**BLM - El Centro Field Office**

Comments submitted by the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division to individual Grant Applicants should in no way be construed as a guarantee of successful results for the Applicant within the competitive Grants process or a commitment of funding. Additionally, the lack of comments by the OHMVR Division to any specific Applicant does not ensure successful results for the Applicant within the competitive Grant process or a commitment of funding.

All final Applications will be reviewed by the OHMVR Division. The OHMVR Division may, at its sole discretion, decrease the requested amount and eliminate activities pursuant with regulation Section 4970.07.2 (f)(1-5) and for law enforcement Projects, regulation Section 4970.15.3(b)(1-5).

Failure by Applicant to respond to any OHMVR Division comment of their preliminary Application may be cause for eliminating that item from the Applicant’s Application.

If multiple proposed Projects are requesting funding for the same deliverable, and multiple projects are successful, only one project will receive funding for the deliverable.

For proposed Projects requesting Grant funding for snow and/or winter activities. Applicants must ensure the activities and/or Equipment/Heavy Equipment requested are not and/or cannot be funded by the Department’s Winter Program (commonly referred to as the Snow Grooming Program).

For proposed Projects requesting Grant funding for the maintenance of roads and/or trails, note that only roads and/or trails that allow “green sticker” Off-Highway Vehicles are allowed to receive Grant funding.

Applicants are reminded that no Grant funds and/or match can be expended, or Project activities conducted in any land owned or managed by the Department except as allowed in the Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program regulations section 4970.09 (b)(10).

**General Evaluation Criteria**

* #2-5 – Applicant must verify responses by final submission.
* #11a – Narrative does not support the selection of “Bulletin boards, signs, or kiosks…”. Applicant must state how kiosks provide information on “concerning safe and responsible OHV Recreation”.
* #11b – Narrative does not support the selection. “Plan” to provide hosted onsite formal programs is insufficient. Applicant must state “scheduled events”.
* #13 – Applicant must verify responses by final submission.

**Ground Operations G23-01-09-G01**

**Project Description - Background**

* No comment.

**Project Description – Project Description**

* No comment.

**Project Description – List of Project Deliverables**

* #7 – Applicant is reminded that a Habitat Management Program report must be submitted with their Final Application if the Division disagrees with the Applicant’s assessment that no Ground Disturbing Activities contain any risk factors to the following: Special-status species, sensitive habitats.

**Project Description – All Others**

* No comment.

**Project Cost Estimate**

* Staff #2 “Biologist” – Applicant’s notes are inaccurate and need to be revised. Rate did not decrease from previous year’s Application.
* Staff #3 “Equipment Operator” – Applicant’s notes are inaccurate and need to be revised. Rate did not increase from previous year’s Application.

**Evaluation Criteria**

* #3 – Project Description section and narrative do not support the selections of “Maintaining trails that provide for multiuse” and “Providing varied levels of riding”. Applicant must provide example(s) of the activities performed as part of the Project to support the selections.
* #4 – Narrative does not support the selections. Applicant must identify the date of the public meeting. In addition, stakeholder meetings conducted via phone are not eligible. Public and stakeholder(s) meetings must be in person or virtual.
* #5 – Applicant must clarify if all areas listed within the narrative are within the Project Area (Imperial Sand Dunes).
* #8 – Background and/or Project Description sections do not support the selections. Applicant states non-motorized recreational opportunities within BLM – El Centro Field Office but does not clearly state if those opportunities are accessed by motorized use within the Project Area where trail maintenance is being performed.

**Education & Safety G23-01-12-S01**

**Project Description - Background**

* No comment.

**Project Description – Project Description**

* No comment.

**Project Description – List of Project Deliverables**

* No comment.

**Project Description – All Others**

* No comment.

**Project Cost Estimate**

* Staff #3 “Park Ranger/ Emergency Med Tech” – Applicant must provide additional information on why the “Rate” is higher for this line item compared to- Staff #2 "Park Ranger/ Advanced EMT". In addition, cost significantly increased compared to prior year’s Application. Applicant must provide additional details to justify the cost.

**Evaluation Criteria**

* #6 – Narrative does not support the selections. Applicant stated the public meeting was held virtually. The Applicant did not notify the Division prior to the virtual meeting. In addition, stakeholder meetings conducted via phone are not eligible. Public and stakeholder(s) meetings must be in person or virtual.

**Law Enforcement G23-01-09-L01**

**Needs Assessment**

* No comment.

**Project Certification**

* No comment.

**Project Cost Estimate**

* Staff #1 & 3 – Applicant’s notes are inaccurate and need to be revised. The quantity of hours did not increase compared to previous year’s Application.