

News Release



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Governor Appoints New Head of California's Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division

Governor Jerry Brown today announced the appointment of Colonel Christopher C. Conlin, USMC (Ret) to the position of Deputy Director of the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division of California State Parks.

"Chris is an experienced leader who will bring different interest groups together," said Major General Jackson, director of California State Parks. "He will lead the off-highway vehicle program as it continues to balance outstanding recreational opportunities with the need to preserve, protect and sustain valuable natural resources within our parks."

Colonel Conlin will assume his duties as deputy director on April 8. Conlin comes to California State Parks following a 30 year career in the United States Marine Corps. During this time, he led multiple large organizations with diverse missions as challenging as front line combat units and as complex as multinational/interagency coalitions. He is seen as a subject matter expert in leadership, complex team /coalition building, operational decision making, strategic planning, and crisis management. Since his retirement in June 2011, he has been an independent consultant for mission focused leadership. He is a native of Quantico, Virginia, and a graduate of the University of Rochester, majoring in Political Science and International Relations.

The deputy director position at the OHV Division has been vacant since December 2011. The chief of the division, Phil Jenkins, has been the acting deputy director during this time and will remain as the OHV Division Chief under the new deputy director.

The Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Program, a division of the California Department of Parks and Recreation, was created in 1971. It manages 8 State Vehicle Recreation Areas throughout the State of California. It is the largest such program of its type in the United States, providing accessibility to off-highway recreation.

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