**USFS - Eldorado National Forest**

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.
* #7b – Narrative does not support the selection. Applicant must clarify if Forest Protection Officers have citation authority.
* #7c – Narrative does not support the selection of “Barriers and/or signing used to prevent…”. Applicant must provide more details to support the selection.
* #8b – Narrative does not support the selections. Applicant must provide a detailed explanation for each resource management information system. In addition, Applicant must explain if their management information systems are managed by “qualified environmental staff”.
* #11a – Narrative does not support selections. Social media and website information is not eligible options for these selections. Applicant must provide additional information the type of free literature that provides safe and responsible OHV recreational practices. In addition, Applicant must state how signboards provide information on “concerning safe and responsible OHV Recreation”.
* #13 – Applicant must verify responses by final submission.

**Ground Operations G23-02-03-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 and/or a Soil Conservation Plan 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, or have the potential to cause erosion or sedimentation which significantly affects resource values beyond the Facilities, and/or generate soil loss that exceeds restorability.

***Project Description – All Others***

* No comment.

***Project Cost Estimate***

* Staff #1 “District Recreation Officers GS-9” – “Maintains documentation to be used in accomplishment reporting and monitoring” is considered an indirect activity as it does not directly relate to the completion of the Project. Applicant must move the verbiage for this activity and the cost associated with it to the Indirect Cost category.
* Staff #2 “District OHV Lead Technicians GS-7” – “Project accomplishment reporting” and “office work for documentation of accomplishments” are considered indirect activities as they do not directly relate to the completion of the Project. Applicant must move the verbiage for these activities and the cost associated with them to the Indirect Cost category.
* Staff #5 “GIS Specialists” – “Generates maps for the soils report” appears to be a Project activity for Projects with ground disturbing activity. Applicant stated in Deliverable #7 that the Project “does not include ground disturbing activities”. Applicant must explain this Project activity further or remove the verbiage for this activity and any cost associated with it.
* Contracts #1 “Dumpster Rental and Trash Disposal” – Applicant’s notes are inaccurate and need to be revised. There is no match in this line item. In addition, Applicant must spell out “FERC”.
* Contracts #4 “Staging Area/CG Toilet Pumping Service” – Applicant’s notes are inaccurate and need to be revised; rate did not increase from previous Application.
* Contracts #5 “Trail Crew Agreement” – Applicant must spell out “ACE”, “SCA”, and “ESCC”. In addition, “trail maintenance (including mechanized trail work)” appears to be a Project activity for Projects with ground disturbing activity. Applicant stated in Deliverable #7 that the Project “does not include ground disturbing activities”. Applicant must explain this Project activity further or remove the verbiage for this activity and any cost associated with it.
* Contracts #6 “OHV Intern Agreement” – Applicant must further clarify in its notes how line items amount for “Qty” and “Rate” were determined. In addition, Applicant’s notes are inaccurate and need to be revised; rate did not increase from previous Application.
* Equipment Use Expenses #1 “Vehicle Mileage” – Applicant is reminded Equipment fuel expenses are reimbursed based on actual cost, not per mile charge. If applicable, Applicant must describe in the notes section how fuel costs were determined (a per mile charge provided for the methodology would be acceptable) and change the unit of measurement to “Each” or “Miscellaneous.”
* Equipment Use Expenses #2 “Vehicle Fixed Operating Rate” – Applicant combined all Fixed Operating Rates (FOR) into one line-item. Applicant is reminded only actual costs for the FOR are reimbursed. Applicant must identify in the notes section a FOR rate for each vehicle type.
* Others #1 “Chainsaws & Polesaws” – Batteries are considered an indirect expense as they do not directly relate to the completion of the Project. Applicant must move the verbiage for this item and the cost associated with them to the Indirect Cost category.
* Others #3 “Portable Power Tools” – Gas can is considered an indirect expense as it does not directly relate to the completion of the Project. Applicant must move the verbiage for this item and the cost associated with it to the Indirect Cost category.

***Evaluation Criteria***

* #2 – Narrative does not support the selections “Negative impact to cultural sites”, “Damage to special-status species or other sensitive habitat”, and “Potential trespass” Applicant must provide additional details and/or example(s) for how “failure to complete the Project will result in…” for the unsupported selections.
* #3 – Narrative does not support the selections of “Maintaining trails that provide for multi-use”, “Installing or repairing erosion control features”, “Maintaining trail or road tread for single vehicle use”, and “providing varied levels of riding difficulty”. Applicant stated in Deliverable #7 that the Project “does not include ground disturbing activities”. The narratives describe activities that appear to be ground disturbing activities. Applicant must provide example(s) of Project activities being performed that support the selections and are not ground disturbing activities.
* #4 – Applicant must remove the selection of “The Applicant initiated and conducted publicly noticed meeting(s)”. Applicant stated the meeting was held virtually. The Applicant did not notify the Division prior to the virtual meeting.
* #6 – Narrative does not support the selections of “Protecting water quality” and “Providing sanitary facilities”. Applicant must provide example(s) of the activities performed in the Project that support the selections.
* #8 – Background and/ or Project Description sections do not support the selections. Applicant must provide information that supports the selections.