Good afternoon Board of Directors!

This past month has been very busy with our legislative agenda and meetings with State Parks staff. We are doing everything possible to push back against AB1512, the bill to take the Carnegie Expansion area away from the OHV community that paid for it over 20 years ago.

I testified at the Senate Committee for Natural Resources and Water, and some of the issues we brought to the forefront resonated with reporters who are eager to follow the story of 'the rich robbing from the poor' and taking away off-road opportunities. Kathy Lynch, the lobbyist for our coalition, the Off Highway Vehicle Legislative Coalition, is coordinating our story with the reporters and it should be in print within the next week or two, before the legislature returns from their summer break. My testimony is included in my article in the latest ORIA, and led to one of the most accurate articles ever printed about Carnegie in the Livermore Independent Newspaper.

Legislatively, we are also continuing to support our bill, AB 232 (Gallagher), otherwise known as the OHV reciprocity bill. The bill has sailed through all the committee hearings unopposed, and now Assemblyman Gallagher is looking for coauthors for the bill to secure the votes to bring it to the Governor's desk for signing.

We have also been involved in the 30x30 initiative, and met with State Parks regarding the how State Vehicular Recreation Areas are considered in light of the Governor's Executive Order. We have agreed that State Vehicular Recreation Areas are to be considered as part of the baseline of areas already protected. This is counter to what the Sierra Club was petitioning the California Natural Resources Agency. It took considerable effort to get the SVRA's included in the baseline, which is important considering the strong opposition. This is important for all the SVRA's but especially Oceano Dunes. The opposition has been lobbying hard to include the proposed closure of Oceano Dunes as one of the 'successes' of the 30x30 Initiative.

I attended a series of meetings with the state regarding permitting of events at SVRA's. I traveled to Hungry Valley and spent a couple of days there meeting with staff and determining how events will be managed moving forward. I was also there to assist in the planning for the commemorative party for the 50th Anniversary of the OHMVR program. That event is still planned for October 9th. In the last few months we have provided insurance certificates for 4 events held by clubs - Modesto Ridge Runners, Clovis Independent 4WD Club, PT Mugu and the Frazier Park/Scouts West event. It's great to see off-road events resuming.

Very important! The Berryessa Snow National Monument has started its 30 day comment period for the proposed management plan. The plan is open until August 16th, and I am working with Jane Arteaga, retired BLM state OHV Director to prepare CORVA's comments. This is an important area that contains hundreds of miles of OHV trails crisscrossing through the Monument. The public had received reassurance that the OHV trails would remain open after the designation of the Monument, but the proposed management document brings that promise into question. This is also a prime area in the fall during hunting season. The roads and trails must remain open!

Of equal concern are the water quality issues that have arisen in the South Cow Mountain OHV Area. Just as water quality issues almost shut down the Rubicon, water quality is threatening the continuation of OHV recreation in South Cow Mountain. We are following up with the BLM.

The Subpart C OSV Record of Decision was released for the Stanislaus National Forest, and it is very disappointing. We are working with the Sierra Snowmobile Foundation as consultants for their upcoming lawsuit(s). We don't yet know of they will file 1 lawsuit against Region 5, or 5 lawsuits against all 5 Forests undergoing the OSV planning. In other case, there is no cost to CORVA.

There is a new Regional Forester for Region 5, Jennifer Eberlien. I've worked extensively with Jen through the years and it will be great to have some influence with Region 5 again. She is very familiar with OHV and OSV recreation. This week also sees the resumption of the Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Collaborative for the Forest Service. Working with the Wilderness Society, California Wilderness Coalition and Outdoor Alliance isn't fun, but the collaborative group have defined recreation without differentiating between motorized and non-motorized recreation. We hope this definition will extend beyond the Forest Service.

This week is the OHMVR Commission workshop and OHMVR Commission meeting. I will be doing a special presentation as part of the OHMVR Commission Subcommittee on NYPUM, Diversity and Inclusion. We are also expecting the State Parks Director to speak to the community at the meeting. The fire season is going to be particularly difficult this year, and part of the same area that was burned in the Camp Fire is burning again. There have been evacuations in and around Quincy. CORVA has worked with Sierra Access Coalition for many years on the Forest Service Travel Management Rule. We have a lot of friends in these areas. The 18 forests in California will probably close the forests later in the summer if dry lightening strikes continue to spark fires.