

# Off- Highway Vehicle License Fund Grant Application Packet

1. **Date of Application** – February 26, 2013
2. **Applicant** - Central Coast Motorcycle Association  
C/o California Trail Users Coalition  
3550 Foothill Blvd.  
Glendale, CA 91214

Please reply to: Bruce Whitcher  
[User501968@aol.com](mailto:User501968@aol.com)  
805-459-7111

See attached verification of non-profit status

3. **Project title** – Turkey Flats Staging Area Concept Design
4. **Amount of funding requested:** \$8000.00
5. **Objective of the project** – This project would develop a conceptual master plan for improvement of the Turkey Flats Staging OHV area.

## 6. Project description

This application is for funding to develop a concept design that would be the basis for future improvements to the Turkey Flats OHV area of the Los Padres National Forest. Development of a concept design will be the first stage in improvement of this staging area. A similar approach was successfully used for the Navajo Flats Improvement Project that began with a design concept approximately 5 years ago.

Turkey Flats is an OHV camping and staging area utilized by OHV enthusiasts, day and overnight campers, hunters, mountain bikers, and nature viewers. There is occasional use by horseback riders. The Turkey Flats Staging Area is located in San Luis Obispo County and can be accessed from Parkhill Road from West Pozo Road. The project area is approximately 17 miles east of the Santa Margarita community and south of Highway 58.

Turkey Flats has been in use for over 30 years. This area presently has a single vault toilet, trash collection, some pipe fence barriers and four picnic tables. There is no water source. It is the only USFS campsite in the immediate area.

Turkey Flats serves as a trailhead for the four motorized NFS system trails on the West side of Black Mountain. These trails are “Powerline” 15E07, “Howard’s Bypass” 15E05, “Tower Trail” 18E02, and “La Canada” 16E24. The staging area is divided by Black Mountain Road, a service road to the FAA radar site on Black Mountain. There is an adjacent unimproved staging area off Black Mountain Road near the Tower Trail and La Canada trailheads known as “Turkey Flats II”. There is no pipe fencing or other improvements in this adjacent area.

GENERAL SERVICES  
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Turkey Flats is utilized primarily by residents of San Luis Obispo and Santa Margarita. There are additional visitors South County and Santa Maria and from other parts of California.

## **7. Project Development Schedule – 2013**

An initial site visit was conducted by CCMA and Wallace Group representatives in October of 2012. Wallace Group has prepared the attached proposal for which we are seeking grant funding.

August 2013 – Following a grant award for the project, develop large scale design charettes for CCMA representatives and have initial meeting to be facilitated by the Wallace Group.

September 2013 – Prepare a concept master plan for use in presenting the design proposal to the US Forest Service.

October 2013 – Refine the design concept to the 80% level and submit this for review by the Forest Service and the CCMA. After receiving comments the plan will be developed to the 100% level and submitted as the final conceptual design.

The project will be scheduled for completion by December, 2013.

## **8. Justification for the project**

The current facilities are in poor condition and are inadequate to meet the need for developed campsites at the staging area. There are presently four primitive camp sites with picnic tables at the staging area. Installation of parking barriers will control use of the area. Presently, visitors park, stage, and practice riding their OHVs, camp and picnic all in the same area while through traffic crosses the site to the Howard's Bypass trail.

The present kid's practice track is encroaching on vegetation and is too small. This track should be studied for relocation. The uses of camping, day use, novice OHV training, and an area from through traffic need to be designed and separated at the staging area. Barriers need to be installed to protect adjacent vegetation.

### **Number of persons served**

We estimate that the Pozo La Panza OHV area receives between 5000 and 7500 visits per year. This is based on the traffic counter data collected by the Forest Service.

Trail traffic counter data<sup>1</sup> recorded during 2009 reveal 855 visits to Turkey Flats that year. We believe this is a gross underestimate. The 2009 Forest Service NVUM survey identified 50 vehicles per day at Turkey Flats on the two days surveyed. This would indicate visitation of approximately 2000 per year.

14% of “walk in” inquiries at the Forest Service office in Santa Maria were OHV related.

National Forest Visitor Use (NVUM) data was collected for Los Padres National Forest in 2009. Results are attached and can be verified by using the interactive web site found here: <http://apps.fs.usda.gov/nrm/nvum/results/A05007.aspx/Round2>.

OHV recreation is popular in San Luis Obispo County. San Luis Obispo OHV Registrations (green sticker) totaled 7,027 for a population of 253,600 (California Fuel Tax Study, 2006).<sup>2</sup> OHV recreation is popular in the Western States. 17.6 % of the population over age 16 has participated in OHV use. (12% of population is 16 or older), Cordell et al., 2008.

#### **Additional Types of Use**

Forest Service records of types of use are provided in the attached 2009 NVUM Activity Participation survey for Los Padres National Forest. Uses of the area that are frequently observed include not only OHV riding but also camping, hunting, bicycling, driving for pleasure, hiking/walking, wood gathering, target shooting.

#### **Alternatives**

Alternatives to the proposed project include continuing use without improving the staging area. Should this alternative be selected the use of the area would continue but would be limited by the lack of facilities. Uncontrolled use will encroach on the surrounding vegetation. The area will become more denuded of vegetation over time. The number of camp sites would be limited to those currently available. Campfires would be started in undesignated locations. Parking would be at random locations. Random traffic around the area would continue which would be a safety concern.

### **9. Long range plans and maintenance of the project**

The 2011 Pozo La Panza Trail Assessment identified both the Turkey Flats and Navajo Flats staging areas as essential features of the area.

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<sup>1</sup> Trail Counter Data, Santa Lucia Ranger District, 2005-2009

<sup>2</sup> Estimating the State Fuel Tax Paid on Gasoline Used in the Off-Highway Operation of Vehicles for Recreation: Survey Results, September 2006, Table 4.1, page 4-6. California State Parks <http://ohv.parks.ca.gov/pages/1140/files/fuel%20tax%20survey%20report.pdf>

Long term maintenance of the facility will be provided through a combination of California OHV grant funding, US Forest Service support, volunteer support, and possibly future San Luis Obispo County OHV grant funding.

#### **10. Description of land status and location:**

The proposed site for the design of the Turkey Flats Staging Area is located in San Luis Obispo County and can be accessed via Parkhill Road from West Pozo Road. The project area is approximately 17 miles east of the Santa Margarita community and south of Highway 58 and is within the Pozo/ La Panza Place and has a Land-Use Zone of Back Country. The legal description of the project location is: T.29S., R.15E., Section 34.

At present, the Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area, the Rock Front area and the Pozo La Panza area of the Los Padres National Forest are the only areas in the County open to the public where off highway vehicles may be legally used. There are currently no private OHV riding areas that are open to the public. The OHV opportunities on the Santa Lucia District are considered to be some of the best in San Luis and Santa Barbara counties. The 18,867 Pozo/La Panza area is located on the north side of the District and has approximately 44.5 miles of routes that vary from sandy washes to a ridgeline route including a section known to expert riders as the Stair Steps.

#### **11. Land owner authorization for the project**

See attached authorization from the US Forest Service

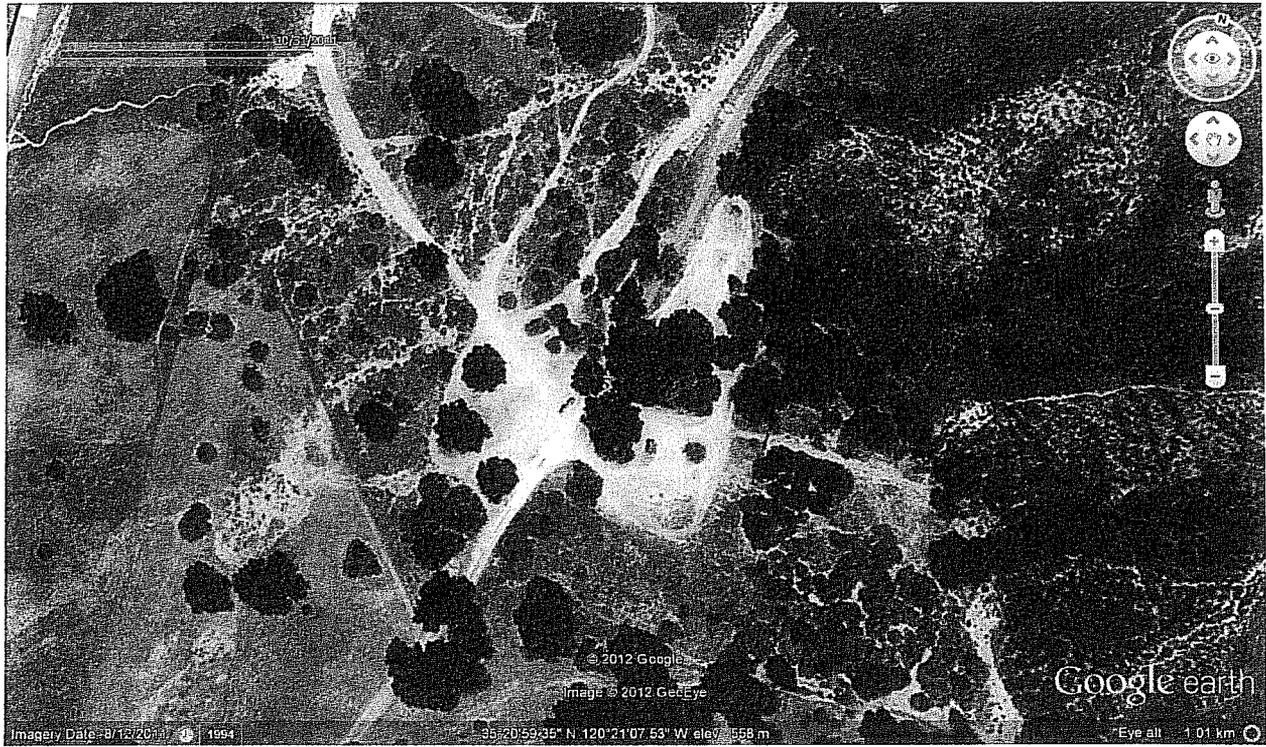
#### **12. History of condition and status of resource and expected benefits**

Improvements were first made to Turkey Flats in the 1980's. Some pipe fencing was installed to protect vegetation and adjacent private property. Picnic tables and a two seat vault toilet was installed. Trash collection is provided by the Forest Service. The picnic tables were replaced by the CCMA in approximately 2005.

Visitors currently park, stage and practice riding their OHVs, camp and picnic all in the same area while through traffic crosses the site to the Tower Trail and Howard's Bypass trailhead. The uses of camping, day use, novice OHV training, and through traffic from Howard's Trail, Tower trail, and Powerline trail need to be designed and separated at the staging area to reduce safety concerns. The concept design will describe patterns of use for the area. It will also identify the location of additional pipe fencing to protect vegetation and a heritage site as well as adjacent private property. There is a seasonal creek that runs through the area that should be protected.

The placement of additional camp sites and possible improvement of existing camp sites will be studied through this design exercise. This will provide public benefit through additional camping facilities.

**13. Aerial photo of Turkey Flats**



**14. Detailed description and estimated costs**

Item	Unit of Measure	Unit Cost	Number of Units	Total Cost
Task 1 Design Charette			1	\$2000.00
Task 2 Conceptual Master Plan	Each		1	\$5000.00
Task 3 Present Plan to Forest Service	Each		1	\$1000.00
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$8000.00</b>

**15. Amount of match funds, materials, and volunteer labor designated for project:**

1. CCMA prepared a background document and conducted an initial field trip to assist with planning the initial approach
2. CCMA volunteers will provide input at public meetings
3. CCMA will arrange a group meeting with the US Forest Service

Match will be in the form of travel expenses and volunteer time to assist the Wallace Group and the Forest Service in preparation of the concept design. The CCMA anticipates providing matching funds for the project. Mr. Wallace has volunteered time as a match contribution.

Item	Unit of Measure	Unit Cost	Number of Units	Total Cost
Initial site visit (round trip)	miles	0.565	82 mi	46.33
CCMA proposal preparation	hr	20.00	4	80.00
Wallace Group proposal (attached)	ea	1	1	500.00
Travel to Forest Service HQ (rt)	miles	0.565	115 mi	64.97
Meeting with Forest Service	hr	20.00	4	80.00
Planner (John Wallace)	hr	150.00	4	600.00
CCMA match	ea	1	1	628.70
<b>Total match</b>				<b>2000.00</b>

#### 16. Experience of applicant in completing similar projects

2009 - The Central Coast Motorcycle Association first applied for San Luis Obispo County OHV License funds in 2009. That year we were awarded \$15,000 to complete trail maintenance and \$10,000 for specialist surveys needed to complete planning for the Navajo Flats Project. The trail maintenance was successfully completed by the California Conservation Corps in April of 2009.

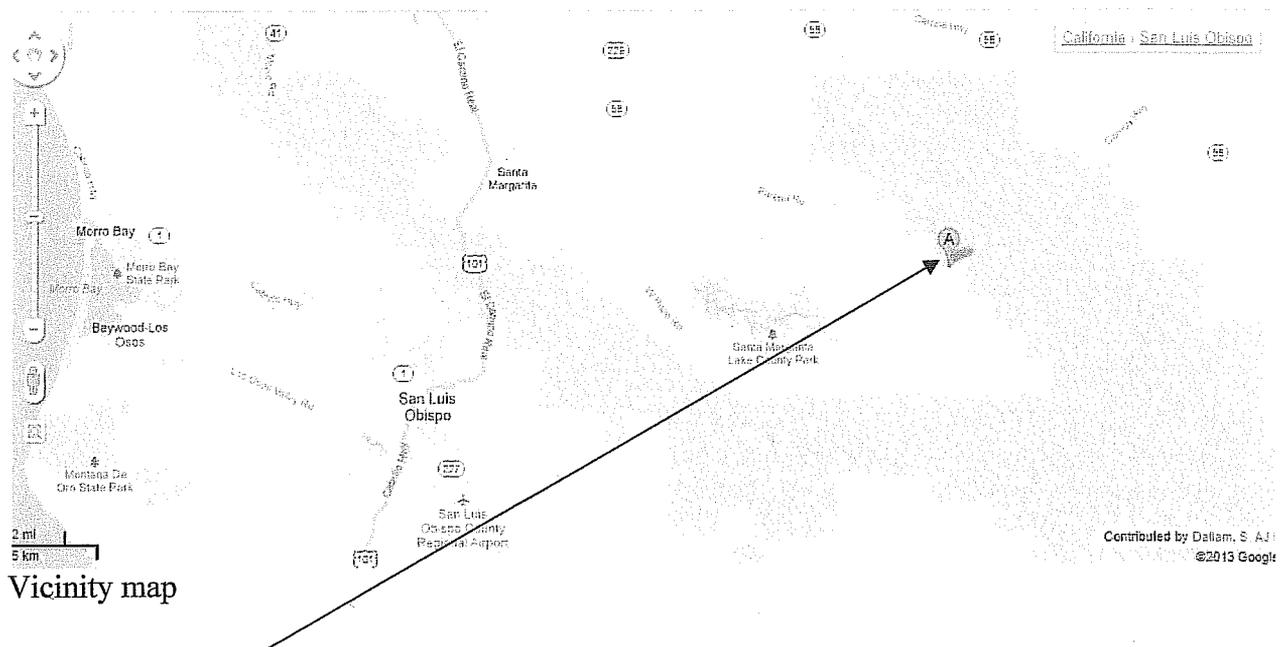
The Navajo Flats Plan was completed in 2010 as the first phase of the current Navajo Flats Improvement Project.

2011 – The Central Coast Motorcycle Association was awarded \$25,000 from the SLO County OHV License Fund for additional trail reconstruction. Work was completed on the Mare Springs trail in May 2011 again by a CCC crew, with the CCMA providing construction materials and transporting materials to the site.

2012 - The Central Coast Motorcycle Association was awarded \$25,000 from the SLO County OHV License fund for a two phase project that would include initial flagging of trail reroutes

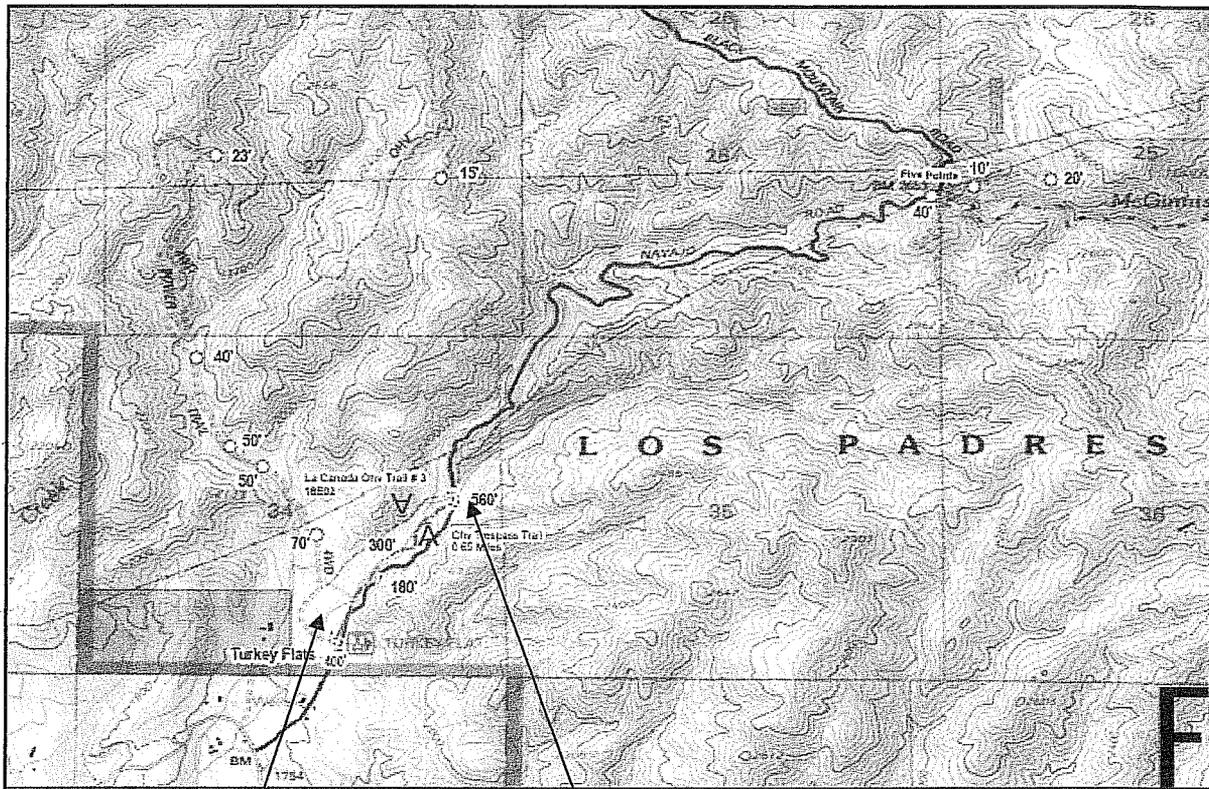
followed by the environmental surveys necessary to study the reroutes for possible implementation. The reroutes are to be flagged in by an Enterprise Unit of the Forest Service, Trails Unlimited. The flagging phase is presently scheduled for April of 2013. We anticipate completion of the environmental surveys following completion of the flagging phase.

17. This project meets the criteria for Operation and Maintenance category because it is related to planning support facilities for motorized recreation as well as access to non-motorized recreation. This proposal requests funding to support OHV activities on Pozo La Panza area which is closest to San Luis Obispo and North County communities.



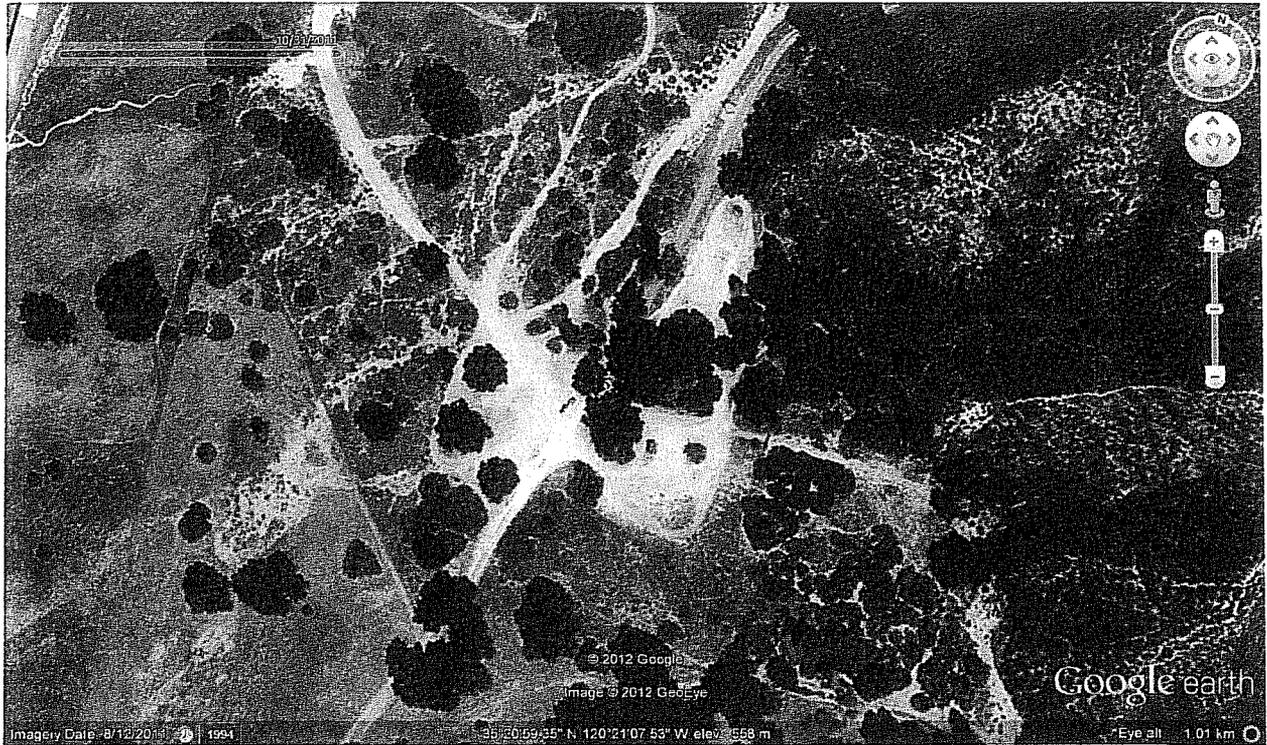
Vicinity map

Location of Turkey Flats



Topo map of Turkey Flats Staging area

"Turkey II" staging area



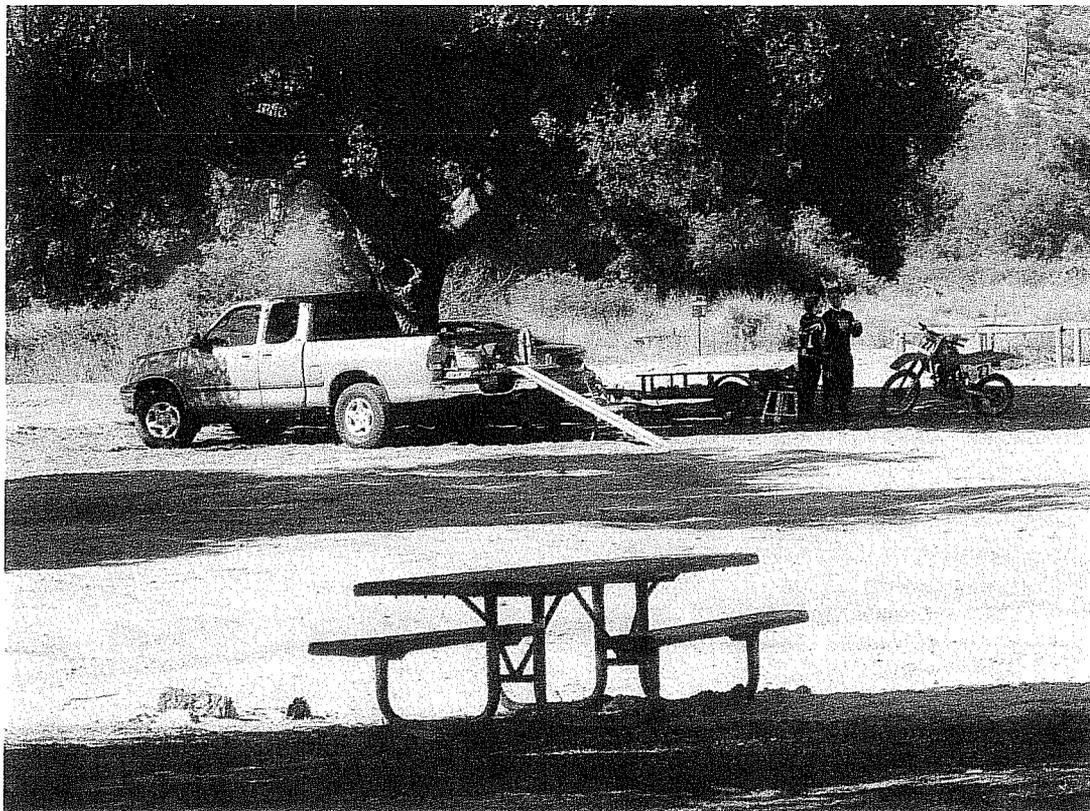
Satellite view of Turkey Flats



Satellite view of "Turkey II"



Entrance to Turkey Flats





View across road to staging area





Kid's track in use by a young rider



View from road of Turkey II Staging area



Additional view of Turkey II



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Los Padres  
National Forest

Santa Lucia Ranger District  
1616 Carlotti Drive  
Santa Maria, CA 93454  
(805) 925-9538  
TDD (805) 968-6790 Text

File Code: 2370

Date: February 25, 2013

Curtis Black, Deputy Director of County Parks  
County of San Luis Obispo  
1087 Santa Rosa Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Dear Mr. Black,

The Los Padres National Forest is pleased to support the Central Coast Motorcycle Association (CCMA) and County of San Luis Obispo in submitting three grant applications for Navajo Flat Staging Area, Turkey Flat Staging Area, and trail maintenance on single track trails.

The first proposal includes the purchase and installation of six picnic tables, pedestal stoves, fire rings and five shade structures at Navajo Flat Staging Area. The CCMA is requesting \$35,000 for this project.

The second proposal is to create a concept design for Turkey Flat Staging Area performed by the Wallace Group. This design will lay out a plan for designating facilities and furnishings at this multi-use area, similar to Navajo Flat Staging Area. The CCMA is requesting \$8,000 for this project.

The third proposal is to conduct trail work on single track OHV trails in the Pozo Area including Howard's Bypass and Mare Springs. The CCMA is requesting \$15,000 to use a hand crew to perform trail work, which is too narrow for dozers. Trail work will include trail rehabilitation, erosion control, fencing and brush clearing on both trails.

In previous years, the CCMA has done an excellent job at coordinating trail work projects on the Forest and has been successful at maintaining trails for the public's use. They have also been an integral part of the planning and development of the Navajo Flat Staging Area Re-design project.

We look forward to continued leadership and project coordination between the CCMA, County of San Luis Obispo, and the Forest Service. Thank you for time and funding efforts in providing ways to improve recreational activities on the forest.

Sincerely,

for KATHLEEN PHELPS  
District Ranger



Caring for the Land and Serving People

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October 17, 2012

Bruce Whitcher  
Central Coast Motorcycle Association (CCMA)  
PO Box 4942  
San Luis Obispo, California 93403-4942

Subject: Turkey Flats Improvement

Dear Mr. Whitcher:

Wallace Group appreciates the opportunity to provide you with our proposal for landscape and site planning services for the Turkey Flats Improvement Project. Based on our discussion, the following Scope of Services has been prepared for your consideration:

### PROJECT UNDERSTANDING

Turkey Flats OHV Staging Area is located in the Los Padres National Forest on Black Mountain Road near Pozo, California. The site has two (2) staging areas, Turkey Flats I and Turkey Flats II. Turkey Flats I has had some improvements over the years (informational signs, pipe rails, restrooms, and picnic tables). Turkey Flats II is an unimproved staging area that has developed due to overflow use when Turkey Flats I is full.

The CCMA in conjunction with the US Forest Service would like to make improvements to the two areas. The focuses of the improvements are:

1. To provide separation of staging, camping and riding areas.
2. To provide additional camping areas.
3. To provide improvements to the Kids Track (50-80cc bikes) with the potential of relocating it.
4. To provide clearer circulation routes for campers, day use parking, and biking.
5. To provide shade structures for parking and gathering.
6. To better define the private property boundary.
7. To better establish trailhead areas.

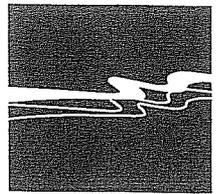
All conceptual design work will be provided to the USFS for their review, comments and direction.

### SCOPE OF SERVICES

#### Task 1: Design Charrette

Provide two (2) large-scale "Google Earth" type exhibits to CCMA Representatives in order to prepare for the design charrette. Facilitate a 2 hour design charrette at Wallace Group offices with CCMA members to record preferences and ideas for Turkey Flats I and II.

CCMA will send out invitations to the meeting and provide a list of USFS regulations that apply to this site.



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Wallace Group will provide the meeting room, graphics (base plans), and design tools. Wallace Group will also research the NFS land boundaries and the private property boundaries based on existing and available data.

**Deliverables:**

- Design Charrette
- 30 Scale Conceptual Base Plans on 24" x 36" sheets (2 sheets)

**Task 2: Conceptual Master Plan**

Based on results of brainstorming session from Task 1, Wallace Group will prepare a concept master plan for use in presenting the design proposal to the USFS. We will prepare the conceptual design to the 80% level and submit it for review. After receiving comments to the 80% submittal we will refine the 80% plan to the 100% level and submit it as a final conceptual design.

**Deliverables:**

- Conceptual Master Plan – 80% design, two (2) color plans at 30 scale (24" x 36" sheets)
- Conceptual Master Plan – 100% design, two (2) color plans at 30 scale (24" x 36" sheets)

**Task 3: Present Conceptual Plan to USFS**

Wallace Group will accompany CCMA Representatives to meet with USFS Staff to present the 100% final conceptual design. The meeting will be at the USFS offices in Santa Maria.

**Deliverables:**

- Attend one (1) meeting with CCMA and USFS

**SCHEDULE**

November 2012 Design Charrette  
December 2012 80% Concept Plan Due  
January 2013 100% Concept Plan Due

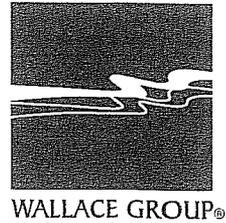
**TO BE PROVIDED BY THE CLIENT**

- Coordination with USFS and local private property owners
- USFS list of applicable policies and regulations

**ITEMS NOT INCLUDED IN SCOPE OF SERVICES**

The following services may also benefit your project. Wallace Group can provide these services, directly or through sub-consultants, however, they are not presently included in the current Scope of Services or estimate of fees:

- Site topographic survey
- Boundary survey
- Construction documents including plans, specifications, details, and estimates
- Preparing Project Description for Grant Applications
- Preparing Grant Applications



**PROJECT FEES**

The project fees are shown allocated by task to indicate our expected distribution of work. However, the task fee allocations are not individual contract limits.

Task 1: Design Charrette	\$2,000
Task 2: Conceptual Master Plan	\$5,000
Task 3: Present Conceptual Plan to USFS	\$1,000

Wallace Group will perform the services denoted in Tasks 1 and 2 of the proposed Scope of Services in accordance with the attached Schedule of Fees (Exhibit A). These services will be invoiced monthly on an accrued cost basis, and our total fees, exclusive of reimbursables will not exceed our estimated fee of \$8,000 without receiving written authorization from the Client.

At your request, additional services to the Scope of Services will be performed by Wallace Group following the signature of our Contract Amendment or the initiation of a new contract.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

In order to convey a clear understanding of the matters related to our mutual responsibilities regarding this proposal, the attached Standard Terms and Conditions (Exhibit B) are considered a part of our proposal agreement. If this proposal meets with your approval, please sign where indicated and return one original to our office, which will serve as our notice-to-proceed.

We want to thank you for this opportunity to present our proposal for professional services. If you would like to discuss this proposal in greater detail, please feel free to contact me or Bianca Koenig.

Sincerely,

WALLACE GROUP, a California Corporation

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS ACCEPTED:**

John L. Wallace, PE  
President, Principal

612 Clarion Court  
San Luis Obispo  
California 93401  
T 805 544-4011  
F 805 544-4294  
www.wallacegroup.us

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Attachments  
sr: PP12-4779, 2009, std  
Exhibit A  
Exhibit B