

Attachment B - Off Highway Motor Vehicle In-Lieu Fees Fund Proposal Evaluation Criteria

Allowable Uses and Evaluation of Projects

Screening Criteria

All applications will undergo a basic screening to determine whether the proposed project is consistent with the allowable uses identified in the Public Resource Code Section 5090.50. The allowable uses are categorized into four groups they are: Operation and Maintenance, Restoration, Law Enforcement and Education and Safety.

1. Operation and Maintenance

Allowable uses of the category include acquisition, maintenance, operations, planning, development or conservation of trails and facilities associated with the use of off-highway motor vehicles for recreation or motorized access to non-motorized recreation.

- a) Projects that sustain existing off-highway motor vehicle recreation opportunities
- b) Projects that improve facilities that provide motorized access to non-motorized recreation activities.
- c) Projects that expand off highway motor vehicle recreation opportunities or facilities.
- d) Applications that would affect lands identified as inventoried as road less areas by the Forest Service of the United States and the Department of Agriculture are eligible for cooperative agreement if the application is for a project that does any of the following:
 - i) Projects that realign a forest system road or trail to prevent irreparable resource damage that arises from the design, location, use or deterioration of a classified route and that cannot be mitigated by route maintenance.
 - ii) Projects to reconstruct a national forest system road or trail to implement a route safety improvement project on a classified route determined to be hazardous on the basis of accident experience or accident potential on that route.
 - iii) Project that maintains a road or trail that is included in the National Forest Road and Trail System on or before January 1, 2009.

Grant Application Evaluation Criteria for the Operations and Maintenance Category:

- a. The extent of which the project sustains existing or increases off-highway motor vehicle recreation opportunities and facilities or provides motorized access to non-motorized recreation opportunities.
- b. Extent that project incorporated matching funds and/or volunteer efforts to accomplish the project.
- c. Benefit of project will serve the largest number of people.
- d. Past performance of applicants in completing and administering grant funded projects.

2. Restoration

Allowable uses of the category include projects that provide ecological restoration or repair to habitat damaged by either legal or illegal off highway motor vehicle use. Eligible projects include:

- a) Removal of a road, trail or restoration of an area associated with the rerouting and subsequent closure of a designated road or trail
- b) Removal of road and trails and the restoration of damaged habitats in any area that will help to prevent off-highway motor vehicle access to closed areas.
- c) Scientific and cultural studies regarding the impact of off-highway motor vehicle recreation not otherwise required by state or federal law.
- d) Planning to identify appropriate restoration techniques, strategies and project implementation, including planning associated with environmental review.
- e) Restoration of projects that generally improves and restores the function of natural resource system damage by motorized activities.

Grant Application Evaluation Criteria for the Restoration Category:

1. Give additional consideration to application for projects that will restore areas that have the potential for the most significant damage
2. Guarantee that no grant will be used for development or maintenance of trails for motorized use.
3. Benefit of project to the largest number of people.
4. Extent that project incorporated matching funds and/or volunteer efforts to accomplish the project.
5. Past performance of applicants in completing and administering grant funded projects.

3. Law Enforcement

Allowable uses of this category include projects sponsored by local enforcement entities that fund personnel and related equipment directly related to off highway vehicle use. The amount of the grant or cooperative agreement shall be proportionate to the off-highway motor vehicle enforcement needs under each jurisdiction. Projects in this category will:

- a) Specify formal and informal cooperation with other appropriate law enforcement entities including any applicable federal entities.
- b) Describe how law enforcement agency will enforce violations of off-highway motor vehicles laws and regulations.
- c) Identify areas with high priority law enforcement needs because of public safety, cultural resources and sensitive environmental habitats, including wilderness areas and areas of critical environmental concern.
- d) Explain whether the applicant is recovering a portion of law enforcement cost directly associated with privately sponsored events where sponsors have obtained a local permit.
- e) Establish a public education program that includes information regarding safety programs offered in the area and how to report off-highway vehicle operation violations.
- f) Specify how personnel is trained and educated regarding safety, resource and cultural protection.

Grant Application Evaluation Criteria for the Law Enforcement Category:

- a) The extent to which the project enhances the enforcement of law and regulations related to the operation and use of off-highway vehicles.
- b) Extent that project incorporated matching funds and/or volunteer efforts to accomplish the project.
- c) Benefit of project to the largest number of people.
- d) Past performance of applicants in completing and administering grant funded projects.

Grantee that receives funds allocated pursuant to this program shall be subject to financial and performance audit at least once every five years. The audits may be conducted in a random order. As part of the audit, the County Parks Department shall consider whether the law enforcement entity has spent the grant money in accordance with its application.

4. Education and Safety

Allowable uses of the category include projects and cooperative agreement that either provide comprehensive education that teaches off-highway motor vehicle safety, environmental responsibility and respect for private property or provide safety programs associated with off-highway motor vehicle recreation.

Grant Application Evaluation Criteria for the Restoration category:

- a) The extent and reach of the project that promotes education of rules/regulations related to the responsible and safe operation of off-highway vehicles.
- b) Extent that project incorporated matching funds and/or volunteer efforts to accomplish the project.
- c) Benefit of project to the largest number of people.
- d) Past performance of applicants in completing and administering grant funded projects.

General Application Criteria

To be considered for this Fund the application must be:

1. Submitted to or post marked by application deadline.
2. Complete and includes all requested information.
3. Submitted by public agencies or non-profit corporations. Non-profit entities must provide proof of their non-profit status.
4. Request funding for one-time projects. Requested projects must be a stand-alone project. The requested project may be part of a larger phased project, but funding a stand-alone project does not commit funding for future phases.
5. Completed application packets and five copies must be clearly marked "Off Highway Vehicle License Fund Application Packet" and submitted to:

County Of San Luis Obispo General Service Agency-Parks
Attn: Off-Highway Vehicle Fund Grant Administrator
1087 Santa Rosa Street
San Luis Obispo, Ca. 93402