**USFS - Stanislaus 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.
* #11a – Narrative does not support the “Free literature...”. Applicant must provide additional detail substantiating “safe and responsible OHV recreational practices”.
* #13 – Applicant must verify responses by final submission.

**Ground Operations G23-02-19-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 #4 “OHV Managers” – Quantity significantly increased compared to prior year’s Application. Applicant must provide additional details to justify the quantity.
* Contracts #2 & 3 – Quantity significantly increased compared to prior year’s Application. Applicant must provide additional details to justify the quantity.
* Materials / Supplies #1, 3, 6, & 7 – Cost significantly increased compared to prior year’s Application. Applicant must provide additional details to justify the cost.
* Material / Supplies #8 “VIS / Interp Supplies” – Applicant must clarify what “informational media” is, and how does it relate to the completion of the Project.
* Equipment Use Expenses #1 “OHV Equipment Operation” – 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 “Heavy Equipment Operation” – Applicant is reminded expenses to rent/operate are reimbursed based on actual cost. In addition, Applicant appears to have reversed “Quantity” (Qty) and “Rate”. Applicant must clarify the correct quantity and rate.
* Equipment Use Expenses #5 “Truck/Trailer Operations” –Cost significantly increased compared to prior year’s Application. Applicant must provide additional details to justify the cost. In addition, trailers are not considered Equipment. Applicant must move this line item to the Others category.

***Evaluation Criteria***

* #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 diffculty”. Applicant must provide example(s) of Project activities being performed that support the selections.
* #6 – Narrative does not support the selection of “Protecting water quality” and “Protecting special-status species” and “Protecting cultural site(s)” Applicant must provide example(s) of the activities performed in the Project that support the selections. In addition, Applicant must list a special-status species the work being accomplished is protecting.
* #7 – Project Description and/or Project Cost Estimate sections do not support selection of “Signs, sign posts or education…” as Applicant states “to the fullest extent, signs are reused as new signs” which implies it may not be used.
* #8 – Background and/ or Project Description sections do not support the selections. Applicant states non-motorized recreational opportunities within USFS – Stanislaus National Forest but does not clearly state if those opportunities are accessed by motorized use within the Project Area where trail maintenance is being performed.

**Restoration G23-02-19-R01**

***Project Description - Background***

* No comment.

***Project Description – Project Description***

* No comment.

***Project Description – List of Project Deliverables***

* #2 – Applicant has patrol within their Law Enforcement Application. Applicant must further clarify how these Project activities are different and will not overlap.
* #5 – Project Area is inconsistent to the area described in the “Describe the size of the specific Project Area(s)…” section. Applicant states in this section, “This project does not provide specific project location…”. Project Deliverable #5 states, "Forest anticipates up to 30 project areas will need restoration for a total of 67,500 square feet”. Applicant must clarify the Project Area(s) to ensure consistency.

***Project Description – All Others***

* No comment.

***Project Cost Estimate***

* All Staff line items – Applicant must provide the duties and/or activities to be performed on the Project.
* Contract #3 “Boulders” – Applicant’s methodology for how the total was derived in the notes section is inconsistent with the line total. Applicant must update the information provided to be consistent.
* Materials / Supplies #4 “Restoration Signs” – Applicant’s notes are inaccurate and need to be revised to match the total cost of the line item.
* Materials / Supplies #5 “Barrier Materials” – Applicant must provide details regarding the item(s) to be purchased and how the costs were determined.
* Equipment Use Expenses #1 & 2 – Equipment fuel expenses are reimbursed based on actual cost, not per mile charge. 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 #3 “Heavy Equipment Operation” – Applicant is reminded Equipment purchased through the Grants Program are not eligible for a use fee. Applicant must remove line item.
* Equipment Use Expenses #4 “Heavy Equipment Rental” – Applicant must clarify what type of Heavy Equipment this line item is and how the cost was determined.

***Evaluation Criteria***

* #2 – Applicant must identify the number (e.g.,1, 2, 3) of “Sensitive areas” and “T&E listed species” rather than the names, in the boxes to the far right of the selections. In addition, the Western Pond Turtle is not a T&E listed species.
* #10 – The narrative does not support the selection. The “underlying problem that resulted in the need for the Restoration project” has not been resolved as “incursions continue.”
* #11 – Project Description section does not support “Greater than 10 acres…” of sensitive habitats which will be actively restored within the Project area. Applicant states, “This project does not provide specific project location”. Applicant must revise the information or remove the selection.