



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division
PO Box 942896
Sacramento, California 94296

Armando Quintero, *Director*

OFF-HIGHWAY MOTOR VEHICLE RECREATION COMMISSION

STAFF REPORT COVER PAGE

Redding, CA

September 4, 2025

STAFF REPORT: Planning Program Update
STAFF: Katie Metraux, Strategic Planning and Recreation Services Division
SUBJECT: Status of Planning Efforts for State Vehicular Recreation Areas

I. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

No action needed. For information only.

II. BACKGROUND

Katie Metraux of the Department of Parks and Recreation Strategic Planning and Recreational Services Division will present a report highlighting several planning efforts underway within State Vehicular Recreation Areas (SVRAs).

The update includes information regarding Ocotillo Wells and Hungry Valley SVRA General Plan projects and the OHV Access Initiative.

III. ATTACHMENTS

- Staff Report
- SVRA General Plans Chart



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SUBJECT: Status of Planning Efforts for State Vehicular Recreation Areas

Summary

Ocotillo Wells and Hungry Valley State Vehicular Recreation Areas (SVRAs) are updating their park general plans. The OHV Access Initiative examines the potential for expanding OHV recreation across the state. This report outlines the purpose, process, and milestones of each project.

Discussion

The following summarizes recent SVRA and OHV planning projects and initiatives.

Hungry Valley SVRA General Plan Update

The Hungry Valley SVRA General Plan Update will provide a comprehensive management strategy for the park's approximately 19,625 acres. It is a blueprint for future decisions regarding land use, facilities, recreational opportunities, and the management of natural and cultural resources. The General Plan Update addresses changing conditions, analyzes the latest information and data, and incorporates lands added to the park since the existing 1981 General Plan was adopted.

The Hungry Valley SVRA General Plan has a project website at www.PlanHungryValley.com to facilitate public involvement and communication. Interested parties should visit the project website and register to receive email notifications regarding project progress.

The planning team published the Notice of Availability for the Preliminary General Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) on August 19, 2025, for public review and comment. The documents are available for viewing on the [planning webpage](#). Hard copies are also available at the following locations:

- Hungry Valley SVRA Park Office at 46001 Orwin Way, Gorman, CA 93243
- California State Library at 914 Capitol Mall, Room 300, Sacramento, CA 95814
- Frazier Park Public Library at 3732 Park Drive, Frazier Park, CA 93225

Public comments are being accepted on the environmental analysis in the Draft EIR for 45 days from August 18, 2025, to October 2, 2025. Please use the comment form on the website, or send your written responses, including the name of a contact person, to: Katie Metraux, Project Manager, P.O. Box 942896, Sacramento, California 92496 Email: info@PlanHungryValley.com. A virtual public scoping meeting will be held during the 45-day comment period on September 16th, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. Please visit the website linked above for instructions on how to attend the meeting.

Ocotillo Wells SVRA Plan

The Ocotillo Wells SVRA General Plan project began in 2008 to incorporate properties added to the SVRA and update policies and resource management requirements since the 1981 General Plan. In 2015, Ocotillo Wells SVRA and BLM's El Centro Field Office agreed to develop a joint general plan for the Ocotillo Wells SVRA/Ocotillo Wells Special Recreation Management Area. The project was paused in 2019 and resumed in 2024. In Summer 2025, BLM underwent a change in administrative direction and withdrew from the project. The Ocotillo Wells SVRA General Plan project will continue with a focus on providing management direction for state park-owned lands and will continue to manage approximately 26,000 acres of interconnected BLM parcels under an existing Memorandum of Understanding. The General Plan Project is expected to be completed by the fourth quarter of 2026.

OHV Access Initiative

In September 2021, [Senate Bill 155](#) (Ch. 258, Statutes of 2021) amended Public Resources Code (PRC) Section (§) [5090.42](#), directing the California Department of Parks and Recreation, popularly known as State Parks, to explore the acquisition and development of properties and opportunities to expand off-highway vehicle (OHV) recreation in new and existing facilities. This bill also recommends prioritizing opportunities that serve large urban areas, such as the Bay Area and Central Valley, and offer potential recreational opportunities for OHV recreation and motorized access to non-motorized recreation. State Parks have many options for expanding OHV recreation throughout the state – through acquisition, lease, land swap, partnership, donation, transfer, legislation, and other means as established in PRC §5005, 5006, et seq.

The next steps for this project include continued discussions with public land managers and a site feasibility study.

Commission Action

For information only

Attachments

SVRA General Plans Chart