

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

OFF-ROADERS IN ACTION

Countering the Assault on Off-Road Recreation and Motorized Access

A Primer to "Keep California Off-Road - On Trail"
By Amy Granat-CORVA Managing Director

Understanding an issue is a must, especially when faced with controversial issues such as motorized access to public lands. Analysis of the facts or investigations of the wrongful assumptions leads directly to the increased ability to plan an effective counter-attack. The following is a list of questions and answers to assist all of us as we "Counter the Assault on Off-Road Recreation and Motorized Access".

- A. **Understand the Challenge:** The Assault on Off-Road Recreation is a campaign by extreme environmental organizations and others to negate the rights of those who use and enjoy motorized activities on public land, either for recreational pursuits or access for other purposes. Their ultimate goal: end motorized access we have historically enjoyed, and eliminate motorized recreation on public (state and federal) lands. Elements of their campaign include:
1. Assumption (wrongly based on opinion, not fact) of damage from off-road activities.
 2. Demonizing off-road activities and those who enjoy off-road activities.
 3. Defamation of off-road activities and access to the extreme.
- B. **Prepare Yourself for the Challenge; Do Your Research:** For areas that have enjoyed motorized access for many years and are now facing threats of closure, be prepared to counter criticism with actual facts. Off-road groups and motorized enthusiasts have contributed more volunteer work on-the-ground than any other organized group, including representatives of the Sierra Club, Wilderness Society, etc. Be proud of what we have accomplished; be prepared to answer criticisms with fact. Motorized access enthusiasts are true environmentalists and conservationists. Questions to ask agencies:
1. Are other forms of recreation facing the same scrutiny?
 2. Are other forms of recreation placed under the same restrictions?

Continued on page 11



Help Save Johnson Valley!

The largest OHV recreation area in the United States is in trouble, and without your help, could be lost. For information on how to help save Johnson Valley, see the President's Report on page 4. Remember, you CAN make a difference!

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



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

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

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

George Thomas Memorial Trophy For Off Roader of the Year:

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

Looney Duners Trophy to Charity:

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

Los Aventureros State Conservation Award:

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

American Buggy Association Political Activism Award:

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

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

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

Members and Proxy votes, all membership must be current and up to date to vote. Corva form

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

WHAT IS CORVA?

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

The group is composed of the owners of "Green Sticker" vehicles such as ATV's, motorcycles, 3-wheelers, trail bikes, and dune buggies, as well as "street legal" 4x4 vehicles, dual sport motorcycles, baja and desert racers, and snowmobiles.

The main purpose of CORVA is to have fun! We also work with the land managers for responsible off-highway vehicular access and recreation opportunities. Secondly, we educate our membership on the constantly changing rules and regulations and promote conservation, clean-up and trail maintenance projects.

We participate in lobbying activities in both Sacramento and Washington DC. We work closely with the State Department of Parks and Recreation providing input to the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) program from the users' standpoint. We provide a valuable resource to land managers in the form of dedicated OHV and OSV enthusiasts who believe in using our public lands responsibly.

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

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

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

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jim Woods

Your Response Required

Each month I focus on the importance of your involvement. This request is not for you to be at every meeting - that is what CORVA does but you need to address your own representatives. It is time for you to make an appointment and visit the politicians in the area you live, whether you voted for them or not. Even if you did not vote for them they still work for you and you can remind them of this. April is the month to do just that. We call it Lobby Month! Yes, this is the month you will make that appointment that you always said you would. You will tell your elected officials how you think they are doing concerning our PUBLIC LAND and access to it. You need to let them know you are paying attention and give them your input so they can (hopefully) vote in favor of access to public land.

If you are not involved with any of your elected officials, how can you expect them to know how you feel? Once again our focus is on Johnson Valley. This area of our California desert is the largest open recreation area in the United States and can never be replaced. More than that, we off-road users have been ignored and dismissed again and again. As if our desire to use the public lands granted to us were somehow unworthy of any consideration, they constantly overlook the basic necessity of the OHV community. We need to be active in the decision making process of this removal of public land. We cannot let it be taken away without a fight. Now is a critical time for us to have impact, so I am going to review some important talking points that need to be addressed when you meet with your representatives.

- Johnson Valley is the largest OHV recreation Area in the United States and was designated by the 1980 Desert Conservation Plan.
- 29 Palms is now the 2nd largest military base in the world. Eighty-six miles away is the largest base, Fort Irwin. The expansion of Fort Irwin took thousands of acres of recreation just a few years ago. The military is taking too much land!
- The Marines considered SIX different options and the one they picked does not consider the economic impact, water quality or air quality issues concerning the residents of the surrounding high desert communities.
- The Expansion would remove over 150 thousand acres of public access and end the AMA District 37 Motorcycle competition events. Other organizations will also be affected, such as truck, buggy, and Jeep events like the King of the Hammers event that hosted an estimated 50,000 people in 2013.
- The Military will take all this land without any consideration of those who use it now, or of those who might use it in the future. It will stop all public recreation in the area Congress designated for such use in 1980. This is totally wrong and not necessary.
- Our solution is to again give the Marines a viable alternative and demand they address the Bartlett Amendment and choose Alternative Number 4 with just three changes.
 1. Reverse the direction of the maneuverers starting on BLM property and head to the East,
 2. Complete Live-Fire exercises on existing 29 Palms Military land,
 3. Use the land by Registered Permit following the same process as the OHV community and keep the management of the land under the BLM.

You are officially challenged! Make your appointment. Call your State representatives, Senators, and Congressmen. Meet with them and post the results on the CORVA Facebook page. Let us all know how it worked for you. You can discuss other areas too – not just Johnson Valley. Talk about the issues where you live. Share your family experiences. If you need more talking points, please e-mail me at jim.woods@corva.org. My goal is to get you all involved in protecting our passion, Off-Road Recreation!

I am looking forward to your posted results.



17th Annual

Moose Anderson Day

SAT. APRIL 27, 2013

Presented By

The Friends of Jawbone



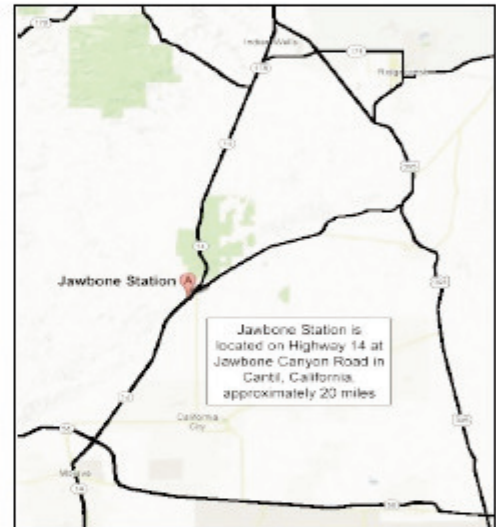
★ Volunteer!

★ Raffle!

★ Awards!

SATURDAY 27

- ◆ Sign up starts at 8:00 a.m. SHARP! Plan to arrive early.
- ◆ Breakfast 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. (\$3.00 donation)
- ◆ Projects start at 9:00 a.m., returning at 1PM for lunch
- ◆ 50/50 drawing and Door Prizes
- ◆ Displays/Demonstrations
- ◆ Free trail snack and lunch for all pre-registered cleanup participants
- ◆ Free T-shirt for all PRE-REGISTERED participants
- ◆ Pre-registration must be postmarked by April 15



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.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

Emergency Contact: _____

EMAIL _____

Check this box to be added to our eNewsletter:

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

Pre-Registration MUST be postmarked by April 15!

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

www.jawbone.org

CORVA Land Use Resources and Public Policy Report

By Bruce Whitcher

CORVA VP of Land Resources and Public Policy

State of California Department of Parks and Recreation Off Highway Motor Vehicle Division

OHV Division Eastern Kern County Land Acquisition – Draft Environmental Impact Report

If successful, this will be the first major land acquisition for OHV use in years. Anyone who has been to the Jawbone/Dove area has rode through this land. The only way to assure the trail system there will remain is for this land purchase to be completed. Everyone needs to get behind this. Imagine, over 28,000 acres!

The OHMVR Division is proposing to acquire and manage 59 privately-owned parcels (approximately 28,275 acres) in Kern County, California, from ReNu Resources, LLC (ReNu), a private company that owns and manages agricultural land in California. The ReNu parcels are largely interspersed with lands owned by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Property management includes visitor activities, maintenance and operations, resource management, minor projects, and special events. These activities could involve minor ground disturbance activities such as installation of fencing, signage, vault toilets, or re-routing of recreational trails. No changes in land uses or significant site improvements are proposed. No expansion of open riding or the existing route network is proposed. No new points of access to the project property or changes to open range grazing are proposed.

OHMVR Division has prepared a Draft EIR for the Eastern Kern County Acquisition project and comments were accepted from February 15th to April 1st. Stay tuned for more details.

Eldorado National Forest Announces Release of Draft Plan for 42 Routes

In settling a lawsuit filed in 2009 regarding the Eldorado National Forest's Travel Management decision, Judge Karlton issued his final order on July 31, 2012. In May 2011, Judge Karlton had upheld the majority of the Forest's 2008 Travel Management decision, although the Court did find that the Forest had erred in designating 42 roads or trails crossing meadows. This draft Supplemental EIS is the Forest's plan for remedies and corrective actions ordered by the Court.

This Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) documents the analysis of four alternatives for designation of 42 specific existing roads and trails for public motorized use on the Eldorado National Forest. Alternative 1 proposes to designate 42 routes for public motorized use and it includes amending the Eldorado National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan to allow for public motorized use on sections of routes affecting meadows on 18 of the 42 routes. Alternative 2 proposes no action. Alternative 3 proposes the same activities as Alternative 1 except it does not include a LRMP amendment and proposes implementation of mitigation measures prior to availability of the 18 routes for public use. Alternative 4 is the same as Alternative 1 except it does not include a LRMP amendment, proposes implementation of mitigation measures for portions of 15 routes prior to availability for public use, and proposes to leave closed all or portions of 21 routes.

The Comment Period ends April 8, 2013. The publication date of the NOA in the Federal Register is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period for a proposed action documented in a DSEIS. Those wishing to comment should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

Written, facsimile, hand-delivered, oral, and electronic comments concerning this action will be accepted; however, to assure eligibility to object if the administrative review process is used, comments should be written rather than oral. It is the responsibility of persons providing comments to submit them by the close of the comment period.

By Mail or Hand Delivery during normal business hours to:

Eldorado National Forest / Kathryn D. Hardy, Forest Supervisor / "Eldorado National Forest Travel Management Supplemental DEIS" /100 Forni Road/Placerville, CA 95667

(Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding holidays.)

By Fax:

(530) 621-5297 at above office hours.

By Email:

comments-pacificsouthwest-eldorado@fs.fed.us

Acceptable formats for electronic comments are plain text (.txt), rich text (.rtf), or Word (.doc).

Continued on next page

Public Comments Sought for Land Management Plan Amendment Environmental Impact Statement

GOLETA, CA – Forest Service officials are seeking public comments on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for a Proposed Amendment to the Land Management Plans for the four Southern California national forests (the Angeles, Cleveland, Los Padres, and San Bernardino).

The environmental impact statement analyzes the proposal to modify the existing land use zones allocations in selected inventoried roadless areas to include more back country non-motorized and recommended wilderness areas. It also analyzes the proposal to modify the land management plan monitoring framework. The statement evaluates alternatives for both topics, including an alternative that would recommend most of the study area as wilderness. The environmental impact statement can be found on the project webpage at: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=35130.

Summary of Land Use Zones proposed for each Forest by Alternative	Alternative Number			Summary of Land Use Zones proposed for each Forest by Alternative	Alternative Number		
	1	2	3		1	2	3
Angeles	Acres	Acres	Acres	Los Padres	Acres	Acres	Acres
Back Country	2,390	826	312	Back Country	154,640	15,935	8,144
Back Country Motorized Use Restricted	3,370	669	608	Back Country Motorized Use Restricted	164,696	10,114	3,406
Back Country Non-Motorized	62,608	27,150	1,035	Back Country Non-Motorized	86,581	379,878	62,167
Critical Biological	326	12	0	Critical Biological	395	395	395
Developed Area Interface	1,505	476	529	Developed Area Interface	7,032	7,021	6,527
Existing Wilderness	8	8	8	Existing Wilderness	936	936	936
Recommended Wilderness	0	41,065	67,715	Recommended Wilderness	5,306	5,306	338,011
Cleveland	Acres	Acres	Acres	San Bernardino	Acres	Acres	Acres
Back Country	6,180	1,879	1,748	Back Country	6,882	394	377
Back Country Motorized Use Restricted	5,666	3,396	2,353	Back Country Motorized Use Restricted	2,813	609	625
Back Country Non-Motorized	68,187	34,898	6,131	Back Country Non-Motorized	20,332	29,691	155
Critical Biological	507	507	0	Critical Biological	0	0	0
Developed Area Interface	3,000	1,321	1,316	Developed Area Interface	1,440	773	773
Existing Wilderness	0	0	0	Existing Wilderness	11	11	11
Recommended Wilderness	0	41,539	71,991	Recommended Wilderness	18,218	18,218	47,755

This Proposed Amendment to the Land Management Plan is part of the Settlement Agreement approved January 3, 2011, in the case of California Resources Agency, et al vs. United States Department of Agriculture, and Center for Biological Diversity, et al vs. United States Department of Agriculture.

Public Meetings

The four national forests will be hosting multiple open houses during the 90-day comment period that began February 15. The content and format of each meeting will be identical; however each forest will be presenting information specific to the local area. Meetings will begin with an open house where Forest Service staff will be available to answer questions about the Draft SEIS. A brief presentation will begin 30 minutes after the meeting opens, followed by an opportunity to ask questions. Maps of the alternatives will be available for viewing. Forest Service staff officers will be available to answer questions, and maps of the proposed changes will be available for viewing. The upcoming meeting times and locations are:

- April 9, 2013, 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Mt. Pinos Ranger District office, 34580 Lockwood Valley Road, Frazier Park, CA 93225
- April 10, 2013, 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Southern California Edison, 103 David Love Place, Goleta, CA 93117 (Hosted by Los Padres National Forest)

How to Comment

The public is encouraged to participate in the process. Comments should be received within 90 days of the publication of the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register. The Notice was published on Friday, February 15, 2013, and the comment period closes on Thursday, May 16, 2013.

Comments may be sent via e-mail to: socal_nf_lmp_amendment@fs.fed.us, or filed through the project web page at: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=35130.

Send written comments to: Cleveland National Forest/ 10845 Rancho Bernardo Road/ Suite 200, San Diego/ CA 92127-2107/ ATTN: LMP Amendment

For further information, contact Project Manager Bob Hawkins at: socal_nf_lmp_amendment@fs.fed.us or visit the project website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php?project=35130>.

Johnson Valley Record of Decision Released

Department of the Navy Announces Selection of Alternative 6

Despite strong public opposition and a sequester that will have tens of billions from the Pentagon budget this year, the Marines are asking Congress to approve an acquisition of 168,151 additional acres. The expansion will cost taxpayers hundreds of millions. More than \$120 Million alone will be required to buy out existing mining claims. The Marines also estimate the expansion will require adding 110 new personnel despite looming budget cuts.

"The Marines have an alternative that would meet their training purposes and wouldn't require spending millions buying out public rights to public land. So the question remains; if they can't afford it and they don't really need it, why continue with this expansion when faced with forced reductions and looming budget cuts?" asked Dave Cole, founder of "King of The Hammers", a popular off road event that attracts more than 30,000 spectators annually to Johnson Valley. The alternative that Cole references is outlined in the Marines Environmental Impact Statement regarding base expansion as proposed Alternative.

In releasing the ROD, Marines have largely ignored more than 40,000 comments of opposition as well as a Congressional bill signed into law in late 2012 requiring the Marines further investigate the economic impact of expansion. Despite the Congressional bill, the Marines presented a report to Congress last week that continued to cite data from 2004 with no additional research conducted by the Marines (6).

"In 2004, the economy was strong and we were looking for Bin Laden. Nine years later we are leaving Afghanistan, facing dire economic conditions at home and grasping to save what is left of our public lands," said Fred Wiley, CEO of the Off Road Business Association. He continued by saying, "For the Marines to cite outdated data as justification for expansion is irresponsible. We hope Congress sees through this and fails to approve an expensive and unnecessary expansion."

The Marines are expected to seek congressional approval as part of the 2014 National Defense Authorization Act.

Forest Plan Revision for California Forests Based on New Planning Rule Moves Forward

California's Inyo, Sequoia and Sierra National Forests will begin revising their Forest Plans based on the new Forest Planning Rule.

"These forests will demonstrate straight out of the gate what we've been talking about in terms of collaboration," said U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell. "People will see that under a new rule, public engagement increases and process decreases, all while providing stronger protections for our lands and water."

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

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

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

Letter to the Editor

This message is for all CORVA members. If you would like to contribute your Off-Roading experience or your experience of fighting for Off-Road access to the ORIA newsletter, we would be glad to hear it. It will be published in our future "Letter to the Editor" section. Just send an attached document by email to editor@corva.org with the subject "Letter to the Editor. Feel free to give us your opinions on the newsletter as well. Let your voice be heard!

Save the Date: CORVA Annual Meeting May 18th

All CORVA Members should attend the Annual Meeting on May 18th in Visalia California. This is a great opportunity for you to get involved in what we do, including voting for several key Board of Directors positions, and voting for by-law changes. See the ad on page 2 for more information.



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The following are requests for 2013 CORVA Bylaw's changes/amendments to be voted on at the CORVA Annual Meeting 2013 May 18, 2013 - Visalia, CA – All Club representatives and members are encouraged to attend.

Submitted by Katherine Kelsey, Request for removal of:

ARTICLE VI

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 8: Term Limits

No Officer may serve more than three (3) consecutive terms in the same position.

Reason: To force them to be removed from their board position or switch titles with another board position is not to CORVA's advantage.

Submitted by Amy Granat:

1. Proposal to change Article VI, Section 3, Subsection A of current by-law that reads: "He/She shall also act as an advisor for the Board of Directors for one (1) year after completion of his/her term of office." to read: **"He/She shall also act as an advisor for the Board of Directors until there is a new Past-President"**.
2. Proposal to raise dues for supporting members to \$40.00 a year. **The specific amount of supporting membership dues is not in the by-laws, but notification to members upon consideration of a change must be made 30 days in advance of the meeting.** I propose this change be made at this year's Annual Meeting, and be noticed in the ORIA starting with the next issue. See Section V, Section 1 for details.
3. Proposal to change Article V, Section 2 from: "Dues for Associate Membership shall be a minimum donation of \$365.00 per year. Dues shall be payable within sixty (60) days of expiration date." to: **"Dues for Business Affiliates shall be set by the VP of Marketing in consultation with the President.**
4. Proposal to change Article IV, Section 1, Subsection B from: Associate Membership to **Business Affiliate Membership. And anywhere in the by-laws where the words "Associate Membership" are mentioned, change the wording to read "Business Affiliate"**.
5. Proposal to change Article VI, Section 3, Subsection K, Section 8 "Term Limits" from: "No Officer may serve more than three (3) consecutive terms in the same position." to add another sentence: **"Upon approval of a 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors, an Officer of the Board may have his/her term extended. Each additional term of (2) years must have a separate vote."**

The current CORVA Bylaws can be viewed at: <http://www.corva.org/pages.php?pageid=59>

Continued from Page 1

Countering the Attack (Continued)

C. Identify Your Audience, Supporters, and Opponents: Each component must be identified. Too often we have depended on certain politicians or political parties to protect our sports and access. As the tides change in the state and around the country, our tactics and supporters need to change as well. Our potential supporters include many moderates, people who have enjoyed motorized sports yet have not come forward with their support. Moderates, fence sitters, the vast middle ground; these individuals and groups must be cultivated by attending local meetings, Boards of Supervisor meetings, Rotary Club, PTA meetings, if appropriate – anywhere people in your community gather to meet is a potential venue. We tend to react after a crisis hits, but in this case we have to prepare ourselves before a crisis hits.

D. Assess Potential Partners, Form a Coalition: We are much more powerful in a large group than if we stand alone. A word on Coalitions: Coalitions require compromise; be willing to compromise as you ask others to do the same. Effective advocacy requires everyone to have the same goal, but does not require everyone to have a single view. It does require partners agree to deliver a clear and articulate message. Look for:

1. Problem solvers.
2. Speakers.
3. Rapid Response Mechanisms.

E. Map Out Strategies: Identify strategies to create, expand, depend and employ relationships. Determine what specific problems are facing your community:

1. Identify terrain: is the topography desert or forest?
2. Identify timing: are you planning short term and long term?
3. Identify weak spots and strengths: work towards neutralizing potential attacks.

F. Check Your Message: The qualities that appeal to you personally in off-road recreation might not appeal to others. Look for commonalities in your audience:

1. Are they racers or families, 4WD or ATV, rockhounds or hunters?
2. Ask questions rather than relate your own off-road experiences and offer rides if appropriate.
3. Try to see through another's lens, and keep your own history in check.

G. Determine if Their Criticism is Valid: While decrying attempts to 'outlaw' off-road activities is good, we also want to turn an eye on our own activities and make sure that we support signage and work to keep off-road recreation and access on designated roads and trails

It is difficult at times to hear of the callous disregard some have exhibited in the pursuit to defame and demonize motorized access, but in order to differentiate the imagined from the real, we have to be willing to look at some tough truths and develop programs that address those specific issues.

H. Engage, Engage, Engage: Often times we wait for someone else to give us permission to act – that is not necessary. As a member of CORVA you have the ability to speak as an advocate for off-road recreation. Don't miss a chance to make a difference; every off-roader should be an advocate. Through your passion and the love of your sport you can convey more than you think!

1. Reflection: As you speak, reflect what other people are saying. Especially if they have an objection to off-road recreation, it is critical to repeat their statements back in an attempt to clarify. Sometimes hearing their own criticisms from someone else's mouth will make them pause and listen to how discriminatory the statement might sound.
2. Mediate: If faced with vehement objections, try to find a middle ground, stay positive.

I. Stay Connected to News Sources and Networks: Don't ignore the news; we may not like it, but we have to deal with it. Build and strengthen relationships. Follow through and follow up.

J. Evaluate, Applaud Successes, Reward Advocates, Invest in What Works: Revisions in strategy are constant; evaluations to determine successes determine the next steps in many instances. We learn the most when we reassess. Use the magic words of 'please' and 'thank you'.

ESCARABAJO



OFF ROAD CLUB

34th Annual Off Road Rally

**Escarabajo Off Road Club
& East Bay Hi-Tailers present**

“34 Let’s Play Some More”

FRANK RAINES PARK

April 20, 2013



REGISTER NOW!

- Fill out the form below and mail it in with a check payable to “Escarabajo Off Road Club”.
- If you are registering more than one vehicle, please make a copy of this form and mail it in together with your check.
- Pre-Registration must be received by Friday, April 12th!

Mail completed form(s) with your check to:

**Escarabajo Off Road Club
c/o Ralph Warbington
3131 Gloria Terrace
Lafayette, CA 94549**

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 ATVs

Club Affiliation?: _____

Registration confirmation will be sent by email.

By including your email address above you will save Escarabajo \$\$\$ on postage!

PRE-REGISTER AND RUN THE RALLY FOR A DISCOUNTED PRICE!

Saturday Rally Pre-Registration Pricing:

Adults - Per Vehicle: **\$20.00**

Kids (15 and under) on ATVs/MC: **\$15.00**

Dinner by East Bay Hi-Tailers on Saturday:

TRI TIP, POTATO, SALAD, ROLL & DESERT

Adult - \$12.00 Kids (10 and under) - \$6.00

Rally Adults _____ x \$20.00 = \$ _____

Rally Kids _____ x \$15.00 = \$ _____

(15 and under on ATVs & MC)

Dinner Adults _____ x \$12.00 = \$ _____

Dinner Kids _____ x \$6.00 = \$ _____

(10 and under)

Total: \$ _____

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: First Aid Kit, Tow Strap,
 Spare Tire, Fire Extinguisher

**Event located at:
 Frank Raines Park
 16001 Del Puerto Canyon Rd
 Patterson, CA 95363**

Visit our websites at:
www.EscarabajoOffRoadClub.com
www.ebht.com

Email: EscarabajoBuggyClub@gmail.com

Email: More_Info_Please@ebht.org

EVENT T-SHIRTS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE EVENT!



Registration will also be available at the event at Frank Raines Park

Prices at the event will be:

Saturday Rally – Adults – Per Vehicle: **\$25**

Kids (15 and under) on ATVs/MC: **\$15**

Registration includes Hot Dog, Chips and Drink for the Registered Driver.

Registration # _____

Paid Ck # _____

For Official Use Only

Thanksgiving Week at Dumont Dunes

Diana Mead, Northern Director

For years Escarabajo Buggy Club has hosted a Thanksgiving run at Dumont for our sand runners and Stonyford for those who needed to stay closer to home or prefer dirt, mud or snow! Over time, our membership has shifted and with Stonyford now closed, “change”, is the operative word.

And change just kept happening.



A significant change this year was the type of vehicles we saw present. Our camp in November had motorhomes, fifth wheels, trailers, campers and one race rig. Groups came and went with the various date obligations we all have these days. UTV’s, quads and motorcycles in addition to the usual buggies were part of the mix.

This year, our turkey was cooked in a generator-powered rotisserie instead of a weber or a sand pit. More fruits and salads joined the requisite yams and mashed potatoes.

As is their tradition, the LA based Dune Masters still ran each morning at 7:30, allowing all to join, as long as the were on time and fell into line behind club members. The only change here was the long line of quads and UTVs bringing up the rear of the long line snaking along the dunes.

In an unfortunate example of change this year, the BLM shut down the planned Saturday sand drags and snail runs, sponsored by the Dune Masters, because they had failed to acquire the needed permit to run an organized event. It seems that the BLM had clearly warned them in 2011 that a permit would be needed. This is one of those bureaucratic policies established to prevent accidents, ensure safety and assign liability away from government entities. However, there is no “wobble room” for a club sanctioned event, limited to club members, despite the fact that there were no payouts, entry fees, or spectator fees. In other words, no promoter and no profit. The permit does cost money besides the cost of the required insurance. So the pendulum swings and the unintended consequences prevail. A real risk is mitigated, and unintentionally, the recreation and tradition of a group who has safely operated for decades, is compromised.

The weakened economy also brought some changes. Although there were still many groups scattered around the base, they were much smaller. There were bargains to be found at vendor row, but fewer vendors. Most recreationists did not spend as much time as they might have done in prior years. Those who have jobs cannot get as much time off, and those who are unemployed have to stretch their dollars.

One of the sun drenched days, we put dirt tires on our rail and headed out Amargosa Canyon then made our way to China Ranch. This still active date farm has a long history. We enjoyed date milk shakes, date nut bread, date cookies, and date candy...oh and learned a bit about date farming! Our off highway group included two rails, three quads and six UTV’s.

Each day and night we spent at Dumont was beautiful with mild temperatures and little wind. That is a welcome change for the area. All in all, it was a fun weekend of off-roading at one of the great venues in southern California.



We are pleased to let out members know that Amy Granat, CORVA's Managing Director, will be speaking at the following Land Use Seminar and welcomes all our CORVA friends and members to come by and say hello!

Our Public Lands

By Dick Pankey, PLAC-North Committee

One of the most important things that a rockhound can do to secure the future access and use of our public lands is to participate in all aspects of the Land Use Planning process. There are many well funded anti-access organizations committed to restricting and eliminating our access. They have paid staffs and a well organized membership base that is passionate and committed to their goals. And they participate in the Land Use Management Process. It is time that the rockhounds took a page from that play book and got involved.

The Public Lands Advisory Committee-North is conducting the "Land Use Planning Seminar - How to effectively participate in the land use planning process" on April 27, 2013 at the Stanislaus County Fairgrounds in Turlock, CA. We have published numerous articles about the planning process and the seminar, and today I am asking you to attend and to become involved. The CFMS Newsletter typically is sent to only 3 individuals in each society and the information in it has a hard time reaching the rest of the society. So to whomever is reading this I have a special request: Share the information about this seminar with your board and your membership, give it to your Editor, Field Trip Leader, and your Public Lands person and encourage someone in your society to attend.

This seminar will:

- Explain Land Use Plans, Resource Management Plans, Travel Management Plans (LUP's, RMP's, TMP's) – What are they? How do they affect you?
- Explain how the BLM and USFS manage the lands under their responsibilities.
- Explain the planning processes and how the process works for the BLM and the USFS. What are the similarities and the differences?
- Show you how to participate and give you the tools to participate in the process.
- Empower you to participate and contribute.

My hope for this seminar is that at least one member from each society will attend and take back what they learned to their society, then involve their members in the LUP process for their area and collecting sites.

We are fortunate to have 3 outstanding speakers for this seminar:

Dr. Gregg Wilkerson from the BLM Bakersfield District Office will be the lead presenter. Many of you will remember Dr. Wilkerson from the Claim Seminars that we had a few years ago. Dr. Wilkerson will explain the LUP process and give us details and examples on how we can participate. Mick Hunerlach, Mining Geologist and Region 5 Liaison will present the US Forest Service perspective of the LUP process and how we can participate with the USFS planning process. Amy Granat is the Managing Director for the California Off Road Vehicle Association (CORVA). She and her organization are active participants with LUP's and TMP's with several BLM and FS Districts in California. We will learn how to do it from someone who is doing it.

Since the seminar is an all day event starting early Saturday morning we have arranged for camping for Friday and Saturday nights on the Fairground. Betty and I will arrive on Friday afternoon to welcome campers and will be staying Saturday night so that we don't have to rush home after a full day. We will have an informal get-together each evening.

The PLAC-North's "Land Use Planning Seminar - How to effectively participate in the land use planning process" is hosted by the Mother Lode Mineral Society. See the February CFMS Newsletter for the announcement with the details.

For more information about the seminar, the LUP process, how to get involved and participate, and to reserve your spot at this important seminar, e-mail me at dickpankey@juno.com (preferred) or phone me at 925-439-7509 no later than April 24th.

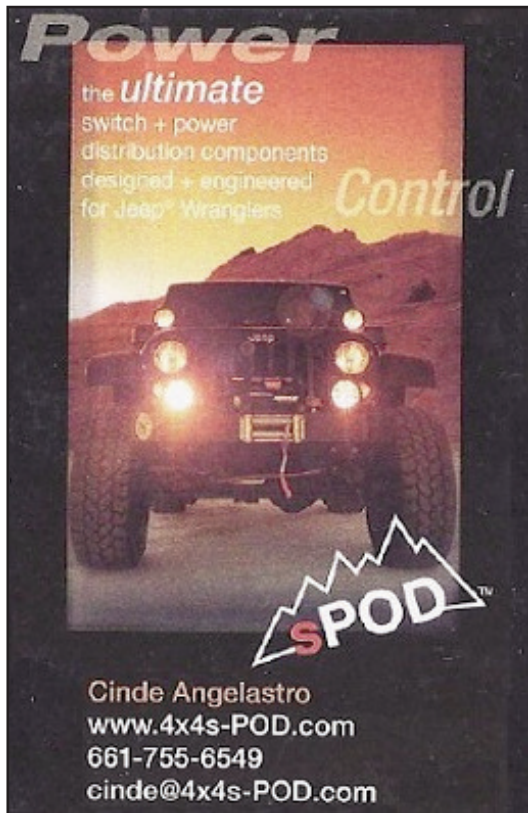
Managing Director's Report

by Amy Granat

CORVA Fights for You!

During my time as an OHV Advocate I have been called many names; some complimentary, and others less so. One of the most amusing moments came when I found out other OHV groups considered me a "hard-nosed" advocate for opposing, (as a general rule), new Wilderness and Wild and Scenic River designations proposed by federal land use agencies. I consider that a compliment, and a reflection on CORVA's purpose to keep public land open to the public. Recently I had an equally complimentary experience. One very highly placed member of Governor Brown's administration introduced me as one of the most effective OHV advocates in the state. Besides being a terrific compliment, this is a reflection of the passion all the CORVA board members feel about representing you at the city, county, state and federal level.

Our board members travel all over to try and represent the rest of our members by being on the spot at important meetings. This requires dedication, time and a willingness to travel, coupled with an underlying goal to make a difference. Anyone who feels the problems facing motorized recreation could benefit from his or her experience and knowledge is welcome to join our board and our yearly meeting on May 18th in Visalia, California, is the perfect opportunity to see what we're all about.



Our efforts as a board follow the direction that you, our members, give us on an everyday basis. Many of our members were upset with the bill passed last year that affected use of side-by-side vehicles, so together with CORVA long-time member Bob Ham, we investigated the options for passing another bill to further amend some of the issues our members found most objectionable. SB234, written with the assistance of Mr Ham and introduced by Senator Mimi Walters, strives to combine the safety measures introduced and promoted by now Congressman Paul Cook with common sense alternatives to correct some of the issues not addressed last year. As CORVA we listened to our members, and did what you asked!

Advocacy, Education, and Representation. The three 'buzzwords' that we use to describe CORVA's efforts as an organization. We advocate for continued motorized access, with the underlying goal of opening new OHV areas, roads and trails. We educate enthusiasts to make a difference in their local areas by holding Comments Project Workshops around the state. We have now held workshops throughout California, and Comments Project Webinars for enthusiasts engaged in land use battles, in Arizona and Oregon. We may be the California Off-Road Vehicle Association, but we help all those who call and need our assistance. And last but certainly not least, CORVA represents you at every opportunity, holding the line as best as possible against those who seek to shut down motorized access on public land in California. It is a tall order, and may be somewhat of a David vs. Goliath battle, but the inequity we feel when faced with those large legal machines representing extreme environmental organizations fuels the fire of indignation that empowers us to stand up for off-road recreational and motorized access.

Oftentimes CORVA represents the voice of reason in a discussion over land use. More and more, federal and state agencies are realizing that shutting people out of public land is not the answer, and they resent the legal bullying that seems to be the stock in trade answer to every issue by groups such as the Sierra Club, Wilderness Society and others. It behooves us to remain an unwavering force for off-road and motorized access, in this way our members know that we will not betray their wish for continued motorized access.

If you appreciate all we have done, let your friends and neighbors know. If you have questions, ideas or want to serve as a member of our Board of Directors, let us know. We are only as effective as the number of our members and the strength of our donations. It is a symbiotic relationship - we depend on you to give us the wherewithal to continue fighting our battles, and you depend on us to keep the areas you know and love open to motorized access. Thanks to all our members, we appreciate all your membership, donations and your help.

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April:

- 4/20 34th Annual Off Road Rally at Frank Raines Park (see ad on page 12).
- 4/20-21 Ventura County Off-Road Show at Ventura County Fairgrounds in Ventura, CA (see ad on page 16).
- 4/27 17th Annual Moose Anderson Day at Jawbone Station (see ad on page 5)

May:

- 5/18 CORVA Annual Meeting in Visalia, CA (see ad on page 10).

FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT THE CORVA WEB SITE WWW.CORVA.ORG

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