



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division

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**OHMVR COMMISSION MEETING
Bakersfield, CA**

June 17, 2026

STAFF REPORT: Law Enforcement / Public Safety

STAFF: Luke Ware, Public Safety Superintendent

SUBJECT: Law Enforcement Update

Summary

This report provides updates on various activities of the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division law enforcement staff. These activities include Grant Workshop participation, recent and upcoming law enforcement deployments, off-highway vehicle (OHV) law enforcement training for Basic Visitor Services Training classes, and updated statistics for State Vehicular Recreation Areas (SVRAs).

Discussion

Law Enforcement Grant Workshops

Along with staff from the Grants Section, OHMVR Division law enforcement staff participated in the annual Grant Workshop this January. During these workshops, grantees receive instruction on how to apply for, write, and administer OHV-related grants, and are given the opportunity to ask for advice on what equipment, rehabilitation techniques, and other industry trends the experts from the OHMVR Division are seeing.

Law Enforcement Deployments

OHMVR Division law enforcement staff participated in deployments for King of the Hammers event at Johnson Valley and the bi-annual closure of the Johnson Valley share use area. Once again OHMVR Division staff, along with other State Park Peace Officers from around the state, helped supporting these annual events. Officers will assist Bureau of Land Management (BLM) law enforcement Rangers, San Bernardino County Sheriff's Deputies, and members of the U.S. Marine Corps from Twentynine Palms in the safe conduct of race activities throughout the week. In addition to law enforcement staff, OHMVR Division sent elements of the Interpretation and Outreach section once again.

Basic Visitor Services Training Classes

State Parks Basic Visitor Services Training class (BVSTs) 52 just graduated on April 10th. The class, BVST 52, has a total of 36 Cadets, of which 3 will be assigned to State

Vehicle Recreation Areas (SVRA). The BVST is State Parks P.O.S.T. approved law enforcement academy that runs between 30-35 weeks (depending on training cycles). During this training, Ranger and Lifeguard Cadets are instructed in 42 different topics (or learning domains) that directly relate to their new careers as State Park Peace Officers. In addition to the P.O.S.T curriculum, Cadets receive additional instruction above and beyond what normal police officer cadets receive. This additional training is what sets them apart and allows them to succeed in the challenging varied environments found in State Parks.

To this end, OHMVR Division law enforcement staff provided both classroom and field training in the areas of OHV laws and OHV vehicle operation. This training will allow those officers who will be assigned to SVRAs and those who may have OHV recreation in their immediate area, to effectively enforce OHV laws.

Law Enforcement Statistics for SVRAs

The statistics provided in this report are specific to OHV recreation and may include some crimes and violations that are required to be reported to the California Department of Justice (DOJ) on an annual basis. There are also statistics in this report that are not reportable to DOJ but have a bearing on SVRA operation, such as medical response.

The statistics from the SVRAs are from January 2025 to December 2025. Statistical data at the SVRA's can be affected by staffing, and closures for fires and weather events.

Oceano Dunes SVRA:

DUI Arrests - 26
Citations issued- 146
Medical Injuries - 8
Fatalities - 1

Onyx Ranch SVRA:

DUI Arrests - 0
Citations issued- 62
Medical Injuries - 1
Fatalities - 0

Hungry Valley SVRA:

DUI Arrests - 2
Citations issued- 83
Medical Injuries - 20
Fatalities - 0

Prairie City SVRA:

DUI Arrests - 4
Citations issued- 23
Medical Injuries - 2
Fatalities - 0

Hollister Hills SVRA:

DUI Arrests - 11
Citations issued- 107
Medical Injuries - 73
Fatalities - 0

Carnegie SVRA:

DUI Arrests - 0
Citations issued- 2
Medical Injuries - 6
Fatalities - 0

Ocotillo Wells SVRA:

DUI Arrests - 4
Citations issued- 23
Medical Injuries - 57
Fatalities - 2

Heber Dunes SVRA:

DUI Arrests - 0
Citations issued- 0
Medical Injuries - 5
Fatalities - 0

Clay Pit SVRA:

DUI Arrests - 0
OHV Citations - 0
Non- OHV Citations - 0
Medical Injuries - 0
Fatalities - 0

Commission Action

For information only.

Attachments

None