that no one likes to visit. These parks don't offer anything to entice visitors to come, yet these two state senators believe it is more important to keep those parks open, than to fund the many worthy projects supported by the OHV community and the OHV Trust Funds.

During a meeting of the California State Assembly Budget Subcommittee meeting last year, the Legislative Analyst's Office claimed that our OHV Trust Funds were able to be taken and diverted to the General Fund, meaning that the protections we thought were put in place years ago are not sufficient to protect our funding stream. The Finance Office disagreed, claiming the legality of that "take" was unknown. The same question still continues today, but we can count on the Legislature doing what the Legislature always does: taking our money while gambling that the OHV community doesn't have the willingness or the ability to stand up to the Legislature. During CORVA's OHV Caucus Day in April, Senator Bob Huff came to our roundtable to talk about this very issue, and his words were clear - the Legislature will take whatever money they feel they can get away with, until they get sued.

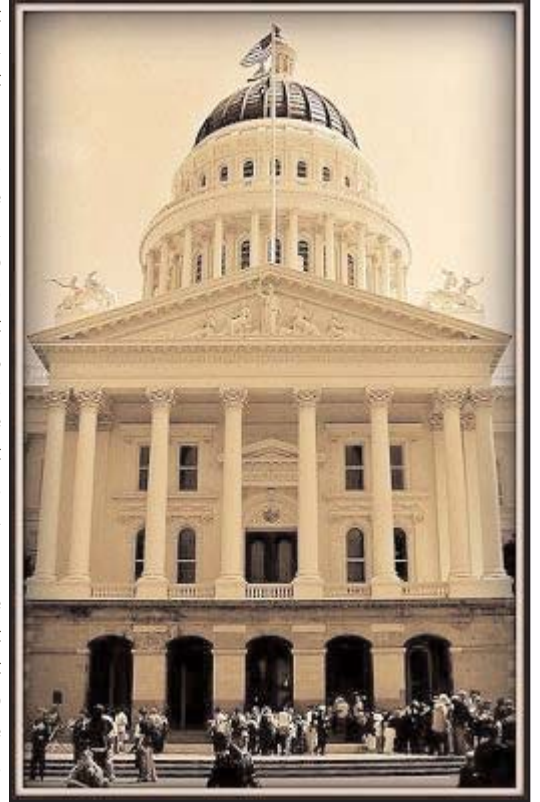
CORVA is about to prove them wrong.

Together with many partners, such as the Rubicon Trail Foundation, Stewards of the Sierra, Stewards of the Sequoia, California Trail Users Coalition, among others, we formed the OHV Defense Council and engaged a law firm to determine the legality of using OHV Trust Funds for other purposes. This determination is complicated, and will be time consuming, but what is important to recognize is that CORVA is working to do whatever possible to protect the OHV Community and to protect the funds that sustain OHV opportunities around the state. By appearing and testifying in front of the Legislature, we are able to speak for all those whose travel off-road, contribute to the OHV Trust Fund, and do their best to protect our fund.

What can you do?

There are few things politicians live for more than votes; the reality of their next election looms large no matter what their current position. The votes they need and crave come from us, members of the public. Without our votes, they don't get the position. California is about to begin a new electoral process; the top two vote getters in any primary will then be the candidates in the general election. In many areas we may end up with two Democratic candidates, rather than the traditional Republican and Democratic candidates. This can actually work to our advantage. For those districts that are Democratic, we can influence more moderate viewpoints, because it is only the more moderate candidate who percentage-wise, receives the majority of the vote. Politicians who are smart will realize that they need us in a manner they haven't in the past, so for all of you who live in majority democratic areas, you are about to become much more important in the coming elections.

For many of us, it will be nice to be appreciated once again, and be part of the political landscape. The only way this plan will work is if you, the voter, get involved. As CORVA, we can implore, entice, empower and educate our members, but it will be up to you to take the next step. No matter what, CORVA will be here for you, but we need you to be active for the rest of the OHV community.



## *The Phone Call*

By Ed Waldheim VP Education

The other day I received a phone call out of the blue from a person we'll call "Charlie" (not his real name). He began by starting to complain about why I am taking all his land away. As the call continued, it became clear that he knew very little about when and why land closings took place, so I did my part to inform him. When asked about Jawbone, I explained that nothing has been closed that has not been closed since 1986. The 300 miles of designated trails, including power line and aqueduct roads have officially been open for a long time. Everything else not designated is closed, yet visitors disobey the law and treat it like an "open" area.

The decision to close the area was made during the management plan that the BLM developed in 1986. CORVA and I were not part of the process. Also, there are 20,000 acres of private property in the area, and designated trails are allowed to go through this property with the understanding that the Friends of Jawbone will keep off-roaders on the trails.

Since Charlie couldn't blame me for the closings, he began looking for someone else to blame. I patiently tried explained to him that the process was a public process. The BLM has Field Office Managers, District managers, State managers, and Washington DC managers, who are all Federal employees. Off-roaders must get engaged with the process by attending meetings, and assisting in planning at the appropriate times.



When asked about other areas, I informed him that many areas have designated routes, and riders have to stay on these signed trails. Off route travel is not allowed. I explained how we lost 25,000 acres in West Rands, and 25 miles of trails because the "BLM manager could not control off route travel". It is not the responsibility of the BLM manager to control off route travel, however. It is the public's responsibility to know the laws and to remain on the proper trails. If we lose areas it is not because of the BLM manager, it is because the public is not abiding by the rules of designated routes.

Satisfied with my explanation, Charlie then asked me how he can get involved to prevent further land loss. I told him to attend meetings, but most importantly to abide by the rules and remain on designated trails. That is priority number one. I also explained how he can contact his elected officials to alert them of the issues and get them to support off road access. He said he would send me his email address to so I could forward him information about meeting dates and times, and just like that, the conversation was over.

As a side note, I still have not received his email requesting more information on meetings, and at this point, I doubt I ever will. He just wanted to complain, and like most people, do nothing about it. That is the sad truth.

For the past 15 years, I have preached the same story. The public has to get involved. Right now we have a DRECP (Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan) group ready to create a Desert Plan Amendment where they will reclassify the lands in the desert. Only 3 CORVA members attend this important meeting, and only 5 off-roaders in total.

We must do some soul searching. Do you like to recreate off road? You are needed to help keep our lands and access open. Do you send your children to school to learn? Of course you do, so why are you not learning and helping to save our access for the sport you and your children all love so much?

If you cannot come to meetings, then get your pen out and write to your legislators or the DRECP. If you cannot do that, help by making a monthly donation to CORVA so we can utilize your funds to get the job done where ever it is needed. It is very simple, give the cost of one tank of gas or the cost of one dinner out to CORVA for support of these issues and it will go long way. This is what Wayne Ford keeps saying. If we all did this we could make an impact to keep our public lands open for years to come.

We must help educate the "Charlies" of the world by leading by example. I look forward to seeing you on the trail or at a meeting. Send me your e-mails with comments. Most importantly, though, stay on designated trails!

## **Nobody Beats The GIANT!**

Wayne Ford, CORVA Clubs

Canoga Park, CA – Twice yearly, MotocrossGiant / Global Moto offers tremendous discounts at their retail store in Canoga Park. Not only do customers receive a minimum of 20 to 50 percent off, but manager Rob sweetened the deal by giving customers an additional 10 percent off for a whole YEAR if they signed up for CORVA.



The retail store just expanded and added a service center for all dirt and street rides operated by Rick from Kolbe Honda in Woodland Hills. He worked on my trusty XR400, and it ran like a clock at El Mirage the following weekend. In fact, if you live in this area, mention CORVA and you will receive 10% off your first service.



CORVA brought hotdogs, MotocrossGiant bought the drinks, and we had goodie bags and balloons for the kids. We played some music and had a good time. CORVA would like to thank Crystal, Jeff, Jake and the rest of the MotocrossGiant staff for their hospitality. I would also like to thank my daughter Shannon for making a rare appearance, and helping dear old dad out with the dogs. We would like to thank Steve and Natalie for helping out as well. See all of the gear at [www.MotocrossGIANT.com](http://www.MotocrossGIANT.com)

***MotocrossGiant.com***

Continued from page 1

### [Friends of El Mirage Cleanup \(continued\)](#)



Many people believe that participating in a cleanup will be painful and tiresome, but these thoughts disappear as soon as they arrive. The Friends of EL Mirage do an amazing job of making this a fun work event. Bright and early at 7:30am, registration starts for work assignments, and raffle ticket sales begin. Next is a delicious breakfast with pancakes, sausage, eggs, juice, and coffee, all for a mere \$3 donation. After breakfast, tools for the various work assignments are issued, and the work begins.

This year, 175 volunteers attended, including over 30 kids from the Desert Discovery Center, a troupe of boy scouts from La Cresenta, and many others from CORVA and various other groups. Work assignments were varied, as many picked up trash while others painted picnic tables, worked on the ramada, or maintained the many Joshua trees. The SCTA (Southern California Timing Association) worked on the dry lake bed, smoothing out high spots. This lake bed is used by many filmmakers looking to achieve high speeds. When riders do not obey the warning to stay off the lake when wet, high spots form. These spots can cause serious problems for riders traveling at over 100 mph.

Perhaps the most appreciated cleanup performed was the removing of nails and metal debris that gathers around camps from burning pallets. (As a reminder, it is illegal to burn pallets, but you already know this.) The nails were collected by the long wheel magnets that you can buy at Harbor Freight. Over the many cleanups, the El Mirage visitor's center has collected two 55 gallon drums of nail debris!

Once the work teams finished at around 12:00, everyone came back to eat an outstanding barbecue lunch served by great volunteers. At 1:00pm, the raffle began, and with three six-foot tables full of prizes, it took a full hour of ticket-calling to give all of the prizes away. If you like raffles, this is a great one to attend.

CORVA would like to thank Ed Waldheim, Peggy, Rose (for her announcing work), Art and his wife, (for the Jr Ranger program), and Dani (for her work with the kids). Most of all, we would like to thank all of the 175 volunteers who came out and helped make this event a success. If you would like to come to the next clean up, keep your eye on the El Mirage web page, [www.elmirage.org](http://www.elmirage.org). To see more pictures from the event, visit [www.photobucket.com](http://www.photobucket.com), pick "users" in the search bar, and enter "corva123".



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BRIAN & MARCIA LANGSTAFF	\$10.00	TOM & GINGER HANSEN	\$20.00
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NORTH AMERICAN XJ ASSOCIATION	\$1000.00
GOLD COAST CRUISERS	\$700.00
PENGUIN MOTORCYCLE CLUB	\$300.00
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*To help us out and make a donation please  
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Thanks*

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**Help Wanted: CORVA Show Coordinator & CORVA Store Keeper**

by Steve Hewitt

CORVA has two volunteer positions available. The CORVA Store Keeper and CORVA Show Coordinator. I have been fulfilling both of these duties lately. Store Keeper, this is an easy job that only requires that you keep an inventory of goods that CORVA sells, and ship orders to customers as they arrive. In addition, you would need to run the store at all CORVA events (or find a substitute if you are unable). You will also work closely with the Marketing committee on developing new promotional items for CORVA to sell.

The other volunteer position is the CORVA Show Coordinator. This only requires that you apply to have a CORVA booth at all the expos, and events that CORVA attends. Also, you will be responsible for setting up the booth and finding volunteers to help man the booth while the show is open. You will work closely with the Marketing Committee to find new shows where CORVA can have a booth.

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# CORVA CALENDAR

**June:**

**6 / 16**

**SAN JOSE CHP 5TH ANNUAL MOTORCYCLE OPEN HOUSE**

More info here: (<http://www.southbayriders.com/forums/showthread.php?t=119582>)

**July:**

Have a great summer!

**August:**

*FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT THE CORVA WEB SITE [WWW.CORVA.ORG](http://WWW.CORVA.ORG)*

**CHP** **SAN JOSE**

Saturday June 16, 2012 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 2020 Junction Rd. San Jose Ca.

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Live Band "Stones Throw"  
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