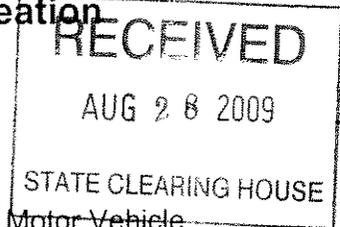


**NOTICE OF INTENT
TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

**California Department of Parks and Recreation
Over Snow Vehicle Snow Program
Challenge Cost Share Agreements**



The California Department of Parks and Recreation Off-Highway ~~Motor Vehicle~~ Recreation (OHMVR) Division, 1725 23rd Street, Suite 200, Sacramento, California is the Lead Agency for the Over Snow Vehicle Snow Program Challenge Cost Share Agreements project. The Division has prepared an Initial Study/Negative Declaration finding that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment. No mitigation is required.

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15072, the OHMVR Division will mail this notice of intent to the name and address of all organizations and individuals who have requested such notice in writing, and will also give notice of intent by at least one of the following procedures to allow the public the 30-day review period provided under Section 15105 of the CEQA Guidelines:

- # Publication at least one time by the OHMVR Division in a newspaper of general circulation in the area;
- # Posting of notice by the OHMVR Division on and off site in the area where the project is to be located; or
- # Direct mailing to the owners and occupants of the property contiguous to the project.

Project Description :

National Forests throughout California offer winter recreation trails and parks to the public for snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and play. Plowing of local access roads and trailhead parking lots, grooming trails, and light maintenance of facilities (e.g., restroom cleaning, garbage collection) are the essential elements of the Snow Program that keep the National Forests open for winter recreation use.

For the upcoming 2009/2010 winter season, OHMVR Division proposes snow program funding through Cost Share Agreements (CSA) in 11 National Forests for the operation, maintenance and grooming of winter recreation trails and trailheads within the Project Area. Three county agencies would also receive funds to assist the National Forests with the Snow Program. The groomed trails are predominately maintained for snowmobile or over snow vehicle (OSV) use; however, limited ATV users, Nordic skiers, and snowshoers can also use the parking areas and groomed trail systems.

The CSA funded activities (the Project) occur in National Forests located throughout the mountainous regions of California. The project locations extend from the Oregon border (Klamath and Modoc National Forests) south towards Bakersfield (Sequoia National Forest). The roads and trails are generally located between Elevations 5,500 and 7,500 feet. In total, the Project involves plowing 62 miles of access road, plowing and maintaining 27 trailhead parking areas, and grooming 1,721 miles of trail. Table 1 (attached) identifies the National

Forests and County agencies receiving the CSAs and summarizes the project locations and activities.

Project Applicant: California Department of Parks and Recreation
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division
1725 23rd Street, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95816

Comment Period: In accordance with CEQA, CDPR is soliciting comments on the adequacy and completeness of the analysis described in the IS/ND for the project. The public comment period begins on August 28, 2009 and ends on September 28, 2009 at 5 p.m. No public meeting will be held. CDPR shall consider the IS and all written comments received by the close of the comment period prior to deciding whether to adopt the ND or approve the project.

Document Availability: The Negative Declaration and Initial Study are attached to this Public Notice. Additional copies of the Initial Study/Negative Declaration will be available at the following location on August 28, 2009.

California Department of Parks and Recreation
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division
1725 23rd Street, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95816

Electronic copies of all documents can be viewed and downloaded from CDPR's website at http://www.ohv.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1233

How to Comment: Interested parties may provide written comments on the IS/ND, which must be **received** by CDPR no later than 5 p.m. on September 28, 2009. Written comments on the IS/ND may be provided by email to clatham@parks.ca.gov or be sent via fax or U.S. mail to the following address/fax number:

Attn: Connie Latham
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division
1725 23rd Street, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95816
(916) 324-3358
(916) 324-1610 (fax)