



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Commission
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OHMVR COMMISSION MEETING

Bakersfield, CA

June 17, 2026

STAFF REPORT: Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area

STAFF:

SUBJECT: Litigation Update and Required Action to Comply with Court Ruling

Summary

On October 24, 2024, the Commission adopted Resolution OHV-24-01 certifying the Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area Final Environmental Impact Report (“EIR”) and Resolution OHV-24-02 approving the General Plan Update for Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area. The Department of Parks and Recreation, the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division, and the Commission (collectively “State Park”) were named as “Respondents” in a lawsuit challenging the Commission’s October 24, 2024, actions, *Connolly Ranch, Inc., et al., v. State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation, et al.*, Sacramento Superior Court No. 24WM000175. Following briefing and a hearing on the merits, the court issued a Ruling on March 10, 2026, in which it held in State Parks’ favor on all issues except adequacy of the alternatives in the General Plan Update EIR. The court determined Respondents, did not comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) requirement to consider alternatives to the proposed project.

Based on the one area of lack of CEQA compliance, the Judgment grants the request of petitioners Connolly Ranch, Inc., and Connolly-Garamendi, LLC, for a Peremptory Writ of Mandate ordering State Parks to rescind Resolutions OHV-24-01 and OHV-24-02, thereby setting aside the 2024 Final EIR certification and General Plan Update approval. The Peremptory Writ of Mandate was served on State Parks on March 26, 2026. Action by the Commission to adopt Resolution OHV-26-02 is necessary for State Parks to comply with the Judgment and Peremptory Writ of Mandate.

The Department and the Division are in the process of preparing the necessary revised EIR materials for circulation as required by the California Environmental Quality Act. Staff will bring the revised Final EIR back to the Commission at a future meeting for further action.

Commission Action

Staff recommend that the Commission adopt Resolution OHV-26-02, to comply with the court requirements.

Attachment

1. Resolution OHV-26-02, Rescission of Resolution OHV-24-01 (Final Environmental Impact Report for Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area) and Resolution OHV-24-02 (Approval of General Plan Update for Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area)