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April 28, 2016

Reference No.: 15307 SAM

Vicki Perez
OHMVR Division
1725 23rd Street, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95816

Re: Reporter's Correction to Transcript
10-28-15 OHMRV Regular Commission Meeting in Folsom

Dear Ms. Perez:

It has been brought to my attention that the certified transcript in the above-referenced matter contained many errors and needed to be revisited by me.

After reviewing the record, I do concur that many corrections need to be made. These errors consist of not being appropriately proofed before the transcript was finalized.

Attached please find the corrected transcript along with a two-page list showing what corrections have been made to the record. This corrected transcript replaces the previously sent original certified copy of the above-mentioned proceedings.

I regret any inconvenience and extra time these errors may have caused.

Respectfully,

Sandra Hopper,
CSR No. 7110

SH:mb

ERRORS LIST
Transcript for October 28, 2015, OHMVR Commission Meeting

PAGE	LINE	COMMENTS
5	19	Change INOVCC to NOHVCC
5	20	Change INHOVAA to INOHVAA (global change throughout document)
22	19	Change “doing” to “do”
24	21	Add “Slavik” after “Commissioner”
25	18	Change “Stoney Ford” to “Stonyford”
26	5	Change “49’er” to “49er”
29	18	Change “ITEM” TO “TEAM”
35	15	Initial caps on “Controller”
39	10	Insert to so it reads: “have to start”
50	18	Face Book is one word: Facebook
59	3	Change “at lot” to “a lot”
61	3	Change “in forming” to “informing”
63	10	Change to “that will be”
74	7	Change “Motorcycles” to “Motorcyclist” (all references to Nick Haris’ title)
76	18	Change “go State parks” to “go to State Parks”
90	4	Change “Cadahy” to “Cudahy”
91	12	Insert a comma between “Recreation, and”
91	16	Initial caps on “Associate”
91	20	Insert “and” between “Conservation Recreation”
91	21	Add comma after “Minerals” -- “Minerals, Off-Road ...”
92	6	Insert comma after “Recreation”
96	16	Change “American Motorcycles” to “American Motorcyclist”
109	6	Initial cap on “Congress”
114	19	Remove apostrophe from “OHV’ers” -- should be “OHVers”
116	14	Change “American Motorcycles” to “American Motorcyclist”
121	21	Change “recreation” to “recreate”
123	7	Change “too” to “to”
126	8	Initial cap on “Off-”
133	4	Change ‘IEFR” to “IERF”
134	17	Change “Samples” to “Sample”
135	9	Change “in earlier” to “in the earlier”
139	15	Change “to until” to “to wait until”
140	10	Change “conservator” to conservative”
154	11, 12, 13	Change “Face Book” to “Facebook”
155	22	Insert “comment” – “public comment on non-agenda”
157	5, 6	Initial caps on “District Superintendent”
157	19	Change “truncated event” to “Truckhaven event”
157	21	Change “fund raiser” to “fundraiser”
157	22	Change “Truck Haven Hills” to “Truckhaven hills”
158	12	Change “fund raiser” to “fundraiser”
160	5	Change “taking” to “take”
160	11	Change “Calvara” to “Caldera”
160	13	Change “And father” to “And a father”
170	25	Initial Caps on “Deputy Director”
175	15, 16	Change “Terry” to “Teri”
180	10, 12, 16	Change “Terry” to “Teri”
181	2	Change “Terry” to “Teri”
185	2	Delete comma after “knowledge”
186	20	Insert “that” between “at as well”
199	7	Initial cap “Director”
202	3, 20	Change “Cadahy” to “Cudahy”

202	8	Change "Gillespie" to "Glaspie"
202	13	Change "Norm Rumpke" to "Norb Ruhmke"
203	4	Change "Cadahy" to "Cudahy"
203	8	Change "cna" to "can"
208	7-8	Add "you" between "If look back..."
209	5	Change "concessioner" to "concessionaire"
211	17, 20	Change "INHOVAA" to "INOHVAA"
212	2-3	Add "you" between "So don't have..."
212	7	Change "Ron" to "Tom"
212	8	Add "want" between "just to" in the phrase "I just to remind..."
213	20	Change "INHOVAA" to "INOHVAA"
215	16, 18	Change "Arens" to "Arenz"
219	11	Change "INHOVAA" to "INOHVAA"
221	3, 5	Change "INHOVAA" to "INOHVAA"
223	18	"San Maria" should be "Santa Maria"
224	8	"Vehicle" should be "Vehicular"
224	9	Lower case "T" in the word "spent"; lower case word "A"
224	18	Initial cap on the word "director"
224	23	Change "INHOVAA" to "INOHVAA"
226	23	Change "Mallory" to "Mowrey"
228	2	Change "Hang Town" to "Hangtown"
229	1	Change "INHOVAA" to "INOHVAA"
229	15	Change "1850's" to "1850s" – remove apostrophe
230	3	"Some people but my challenge" should read "Some people might challenge..."
231	19, 22	Change "cart" to "kart"
231	20	Change "Go-carts" to "Go-karts"
232	2	Change "Prairie City flat..." to "Prairie City's flat..."
236	11-12, 16, 22	Change "Hang Town" to "Hangtown"
236	14	Change "would" to "world"
242	21	Lower case "s" on "State"
247	17	Change "Face Book" to "Facebook"
247	20	Lower case "C" and "A" on "Compliant Analysis"
256	22	Delete the "s" from the word "provides"
261	2	Insert "left" between "let's that"
262	5	Capitalize the "a" in "acquisition"
263	8-9	Change "wifi" to "Wifi"
264	15	Change "Face Book" to "Facebook"
264	16	Change "web site" to "website"
265	14	Delete the "s" from the word "items"
267	25	Change "Hang Town" to "Hangtown"
269	9	Add a period at the end of the sentence
269	23	Change "guest" to "guessed"
273	16, 21	Change "web site" to "website"
273	18	Delete the word "and"
274	3, 6	Change "web site" to "website"
274	23	Change "Stohl" to "Stoll"
274	23	Lower case "DOORS" in the word "OutDOORS"
275	18	Lower case "M" in "Master"
276	4	Insert the word "of" between "types parks,"
278	10	Lower case "D" in the word "Dunes"
284	8, 16	Change "INHOVAA" to "INOHVAA"
285	10	Change "transpo" to "transport"?
285	19, 21	Change "Comacho" to "Camacho"

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS
THE NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY
OFF-HIGHWAY MOTOR VEHICLE RECREATION COMMISSION

OHMVR COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, October 28, 2015

8:33 a.m. to 4:54 p.m.

Held at
Lake Natoma Inn
702 Gold Lake Drive
Folsom, California 95630

Reported by SANDRA L. HOPPER, CSR No. 7110

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IN ATTENDANCE

OHMVR COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

- Ted Cabral, Chair
- Diana Perez, Vice-Chair
- Erin Hafkenschiel
- Eric Lueder
- Kevin Murphy
- Edward Patrovsky
- Paul Slavik
- Teresa Villegas

OHMVR COMMISSIONER ABSENT: None

OHV DIVISION STAFF:

- Lisa Mangat, Director California State Parks
- Christopher Conlin, Deputy Director
- Maria Mowrey, Administrative Chief
- Kathryn Tobias, Legal Counsel

OTHER OHV DIVISION STAFF AND REGISTERED VISITORS

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1 AGENDA ITEM I - CALL TO ORDER at 8:33 a.m.

2 AGENDA ITEM I(A) - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3 (Pledge led by Chair Cabral.)

4 AGENDA ITEM I(B) - ROLL CALL

5 (All Commissioners present.)

6 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. I have lost power.

7 (Multiple speakers.)

8 CHAIR CABRAL: Clumsy fingers.

9 So the next thing we have here is we have some
10 dignitaries. And the first one I'd like to introduce,
11 we are lucky to have the State Parks Director here
12 today.

13 So, Lisa Mangat, did you have a few things you'd
14 like to say?

15 STATE PARKS DIR. MANGAT: Hi. Thank you.
16 I'm -- I'm Lisa Mangat. I'm the director of the
17 Department of Parks and Recreation for the State of
18 California.

19 What does that mean, and what's the relationship
20 kind of to this Commission and our OHV parks? We are a
21 robust system of 280 parks. We are unlike any other
22 State park department and system in the nation. As a
23 matter of fact, we're probably more closely aligned with
24 the National State Parks system. Californians do
25 actually have a lot to be proud of.

1 And nested within the State Parks system is, of
2 course, our very important OHV Parks. Later on on the
3 agenda I'll be joining one of my colleagues that's
4 leading the Transformation Team, and we'll talk a bit
5 about the many initiatives that we have underway and
6 how -- and how the -- the OHV Parks are related and
7 benefit from those initiatives.

8 But first I'd like to welcome everyone and,
9 first and foremost, thank all of the Commissioners. You
10 know, you -- you bring to these Commissions -- these are
11 not easy jobs and it requires a sense of service. And
12 so we thank you for your service. And I also want to
13 thank the dedicated Parks employees that make all of
14 these meetings look so seamless and so easy to pull
15 together and then also on a daily basis think about how
16 is it that we most effectively operate our OHV parks to
17 make sure that we're protecting the exemplary
18 recreational opportunities for the public. So I want to
19 thank them.

20 But most importantly, I want to thank the
21 public. When I'm out talking about the State Parks
22 system, we talk about how we can't do it alone. And as
23 a matter of fact, we don't do it alone. Every park in
24 the system benefits from your engagement. And we
25 recognize some of you take time off from work to come

1 here to share your thoughts. And so we would encourage
2 you to continue to do that. So I want to thank you for
3 that also. So I look forward to talking a little more
4 later on on the agenda. So welcome to -- welcome to
5 Folsom.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Thank you.

8 Also, we have the -- the staff of the OHV
9 Division. We have our Deputy Director Chris Conlin.
10 And we have Maria Mowrey, our Administrative Chief, and
11 Kathryn Tobias, legal counsel. And I never want to
12 forget Vicki; the glue.

13 So with that, the next -- we also have another
14 one, we have Dakota Higgins from -- from Congressman
15 Paul Cook's office is here today, too.

16 So thank you, Dakota. Appreciate you coming up.

17 Let's see here. We also have kind of a unique
18 situation that I kind of wanted to talk about is, is
19 that we have the NOHVCC 25th anniversary conference is
20 going on after our event. INOHVAA, which is an
21 international off-highway vehicle group, is going to be
22 joining our meeting this -- later this afternoon. One
23 thing that they're going to get a chance to take a look
24 at is our Preliminary General Plan, Prairie City, that
25 type of stuff. So how we do things here in California

1 and how they can blend OHV and urban parks and areas
2 outside of California, how they can kind of mirror what
3 we're doing. So they'll be joining the meeting later on
4 this afternoon.

5 Public comment, we're going to have public
6 comment on our Business Items. And we will also have
7 two different types of public comment sheets. So the
8 non-agenda items will be at 1:30. So --

9 Oh, yes. Good point.

10 So we'll have the blue ones for the -- the
11 public comment on --

12 MS. VICKI PEREZ: Non-agenda

13 CHAIR CABRAL: -- non-agenda. That's correct.
14 Got to get my colors right. Green are for the agenda
15 items.

16 So thank you.

17 Vicki always saves my rear.

18 And then the other thing -- and someone else is
19 saving my rear, too. I also want to speak -- say that
20 Steve Szalay is here from the Transformation Team.

21 So thank you, Steve.

22 You know, I -- I have -- I'm on the
23 Transformation Advisory Committee. And I just want to
24 briefly say that I really see a direction being put
25 forth with the State Parks through that Advisory

1 Committee. And I think that -- that the people that are
2 on that Transformation Team and what they're doing is
3 excellent work.

4 And I really appreciate your leadership there,
5 Steve. So thank you.

6 **AGENDA ITEM II - AGENDA MANAGEMENT**

7 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Next we have agenda. Is
8 there any -- did any -- does anyone have any adjustments
9 to make to the agenda, any complaints, anything like
10 that?

11 So the agenda is approved as submitted.

12 **AGENDA ITEM III - APPROVAL OF MINUTES - September 25,**
13 **2015 Meeting**

14 CHAIR CABRAL: All right. And minutes, same
15 thing. Any adjustments, complaints?

16 Okay. Approved as submitted.

17 **AGENDA ITEM IV(A) - COMMISSION REPORTS - COMMISSIONERS'**
18 **REPORTS**

19 CHAIR CABRAL: Commissioner reports.

20 Commissioner Murphy, would you like to go --
21 start first -- first, please.

22 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Just -- the only thing
23 I -- I -- excuse me -- can add is that it was -- I've
24 been in contact with Santa Clara County Parks personnel
25 just to encourage them for -- to get in on this next

1 grant cycle.

2 That's -- that's about all I have to report
3 there. They're promising to be working on that for some
4 improvements to Motorcycle Park, Santa Clara County.

5 That's all.

6 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.

7 Commissioner Villegas.

8 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I have no report -- no
9 report.

10 CHAIR CABRAL: Commissioner Patrovsky?

11 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: Good morning,
12 everybody.

13 Since the last meeting, which -- which was
14 barely a month ago, I've been engaged in a number of
15 conversations with individuals regarding the Feinstein
16 and Cook bills regarding the California Desert and also
17 regarding the use of the 1906 Antiquities Act, which is
18 a contentious issue among -- at the current time.

19 And other than that, nothing to report.

20 COMMISSIONER PEREZ: Okay. Just briefly, I --
21 there -- in my area, there are Air Pollution Control
22 District meetings that -- that happen in San Luis Obispo
23 County. And although I've not had the opportunity yet
24 to attend in person, but I do have the option of
25 watching them online. And I did see one that was about

1 three hours long, it's -- last summer. And I think if
2 anybody -- in particular my fellow Commissioners, but if
3 anybody wants to be up to speed in terms of what's
4 happening in Oceano, that is an excellent three hours'
5 worth of your time. It really does -- Deputy Director
6 Chris Conlin was there, and he did an amazing job in
7 explaining where we're at, what Parks has done, all of
8 the efforts to mitigate the dust issue. And in
9 addition, you get an opportunity to see some of the
10 challenges from the folks who are in that area and what
11 they think. So I mean it's just -- I -- I put that time
12 in, and I -- I just think it's just -- it's -- it's an
13 excellent online video from San Luis Obispo County Board
14 of Supervisors. And you can check it out.

15 And then in addition to that, I did have an
16 opportunity to have spent some time with a couple of the
17 San Luis Obispo supervisors, and we just talked about
18 what was going on out there.

19 And at this point I just want to commend our --
20 our -- our Parks folks. You know, someone sent me an
21 Oceano Dunes Parks -- some of the lawsuits. And I was
22 reading through some of the briefs, and it's incredible,
23 the amount of work behind the scenes that it takes to --
24 to address these concerns. And so I really do commend
25 Parks staff. It's just incredible the -- the -- the

1 work and looking at the dates and when you started doing
2 this and what you were addressing. And even the -- the
3 Parks staff at Oceano have done an incredible job to
4 address these concerns. So I just wanted to make sure
5 I -- I pointed that out.

6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Thank you very much.

7 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

8 Commissioner Hafkenschiel?

9 COMMISSIONER HAFKENSCHIEL: No report.

10 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Commissioner Lueder?

11 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: I'm going to hold my
12 report until the Forest Service Subcommittee.

13 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

14 Commissioner Slavik?

15 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: Yes, several things.

16 Right after the Mammoth meeting, I was invited
17 to attend the Eastern Sierra Adventure Trail folks, a
18 little trail ride up on the top of the mountain just
19 west of Bishop. We went up there. There was four of us
20 that went up there in a six-place side-by-side. I
21 didn't know they made anything like that. But, you
22 know, 20 miles an hour up to the top of the hill. It
23 was a great opportunity, and it really illustrated what
24 those folks are -- are striving to do is -- is tie in
25 these -- these trail systems into those small

1 communities there and provide an economic opportunity.
2 So that -- that was an enjoyable day to spend with those
3 folks. And -- and they're very dedicated to this
4 proposition as well.

5 I -- I, too, have gotten involved a little bit
6 in the Oceano dust situation. I looked -- I watched
7 online -- not three hours' worth, but -- Diana, but I
8 did watch. And I made some phone calls and I've -- I'm
9 trying to educate myself on what's going on there. It's
10 an extremely complicated issue. And -- and I hope we
11 continue to address that issue. At some point in time
12 we need to daylight the financial situation that's
13 developed there. So I'm going to leave that at that
14 point.

15 I did attend the Hollister 40th anniversary
16 celebration. I think Kevin forgot about that. He was a
17 busy guy that day. But that was an awesome -- awesome
18 celebration. And -- and what that park has done, it --
19 I tell everybody, my friends all over the United States
20 that I have contacts with that that is the premiere
21 off-highway vehicle park in the United States. And if
22 you say that, you're probably saying that in the world,
23 because nobody else -- you know, there's no parks like
24 that in England, for sure, or Russia or any other place
25 like that. So we -- we can say in the world we probably

1 have the best off -- off-highway vehicle park dedicated.

2 There's probably a lot to say about that, but
3 one of the most interesting components of that was the
4 presentation by Mr. Harris there of his family's history
5 in that park and how it's tied in to California State
6 Parks. And the -- the lady there that was the member of
7 the Indian tribe that was in -- in that area and how --
8 how much they've assimilated together. It's not like
9 one of these, you know, situations where somebody's --
10 you know, they're always beating each other up over past
11 grievances, but they all seem to get together, and it
12 was really heartening to see that.

13 I also attended the Castaic Youth Safety Day
14 meeting along with Greg Shumaker and L.A. County Parks
15 and Rec, and the L.A. County Sheriff representative was
16 there.

17 We have an issue there with L.A. County Sheriff
18 and this whole program we've put together to bring the
19 youth to our State Parks, and somehow there's been --
20 somebody's made some decisions that is -- is not
21 allowing that to happen. We need to figure out a way
22 around that. I mean it just -- it just doesn't make
23 sense that the kids are not being able to take advantage
24 of this -- this park.

25 And October 13th is going to be -- I'm -- I'm

1 sorry, that was October 13th. April 23rd is going to be
2 the next Youth Day meeting there, and that's going to be
3 a collaboration with State Parks, Boating & Waterways,
4 and OHV. So it's a -- and the L.A. County Sheriffs and
5 the L.A. County Parks & Recreation. So it's a very
6 collaborative opportunity to -- to work together.

7 The last thing I should say is last night I
8 attended the Round Table for the INOHVAA, the actual --
9 the group is really an -- off-highway vehicle program
10 managers from around the country. And there were folks
11 there from Alaska, from North Dakota, from Arizona, you
12 know, all -- you know, smattering all around the
13 country. There was probably 30, 35 people in the room.
14 And Maria Mowrey and Mark Hada were the hat over there.
15 I think we all kind of looked at each other when they
16 were talking about their \$500,000, you know, budget and
17 how they were going to spend it. And they did -- and
18 many of them had been rated before as well, you know,
19 they -- Oh, my gosh, you know, what are we going to do
20 with it? I -- I really had trouble holding myself back
21 and having some discussion there. But it was very
22 interesting for me historically to see that organization
23 that has evolved from the NOHVCC organization.
24 Initially what happened is there was several individuals
25 that started attending the NOHVCC conferences since way

1 back when, probably 15 years ago, and little by little
2 they saw the value of getting together and discussing
3 their problems in a collaborative -- not a collaborative
4 way, but just sharing information. And that was what
5 NOHVCC was all about was to bring people together to
6 discuss issues and not try and reinvent the wheel.

7 So these are folks -- there was a lot of
8 discussion there about safety issues, about working with
9 youth, education. So, you know, common themes that we
10 all share. I think the address, it was -- it was -- it
11 was well worth my time last night to be there.

12 So that's my report.

13 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. Commissioner
15 Slavik, can we -- can we talk later on about the L.A.
16 County thing, the L.A. --

17 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: Certainly.

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: All right. Because
19 I -- I thought we resolved some of that.

20 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: Okay.

21 CHAIR CABRAL: Commissioner Murphy, you had
22 something you wanted to add?

23 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Yeah. I just wanted to
24 touch on that -- oh. I also attended the 40th
25 anniversary at Hollister. Sorry, I left that out.

1 It was really nice for me to attend that because
2 I was a volunteer there in the nineties, and it was
3 really nice. It was like old home week seeing everybody
4 I worked with back then. So we had a really good time.
5 And I spoke, and I just tried to encourage people there
6 to just become involved in -- in what's going on there,
7 you know, even on a volunteer basis, that it's -- it's
8 really rewarding. And, you know, I would say the same
9 thing here, but everybody here is pretty much involved.

10 So, yeah, there was -- it was a really good day.
11 I was glad I attended.

12 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

13 Okay. As far as my report, I'm going to be --
14 the specifics, I'll save those for the -- for our
15 subcommittees.

16 But I'd just -- I'd like to acknowledge the OHV
17 Division staff for the efforts they put together. I --
18 I know I brought this up at the last meeting, but -- but
19 this -- this is a very short time frame between this
20 meeting and the previous meeting and, also, with you
21 having to move out of your offices to go across the hall
22 because of, you know, being re-furbished, which is
23 great, but I mean that was difficult for everyone
24 involved. And just, you know, your leadership, sir,
25 and just how the -- how -- the attitude and -- and just

1 the willingness for -- to adapt and to continue to go
2 forward, I really appreciate this OHV Division staff.
3 So I just wanted to acknowledge everybody. Thank you.

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: I appreciate it.

5 No, I -- great effort. And we appreciate your
6 flexibility. And I've decided that we're going to give
7 everybody Saturday and Sunday off as a reward. So...

8 CHAIR CABRAL: Did you hear that, everyone?

9 **AGENDA ITEM IV(B) - COMMISSION REPORTS - COMMITTEE**

10 **REPORTS**

11 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Well, to keep things
12 moving along here, we'll go right into our Commission
13 Committee Reports. So with these subcommittees, you
14 know, I -- I think I probably -- since we -- we do
15 have -- we have you here, Director, I think maybe we'll
16 expand a little bit on how -- some of these committees,
17 so just slightly.

18 The OHV Commission has a little far -- kind of a
19 wide reach because of our Grants Program, and we kind of
20 get into federal properties and different things like
21 that, so -- we also have some safety issues and
22 different things. So we're going to run through the --
23 through the -- the committees we have that are kind of
24 specialized, and we can go from there.

25 So the ATV Safety Committee, we have

1 Commissioner Perez.

2 Do you have any --

3 COMMISSIONER PEREZ: I don't think we have --
4 we'll pass.

5 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.

6 BLM liaison, we have Commission Patrovsky.

7 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: I'll -- I'll pass for
8 right now.

9 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. I'm also on that
10 subcommittee. And I know that we're going to have a BLM
11 report coming up. I do want the members of the public
12 to know that I am, myself, aware of the situation with
13 the DRECP and WEMO and the extension of the public
14 comment period on WEMO and how the WEMO system is now
15 being moved -- is going to be put behind the DRECP
16 language. So we'll have some more coming up on that
17 here shortly, and we'll get into some specifics and see
18 what we can do there.

19 Also, we're going to have a report on the Clear
20 Creek situation coming up, and I'm looking forward to
21 seeing that.

22 California Air Resources Board liaison?

23 COMMISSIONER HAFKENSCHIEL: I have nothing to
24 report.

25 CHAIR CABRAL: And I don't either. We had that

1 report -- they did a very fine report at our last
2 meeting, and we're just waiting for the next report from
3 them, which I think they said was -- did they say it was
4 going to be the spring?

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: I believe so. I also
6 just want to let you know that I -- I wound up running
7 into their -- all the Air Resources Board executive
8 staff yesterday in the airport. We were all kind of
9 traveling around. And I was able to give them a big
10 thanks for -- for the support, both for Oceano with what
11 they're doing down there, and also on the whole Red
12 Sticker and emissions issue. So they're very
13 appreciative of that. And -- but especially the big
14 kudo in for Cassie and the work that she's done.

15 CHAIR CABRAL: Yeah, I've been -- I've been
16 impressed with the efforts that they've put forth on
17 this. There's been a lot of work, and it seems like
18 there's been some new collaboration on it. So...

19 Okay. Next we have the Clear Creek Management
20 Area, which we will have an update on it. So just --

21 COMMISSIONER PEREZ: Defer until that time.

22 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Perfect.

23 And Cost Recovery, Commissioner Lueder.

24 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: I just have a couple of
25 comments on the cost recovery on federal lands.

1 So I had participated in the AMA District 36
2 Enduro events, and most of those are held on Forest
3 Service property. Some of them are held on BLM
4 property. And there's permit fees. My understanding of
5 the cost recovery fees is it's arbitrary, based on the
6 particular forest or the BLM area that the event is in.
7 I know the Blue Ribbon Coalition has proposed some
8 possible legislation to make these permit fees more
9 consistent and defined, and I think the Commission
10 should support that effort and work with our partners to
11 bring that to light so that -- some of the events, you
12 know, have less than a hundred participants. And I
13 think it's onerous on some of the clubs to pay
14 indiscriminate fees, in some cases, to put on these
15 events that basically just cover permit fees and they
16 don't have any -- they're -- they're basically losing
17 money. So I'm concerned about that. So just bringing
18 that to light. We can work on that collaboratively.

19 Thanks.

20 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Thank you.

21 Commissioner -- let's see, Commissioner
22 Villegas, do you want to add to that?

23 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: You know, we -- we -- is
24 this on? Is this on?

25 CHAIR CABRAL: Yes.

1 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay.

2 I know that we got the Cost Recovery Committee
3 going so that we could do some advocacy for like State,
4 you know, cost recovery with our legislature and, you
5 know, the Governor's Office. But seeing that, you know,
6 that's coming underway, I don't have anything else to
7 report since the last month's meeting. I think we got a
8 good report on, you know, the funding that's going to
9 come back to the Division.

10 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Thank you.

11 Let's see. Next we have Education and Outreach.
12 Commissioner Perez?

13 COMMISSIONER PEREZ: I'll pass.

14 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.

15 Commissioner Murphy?

16 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Pass.

17 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.

18 Events. We have Commissioner Slavik, we have an
19 event going on.

20 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: We're living the event.

21 Yeah, there was quite a bit of work, and I want
22 to thank Vicki and the rest of the staff for all the
23 work that they've put in as well to bring this joint
24 meeting effort together. And -- and also the Castaic
25 Youth Day is also included under that umbrella.

1 I want to make one little comment. I have a
2 book over there on the left-hand side of the room that
3 is a scrapbook of 60 years of my off-highway vehicle
4 history. So if anybody's got a few minutes, they want
5 to take a look at it, it's -- it's my life.

6 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Gotta have that thing
7 chained to the table. There's some good stuff in there.

8 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: Thank you.

9 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. And -- and, you know --
10 and I -- I want to take this -- I'm on this committee,
11 also, but I'd like to take the time here to really thank
12 Commissioner Slavik of not only your dedication to the
13 off-road community for so many years -- I mean that
14 scrapbook, I've had an opportunity to take a look.
15 It's -- it's wonderful. But, you know, you put in a ton
16 of effort to bring not only the NOHVCC event here for
17 this, but you're one of the original creators, you know,
18 of NOHVCC. And I just -- you for many years have tried
19 to get people to -- to work together closely and to get
20 past their differences and to be able to -- to come up
21 with some reasonable solutions. And I just really
22 appreciate your efforts. So thank you very much.

23 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: Thank you.

24 And -- and I really think that there's been big
25 progress made for the off-highway vehicle recreation

1 community for the past 25 years. I mean you can see the
2 progress.

3 CHAIR CABRAL: Yeah.

4 Okay. The next one we have, Fuel Tax Study 2018
5 Sunset. Commissioner Hafkenschiel or Commissioner
6 Lueder.

7 COMMISSIONER HAFKENSCHIEL: Nothing to report.

8 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Nothing to report.

9 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. I'm going to take a little
10 bit of time here since we have the Director here to just
11 jump in a little bit on the Fuel Tax Study's side of
12 this is that obviously with the -- the State mandate
13 towards electric vehicles and reducing greenhouse gas
14 emissions, which I personally applaud, it does affect
15 fuel tax returns. And the percentage of OHV vehicles
16 that are fuel operated are -- is going to remain high.
17 They are becoming more fuel efficient and more -- you
18 know, there's going to be greater emission standards
19 that they will be facing, so we'll be doing our part to
20 have clean air.

21 But -- but as this moves forward, we're going to
22 have to be open-minded to the possibility of having an
23 increase in the amount of fuel tax that the OHV Program
24 gets. It's somehow graded on a curve. There needs to
25 be a mathematical formula that can possibly be put

1 towards this that would be -- that would take into
2 account the -- the projected increase in electric or
3 hydrogen-powered vehicles. They're going to be on the
4 road in the State of California. So that's just -- I --
5 I just wanted to kind of put that out there so it's --
6 it's on the horizon and it's something that's going to
7 be a discussion point as we move forward. So...

8 The next one we have, the law enforcement and
9 private property interface. Commissioner Perez and
10 Commissioner Patrovsky.

11 COMMISSIONER PEREZ: Nothing to report.

12 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.

13 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: Pass.

14 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.

15 And then Urban Parks, we have Commissioner
16 Villegas and Commissioner Slavik.

17 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Other than, you know,
18 the information that Commissioner Slavik, you know,
19 mentioned about getting more youth at some of our parks,
20 I think that's one effort that, you know, we're on
21 the -- the reason why we created the Urban
22 Parks/Acquisitions. But we will take a more aggressive
23 approach also to get some of our legislators out to some
24 of our parks so they can see what we -- see what we do,
25 and the youth also that participate. So that's just

1 a -- a little snapshot of what's going to come for next
2 year.

3 Thank you.

4 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Great.

5 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: I'd like to say there are
6 two representatives here from Honda that are involved in
7 the donation to State Parks of those vehicles --

8 Thank you.

9 -- the donation to the youth-sized vehicles to
10 these -- to these youth programs. So we're still
11 waiting now. The -- the vehicles are in the wings.
12 They're ready to go, but we're still waiting for the --
13 the hoops to be -- or the dots to be signed and all
14 those kind of things. So from the standpoint of -- of
15 youth recreation, I -- I hope we can make some advances
16 there.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Oh, yeah, we're real
18 close. There's just -- it's -- it's now signature time.
19 So we've gotten through the hard stuff, and we're just
20 down to signature time. So...

21 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: Great.

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: And -- and I can't tell
23 you how much I appreciate this because what it's going
24 to do is be able to swap out a lot of, as you know, very
25 old vehicles. And if this is all about youth education

1 and safety, then we need to have the best equipment
2 possible for the -- for these kids as they're out in the
3 parks. So thank you very much for -- for the
4 initiative. Thanks.

5 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: Great to have those folks
6 out here.

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: We're close. We're
8 close. So...

9 CHAIR CABRAL: Well, that's great news, and
10 thank you.

11 Okay. U.S. Forest Service. That would be
12 Commissioner Lueder and myself.

13 So, Commission Lueder, would you like to go
14 first?

15 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Sure.

16 I just wanted to note that I had the opportunity
17 on October 18th to tour during the Oakland Motorcycle
18 Club Jackhammer Enduro, the Stonyford area of the
19 Mendocino National Forest. So I got to see that at
20 varying paces during the day: Some slow, some fast,
21 some dusty, some rainy. And I was impressed to see all
22 the work that had been done since the 2012 Mill Fire
23 which devastated the area, approximately 20,000 acres.
24 So with efforts of the Forest Service, volunteers and
25 people like Don Amador and the OHV Division staff, a lot

1 of work got done, over 20,000 trail barriers have been
2 replaced. And it was great to see all the efforts out
3 there really making a difference.

4 And then last weekend on the 25th, I attended
5 the 49er Enduro put on the -- by the Polka Dots
6 Motorcycle Club in the Eldorado National Forest at
7 Elkins Flat, and that was a great event as well. And it
8 was great to see that that portion of the forest didn't
9 burn this year. So I was happy to see that.

10 So that's my report. Thank you.

11 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

12 And since I can't race anymore, I do it
13 vicariously through you, you know, just so you know.

14 But with that, on U.S. Forest Service, on the
15 15th of this month, I attended the -- the Sierra
16 Cascades Dialogue meeting here in Sacramento. We were
17 at the Lion's Gate, McClellan. And the subject matter
18 was -- also goes into the next committee -- was -- the
19 Pacific Crest Trail was one of the subject matters.
20 Another was wild and scenic rivers and also species of
21 critical concern. And it was wilderness areas that
22 could be designated, in other words, possible wilderness
23 inventory. And that was an area of a lot of concern for
24 me because that -- once those areas are designated, even
25 if they have existing Class 2 OHV-eligible roads in

1 them, they could be managed as wilderness while Congress
2 made their mind up if they wanted to designate it as
3 wilderness. So it's a de facto wilderness, which is
4 kind of scary.

5 There are some levels of -- of -- of protection
6 in the wild-and-scenic river areas that allows
7 recreation. There's different standards per that type
8 of -- I guess the background on the area as far as the
9 topography and the geology and everything that goes with
10 it. But there's some environmental reviews. There are
11 areas that allow recreation or development even close to
12 a wild-and-scenic river.

13 The Pacific Crest Trail, that subject was
14 interesting because -- I -- I made it clear to them --
15 they kind of -- it was -- I needed to point out to them
16 that if we had that type of management on an OHV trail,
17 in other words, if the -- the base documents that ran
18 across property with no -- without -- if it was a
19 temporary trail that ran across areas with no real
20 easement legalities handled, if it had been
21 multiple-marked trails, if we had the signage we had,
22 that the trail -- that we -- there would be a lawsuit
23 and the trail would be closed down. And how I described
24 it was, is it -- it goes through some of the most
25 incredibly scenic areas of California. It is a

1 treasure. And it's like a really beautiful old home
2 that's just gorgeous to look at and the foundation is
3 completely ruined and crumbled. And I think it made
4 some impact because we -- like we saw some movement in
5 the discussions after looking at it from that
6 perspective.

7 And the other thing I'd like to report about
8 that dialogue was, is that the partnerships that -- that
9 OH- -- the OHV community has had to develop over the
10 years, that effort -- those efforts are paying off. And
11 how they're paying off is with respect and with -- with
12 just the -- the general discussions. I -- I saw that
13 the -- the mood of the room was -- it was something
14 where we had -- it wasn't like there was everyone, you
15 know, had their little camp and they had their
16 information they wanted to hold onto and they wanted to
17 make their point. It was very collaborative. People
18 were discussing issues. They were discussing difficult
19 issues. It was done in a respectful manner. And I
20 think a lot of that has come from the OHV side of things
21 where we've had to work through issues over the years.

22 So I talked about -- talked about the -- that
23 issue with some of the staff that put on the event,
24 and -- and they were really pumped to see how the
25 direction was going. And I'm going to meet with them in

1 between the next dialogue session, and we're going to
2 probably have one that's going to be a little more
3 outdoor recreation folk as to maybe even an OHV focus,
4 the dialogue. So just wanted to report that.

5 Ted?

6 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Yes, sir. If you would,
7 when that comes up, if it's all right with you, if it's
8 okay, I would like to try to attend that with you, if
9 possible --

10 CHAIR CABRAL: Certainly.

11 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: -- if that's -- if that's
12 appropriate.

13 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. I'll tell you -- I'll keep
14 you in the loop, sure. Okay.

15 Commissioner -- Commissioner Patrovsky, do you
16 have anything?

17 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: No.

18 **AGENDA ITEM V - TRANSFORMATION TEAM UPDATE**

19 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. So it looks like we're a
20 little bit ahead of schedule. How about that? So what
21 we're next going to do is we're going to move from our
22 Committee Reports. Transformation Team, if you have an
23 update on Transformation.

24 STATE PARKS DIR. MANGAT: Thank you.

25 Hopefully -- hopefully I don't ruin your

1 ahead-of-schedule times. So I'm going to take the
2 liberty and kind of insert myself and kind of -- Steve
3 Szalay, who's the lead of our Transformation Team, is
4 going to talk about many of the initiatives. But I
5 think it might be helpful to just provide some context,
6 right, so that we understand kind of -- kind of under
7 what platform was kind of a notion of this
8 transformation initiative kind of born.

9 So first, I'll -- I'll kind of go back. I think
10 all of you are aware and you've talked about the Parks
11 Forward Commission. The Parks Forward Commission was a
12 group of people and were very kind of like your -- your
13 kind of top thinkers in the State about the California
14 State Parks system, and they were assembled by the
15 Governor to really kind of do this holistic review of
16 State Parks, and what does that mean to our visitors.
17 And so they addressed a whole host of initiatives. They
18 made some recommendations in our report that was final
19 and adopted by the Commission on February 6th.

20 Now, in advance of that, the Governor on
21 January 9th of 2015 released his budget. Now, every
22 year every governor releases their budget around
23 January 10th, and along with that budget is really kind
24 of a highlights document, and it's kind of the story of
25 the budget. And I always encourage people that are not

1 as nerdy as I am and follow these types of thing to kind
2 of think of the State budget as really -- the Governor's
3 proposed State budget is really kind of the Governor's
4 largest policy statement.

5 Included in that, in this highlights document,
6 every governor goes through all State agencies and
7 determines what are the things that they really want to
8 highlight for the public and in the area of the Natural
9 Resources agency, and that's the agency under which we
10 as an organization fall, there were two key areas that
11 were highlighted: One, of course, is water, and the
12 other was the transformation of this department, the
13 State -- the State department that oversees these 280
14 State parks. And it talks about how -- generally the
15 notion that the administration embraces the
16 recommendations, but that we had already assembled this
17 Transformation Team. And -- and one of the first steps
18 was to make Mr. Steve Szalay point, as the lead on this
19 Transformation Team.

20 Steve actually reports directly to Secretary
21 Laird. We thought that it was really important to make
22 clear that he has the full force of the Administration
23 behind him. Although, to spend any time with us is to
24 see -- he sits right across the hall from me, and we
25 spend a tremendous amount of time.

1 He will talk about -- and I think he has in the
2 past, about how the initiatives were crafted and how
3 we're structured. And so I'm very grateful to him for
4 structuring it so formally because that's kind of not in
5 my nature, and I probably would have been a little more
6 haphazard than I should have been about this effort --
7 but to really kind of coalesce and try to get kind of an
8 exponential impact throughout our partners, with the
9 public, and also within the department, meaning that you
10 just don't establish a team of four people to go off in
11 a room and figure out how is it that we best address
12 this particular initiative. Let's say that the
13 initiative is about kind of strengthening our -- our
14 processes, our budget process. Instead, we have kind of
15 this exponential effort where there's those smart
16 people, but then there's these advisory committee calls,
17 there's outreach efforts. We have periodic meetings
18 with our top leaders in -- in the department. We've
19 done two outreach efforts with our 80 top leaders where
20 you get them in a room and we all talk about these
21 things. We have the tremendous benefit of having
22 Deloitte, the firm, coming in and kind of assisting us.
23 And we have been able to fund them through philanthropic
24 support. So we're very -- so that's been very helpful.

25 We also in December are planning not just our

1 top 80 leaders but just kind of going the next tier down
2 which will result in our 180 folks. And we'll spend a
3 three-day effort doing a lot of training and then also
4 talking about a lot of these initiatives.

5 Also, when we talk about the notion of kind of
6 transformation, it sounds like maybe it's this kind of
7 separate team, and they're kind of on one track, and we,
8 the Parks Department, is kind of on another track, and
9 maybe at the end of two years they'll produce a report
10 and we'll pick and choose what are the things that we'll
11 actually implement. And it's actually kind of coming
12 together far more organically than that. I actually
13 get -- we have weekly coordination meetings, and we are
14 constantly trying to find in real time what are the
15 steps and -- the steps that we can take now and not wait
16 for the end of a two-year effort and actually implement
17 a lot of these changes in real time.

18 I really kind of come from the notion that I
19 want to start talking about these things in past tense.
20 And I have very little patience, Well, we're going to,
21 we're going to, we're going to. So that's very
22 important to me, and it's very important to the
23 Transformation Team.

24 We've also been building our Leadership Team.
25 So let me speak a little briefly about what does that

1 mean. The second in command to me is our chief deputy
2 director. And this is also a Governor appointee. So
3 the Governor announced the appointment of Elizabeth
4 McGuirk to serve as our chief deputy director. And she
5 really is the one who runs the department. She's not
6 new to the department. She's actually served as our
7 legislative deputy director. So she has tremendous
8 policy experience. And she comes from a legislative
9 background, which I found -- I find invaluable when it
10 comes to addressing these types of issues. So she was
11 announced, I believe, in July.

12 We've also recently appointed a deputy director
13 of communications. And so that -- the Governor
14 announced that, and I'm looking at -- Gloria Sandoval is
15 in the room, and I believe she was announced also --
16 also in --

17 Was it July, Gloria?

18 GLORIA SANDOVAL: Late August.

19 STATE PARKS DIR. MANGAT: Late -- late August.
20 Sorry. But I was working on it a lot sooner than that.

21 So in terms of what does that mean, your deputy
22 director of communications. I think in a lot of
23 departments they tend to be more externally focused.
24 But when we were interviewing our deputy directors of
25 communication, we made it very clear that we want more

1 from you. We actually want you to think about how is it
2 that we improve our communications within the
3 department. Because when you're shepherding an
4 organization of this size through so much change, you --
5 you cannot get the message out in enough different ways
6 and in enough times, like three, four different ways.

7 And so she's thinking about how is it that we
8 get that message out? And it's not just gathering
9 people in a room to have a meeting, but she's thinking
10 about social media. So, for example, the notion of
11 transformation. We've also established Transformation
12 Tuesdays where Gloria and her team picks out kind of
13 some talking points and some of the important things
14 that we're doing and pushing it out to the field. Now,
15 keep in mind, we are not a State Controller's office
16 where everyone is generally embedded in Sacramento. We
17 are dispersed across the State of California. And
18 imagine when you spend time with us; we are all over
19 the -- you know, we are out in some really remote areas
20 in a lot of times. So how do you take an organization
21 that's so dispersed and make sure that we're kind of all
22 feeling informed. So we are trying to use media and all
23 kinds of different methods to make sure that everyone's
24 aware of that process.

25 We also -- the Governor appointed a new State

1 Preservation officer, and that is Julie Polanco. And I
2 believe that was announced probably -- I think that was
3 in June or July, also. And then also not a Governor
4 appointee but someone else that we built into our team
5 is the deputy director of Park Operations. And so why
6 does this matter to this Commission? Because Deputy
7 Director Chris Conlin and Deputy Director Kathy Amann
8 work very closely together.

9 Deputy Director Kathy Amann oversees about 17 of
10 our districts. So as you're aware, we are organized
11 into 21 districts throughout the State of California.
12 Four of those districts are OHV districts, and the
13 balance of them are what we call kind of under Park
14 Operations. There was far more collaboration between
15 these two divisions than I think a lot of people really
16 recognized. And -- so we've been very -- we've been
17 very proud of that. Because I'm not sure it's always
18 been that way kind of in -- in the past. So, to me,
19 that is success. And a lot of that is a credit to the
20 leadership of Deputy Director Conlin. So we're very
21 appreciative of that. So that's in terms of kind of
22 building out our leadership team.

23 Now, in terms of something else that was a
24 change that you need to be aware about is that for
25 probably over a decade there's been a lot of discussion

1 about our top leadership positions out in the field.
2 And those are our district superintendents, as you're
3 aware. That is -- I liken the district superintendent
4 position to being very similar to kind of a city
5 manager. It is probably one of the most difficult
6 positions, in my mind, in the entire organization. You
7 are the top person out at the local level, and you are
8 not only operating parks but you're really kind of that
9 point of contact to Sacramento. You're also the point
10 of contact with the local -- local individuals and
11 local -- the law enforcement. I mean you -- you name
12 it; you do all of that.

13 So in the past there's been a lot of interest
14 and broadening kind of the -- the talent pool from which
15 you can appoint these district superintendents. On
16 May 7th, the State Personnel Board approved a proposal
17 of a new classification that's going to allow us to now
18 appoint people from all -- from not only the law
19 enforcement background but maybe a natural resource --
20 an environmental scientist, a facilities manager. So
21 from a broad category. And it also will allow us to
22 pull talent from outside of State government. So from
23 kind of a magic-wand perspective, we're hoping to get
24 some talent from local government Parks experience or
25 maybe kind of National Park Service. So that's the

1 vision in that.

2 We have 21 district superintendents. We
3 currently have three district superintendents who are
4 serving in this new classification, and we're recruiting
5 for two more. So that's something that you probably
6 heard about. And so we are in the middle of
7 implementing that.

8 A lot of the initiatives that you're going to
9 hear Steve talk about are things that I'm glad that
10 Commissioner Slavik talks about that you folks are
11 already doing it. And so I'm always kind of having an
12 ear to the ground. What I found as an organization, we
13 haven't always celebrated our successes. And there are
14 things that we get criticized for. One example is we
15 need more programs for youth, and we need to reach out
16 to a more diverse group of Californians and making sure
17 that we're relevant to all. Right? Because we're
18 thinking about the future of State Parks, and we want
19 people to love us. We want people to have a 60-year
20 scrapbook to share with everyone. And at some point
21 Commissioner Slavik came into this and fell in love with
22 it and dedicated his life to that. And that's what
23 makes State Parks so strong. And so we need more of
24 that. So that's really the notion behind that
25 initiative.

1 But the OHV Parks are very similar to the rest
2 of the parks that I found, that while people worry that
3 we don't have enough of these programs, every time I get
4 in front of the Commission or I'm out in the field,
5 you -- you're amazed at all of the rich programs that we
6 actually have. But what I found in Headquarters in
7 Sacramento, we don't do a particularly good job at
8 celebrating them and talking about them. So we're a
9 little more haphazard about them. And so I think in
10 a -- at a -- so why we don't have to start over, a lot
11 of this is kind of re-dedicating ourselves to what we're
12 already doing in some cases and speaking about them and
13 moving into them with a lot more purpose and intention
14 out of these. So those are the types of things that
15 you'll hear us talking about.

16 And I think with that, I'll probably hand it
17 over to Mr. Szalay, and I'll -- I'll help answer any
18 questions, if you have any.

19 STEVE SZALAY: Good morning. Good morning,
20 Mr. Chair, and members of the Commission. It's a
21 pleasure to be here today. I've presented to you --
22 I've presented to you -- there you go. I've presented
23 to you one time already in -- in Palmdale, and I hope to
24 do a lot more updates in the -- in the months as --
25 months forward as we prepare our two-year scrapbook on

1 transformation. And I think one of the things we talked
2 about last time was our Director Lisa Mangat, and you
3 hear today why -- why I was telling you she's absolutely
4 a perfect director not only to lead the department over
5 the next few years, but for this transformation process
6 because she is -- she is into looking at things as they
7 exist and seeing how they can be improved -- greatly
8 improved in the future.

9 Last time we talked about the enormity of the
10 task ahead of us in Transformation, and I'm here today
11 to report that we're making tremendous progress, lots of
12 momentum. As you remember, we had a 6 -- 15-member
13 Transformation Team. Most of the work is done within
14 the six committees. And we have now over 100 different
15 folks working on the committees, working on 7
16 initiatives and 15 projects. And many -- many of the
17 projects -- some of the initiatives are completed or
18 working quickly towards completion, and these are all
19 outlined in a Progress Report that -- that we put out
20 that's up on the web site that we gave you ahead of
21 time. And so I won't take the time today. I, too, will
22 try to keep you on schedule during the day. I won't go
23 over that Progress Report in detail, but I will hit some
24 of the highlights.

25 Lisa mentioned the work of the Parks Forward

1 Commission and -- and the work of -- the early work
2 of Transformation where we put together a Transformation
3 Action Plan. And it was all based upon four strategic
4 goals. And -- and they're the same goals as the Parks
5 Forward group. In fact, we met with Parks Forward last
6 week. They had their -- their -- their first meeting
7 since they adopted their work on February 6th. And it
8 was very productive and had good dialogue between the
9 Commission and -- and myself and Lisa and the
10 Transformation Team.

11 So if -- if you look at the four goals of --
12 I'll start with the one listed at the bottom, which --
13 which we would all agree is probably the most important
14 and that's protect and enhance natural and cultural
15 resources, a lot of the times during the first nine
16 months of this 24-month process that we're in, I would
17 hear, Well, we keep hearing about revenue and we keep
18 hearing about these fancy management systems we're
19 putting in. We have to make sure we're true to our
20 mission. So protect and enhance natural and cultural
21 resources is very important. Create meaningful
22 connections and relevancy to people, maintain
23 high-quality operations in public service, and develop
24 excellent management systems.

25 As we talked about in Palmdale, so many of our

1 services -- our visitor services on the delivery line
2 are really already excellent. And if we do exit surveys
3 of our visitors and customers, they would tell you that,
4 and we -- we -- and we do that at the various times,
5 and -- and we get very high marks. But -- but our
6 back-room administrator processes are woefully lacking,
7 and -- and -- and we're working through this process to
8 make sure that that is improved greatly and -- and then
9 reaching out to partners, being a much better partner in
10 terms of programs and services and the
11 under-served communities -- reaching out to under-served
12 communities.

13 So as I told you when we started, we were
14 looking at 30 initiatives, and those 30 initiatives are
15 in the Transformation Action Plan. They're all very
16 relevant. They continue to be relevant today, which
17 is -- which is a positive just in itself. But what we
18 realized is some of them were larger, some of them
19 smaller, some of them more urgent, and so we
20 prioritized. And we really came up with seven priority
21 initiatives in terms of urgency but then created
22 projects along the way which are a little more focused.

23 So I'll go through a few of those -- of the
24 seven priority initiatives. The -- the first listed is
25 Service-based budgeting. Again, this -- I don't want to

1 repeat myself, but this -- this is a signature
2 initiative that we're doing. Once and for all we're
3 going to develop a real budget system so that we will be
4 able to describe the services we provide in great detail
5 looking at -- looking at 16 programs and many tasks
6 within those programs that are carried out through our
7 divisions and our districts and our park units. Right
8 now the -- the allocation of the money that we have
9 during the fiscal year is really just based on what was
10 given last year, and maybe there's an increase and maybe
11 there's not. And, you know, everything's pretty much at
12 the park level, and it's tough to describe what happens
13 if we get more money, what happens if we get less money.
14 With this initiative, we're going to be able to really
15 inform the budget process that we go through and very
16 clearly develop costs, develop standards, develop
17 priorities and -- that will put us in a much more
18 credible position as we talk about budgets and talk
19 about money on a statewide basis.

20 Streamline the staff hiring process. You'll be
21 glad to know that that is going very well. We had
22 situations where with a regular position that we had
23 vacant, fully funded, it would take a year in many
24 instances to actually fill that position. And we've
25 looked at this in two phases. No. 1, looking at what we

1 have now and cutting that down. And -- and I can tell
2 you that between 20 and 30 percent of the steps and
3 times have been deleted. The Phase 2 that was probably
4 more important, and that's automating the whole process,
5 automating from -- from when somebody applies for a job
6 as they take an exam -- the -- the only thing not
7 automated is the face-to-face interaction and -- and
8 interviews. It will also include scheduling. It will
9 also include payroll, all automated through a system
10 called Kronos. We will be the first State department to
11 have all of that completely automated. Some have pieces
12 of it, but that will occur probably in the spring of
13 2016. But already we're starting on the -- the -- the
14 system we have now, making sure that that is a -- a
15 faster system.

16 Leadership development goes along with what Lisa
17 was talking about with the opening pathways to
18 leadership. Employees and future employees need to know
19 what it takes to actually move through the organization
20 at Parks in terms of promotions, in terms of training,
21 in terms of mentorships and interactions between the
22 employees, and outsiders coming into the park systems
23 and be able to take advantage of that.

24 Organizational structure and classifications,
25 we'll be getting some deliverables in November and

1 December that will be very far-reaching. The -- the new
2 organization, I think, will look a lot different, will
3 be much more streamlined once again, but -- but much
4 more in line with the services that we provide. And --
5 and so more of that to come.

6 Enhance and develop engagement services to
7 under-served communities. Lisa was talking about that.
8 We do already a number of programs. We want to take
9 those to scale. We have a new liaison program that
10 we're developing that will involve L.A. Historic Parks
11 and Candlestick Point Park in San Francisco. And it
12 will -- it will use the "promotora" model where you
13 actually hire and engage somebody from local communities
14 to come into Parks and work with Parks and develop not
15 only pipelines for employment -- more diverse employment
16 in the future, but programs that will encourage the use
17 of State Parks and other parks with various communities
18 in the State.

19 Partnerships, hugely important, and we're doing
20 a lot of work in partnership, developing a partnerships
21 plan, looking at all of our policies and making us a
22 much better organization, much easier to partner with
23 us.

24 Natural and cultural resources, there's two
25 advisory committees working with the Transformation

1 Committee that are identifying the best practices and
2 develop some pilot projects. One of the -- one of the
3 kind of overarching themes of transformation, as in any
4 kind of a turnaround either in the public sector or the
5 private sector is developing these pilot projects that
6 then you can run for a while, you can evaluate, you can
7 adjust and change and then take them to scale instead of
8 trying to make the huge changes all across the State.

9 In terms of the Transformation projects, there's
10 15 that I told you about. I'm only going to talk about
11 six so we can try to stay on schedule. Lisa already
12 mentioned the Open Pathways to Leadership. And as a --
13 that's a hugely important one. We're also developing
14 career paths so that it will be very understandable what
15 needs to happen as you move through any of the
16 management classifications within State Parks, rank and
17 file and management classifications.

18 The Recreation and Reservation Sales and
19 Services Project would go out to bid. There's a whole
20 two-year bid process that had already started before
21 Transformation. That is a Transformation project.
22 We're now moving through the bidding process. It is
23 designed as a much-improved, much more flexible way for
24 visitors to make reservations for both day use and
25 camping opportunities throughout the State. That is

1 tremendous progress making on that. By the fall of 2016
2 that will be implemented and in place, the new system.

3 Smart Phone Parking is -- is -- again, seems
4 small, but it's something that -- that is -- is a big
5 thing to -- especially so far in our parks along the
6 ocean, the big beach parks is what we have. It's called
7 Passport Parking. Currently it's used in three parks --
8 three big parks. But the -- the idea is that you
9 actually use your Smart Phone as -- as an app. Instead
10 of paying one \$15 day use fee, let's say, you can go in
11 there and -- and start with a couple of hours and then
12 remotely increase your time if -- if you need it.
13 And -- and so it's -- it's all based upon the -- the
14 license plate and the parking spot that you're in. So
15 really very -- very fast. The visitors love it. And --
16 and it's working quite fine. We hope to take that
17 obviously to other districts.

18 Streamlining revenue accounting, electronic
19 report of collections, again, might -- might be a little
20 bit nerdy, but as a matter of fact, it was taking us
21 three months to recognize revenue as it came in before
22 we could actually recognize and use it. We're now down
23 to less than three days through a -- a -- a new system
24 that involves technology and is -- is -- takes a lot
25 less time to move the information forward. It's in ten

1 districts now. It will be statewide by the end of this
2 year. Google Trekker, street-view imagery of State
3 Parks within Google Maps. I hope you've gone online and
4 looked at this. It's -- it's amazing. Currently
5 we've -- we've added eleven more parks. Google's added
6 eleven more parks. We're up to 110 that provides 360
7 degree of ventures. Again, this is a relevancy issue.
8 This is a way to -- to advertise what we have in terms
9 of parks and encourage visitation. Next is historical
10 buildings, the next component they'll be taking on.
11 Next is the pilot program -- excuse me, the pilot cabin
12 programs. And we have developed -- starting to develop
13 all the planning and architectural work and engineering
14 work to install cabins at Angel Island, Calaveras Big
15 Trees, Big Sur, Jedediah Smith Redwoods, Prairie Creek
16 Redwoods and Patrick Point. We've completed scoping and
17 initiated site preparation. And this -- this -- again,
18 these are -- these are going to be pilot projects.
19 We'll have some as concessions, some that the State
20 employees provide themselves. We'll be able to evaluate
21 and take that statewide. Our Transformation Tuesday
22 highlighted the -- the whole cabin effort. I guess that
23 was yesterday. And so -- so that's -- that's to give us
24 an idea of the way we're trying to get this information
25 out.

1 So we have our remaining initiatives, and
2 there's 15 of those. But what we're finding -- the team
3 is looking at those. What we're finding is we've
4 already taken on pieces of them through existing
5 initiatives and projects, and so probably the good news
6 is, is there's really seven or eight that -- that we
7 have yet to get started on. And -- and as I say, we are
8 into the ninth month of Transformation. It's a 24-month
9 transformation. We know that this is a huge effort in
10 terms of changing the culture of the organization. So
11 what we want to establish -- remember I talked about the
12 organizational structure. The organizational structure
13 will -- if we have anything to say about it, there's a
14 new organizational structure that will include a unit
15 that will be responsible for future transformation for
16 innovations and continuous improvements. And -- and we
17 want to make that a part of the culture of the
18 organization and maybe do some overall reviews every ten
19 years, but every day we should be thinking and working
20 towards improving our services in a variety of ways.

21 The transformation process, as we said, is a
22 two-year process. It's a two-step process. A lot of
23 people ask, Well, wait a minute, shouldn't we be looking
24 for new revenue that's, you know, in the form of taxes
25 or new fees or whatever because we know the State

1 General Fund is going to be challenged for years to
2 come? So what we've done in Transformation is set up a
3 two-step process. And the first step is developing
4 credibility. All the things that we talked about today
5 will help us gain credibility for the Department within
6 Natural Resources. And then look at our -- developing a
7 stable fiscal platform. And -- and we have a -- a
8 pretty stable fiscal platform right now, but we're going
9 to improve it through this Transformation process.

10 The engagement that Lisa talked about is very
11 important. The -- the employees of the Department, both
12 the employees and the management structure are getting
13 engaged in Transformation. They realize it is the
14 number one project. They're involved in a lot of
15 different ways, and that's going to continue. Gloria
16 has done a terrific job in -- in -- in looking at the
17 communications and helping us develop the Twitter
18 processes, Facebook processes. We're going to be doing
19 videos -- video vignettes, and all that will be very
20 positive and will really help us move the transformation
21 from words into action.

22 It is -- I'll end with saying it's -- again, to
23 you, it's a perfect alignment of support. In my career,
24 I've never seen the kind of support for this -- this
25 kind of a turnaround change with a State department or

1 local governments, for that matter. The report from --
2 the support from the Governor, Natural Resources, the
3 legislature, our partners and stakeholders has been and
4 will be enormous. We need to take advantage of all that
5 because what we're doing is historical, it's
6 unprecedented, and very far reaching.

7 So with that, I'll end and open it up for any
8 questions from the Commission.

9 CHAIR CABRAL: Well, thank you. Appreciate it.

10 You know, what you guys are doing really is, is
11 you've taken this agency that's been, you know, kind of
12 using a 1970s management style and bringing it into the
13 modern age. And I think that's -- how to put this all
14 in a -- you know, in a small case here. But it -- it --
15 I know it's a difficult task. And I -- I -- like I've
16 said earlier, but you -- you guys have really -- I've
17 seen changes being on the Advisory Committee, and I can
18 see direction and -- and stability and enthusiasm and --
19 and a commitment. So there's a lot of good things
20 happening here and that I think will kind of bode well
21 for the future. So I appreciate your efforts.

22 So let me see what Commissioners -- any
23 Commissioners --

24 Commissioner Villegas, you had a question?

25 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Sure.

1 Well, thank you for your report. That was
2 really good. I really appreciate your intro to this.
3 It was really thorough as well. It was good to -- just
4 to get that context.

5 I was struck by the Google Trekker that you
6 mentioned. I thought that was super cool, you know.
7 And -- and seeing that, I guess, some of our State parks
8 are going to be included in that. I was wondering if
9 our OHV parks are also going to be a part of that.

10 STEVE SZALAY: Yes, that -- certainly the
11 intent, yes.

12 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I ask that because I'm
13 not a -- like traditional OHV, you know, recreation
14 user. But I speak to it now because I -- obviously
15 because I'm on the Commission and now I have
16 incorporated some of it into my life with my family.
17 And it's -- unless somebody is already used to doing
18 this type of recreation, people don't know about it.
19 And our parks are vast and they're really big. But
20 there's a small percentage that's used for off-roading,
21 and I would hope that this like Google Trekker just
22 highlights the active recreation and then the passive
23 recreation that is -- that our parks offer. Because
24 it's not just -- I -- I feel that our OHV parks are
25 easily accessible by everyone because they feel that I'm

1 not an off-highway user, so I'm not going to go to
2 those. But they're -- they're an opportunity for others
3 to be able to see the different amenities that we have.

4 STEVE SZALAY: Yes, we --

5 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: My pitch.

6 STEVE SZALAY: We've been -- we've been working
7 with them. It -- it -- it is -- it takes time to get
8 these going.

9 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Yeah.

10 STEVE SZALAY: And -- and so --

11 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I just saw it as an
12 opportunity to also highlight not just the recreation
13 piece but also the, you know, hundreds of acres that we
14 have for passive recreation, such as hiking, biking, and
15 the natural resources that we have so that folks just
16 don't see them -- the -- like some of Parks have, Oh,
17 it's for only for those that do OHV. They'll also see
18 them for themselves.

19 STEVE SZALAY: The other project that you --
20 that -- that ties to that directly is our Marketing
21 Plan, and we're in the process of -- of securing a -- an
22 outside consultant to help us with marketing. But --
23 but it's along the same lines. It's -- it's marketing
24 OHV and how that is set up.

25 STATE PARKS DIR. MANGAT: And, Commissioner, if

1 I can kind of respond to that, also.

2 I think -- I think that's a very good point, and
3 I agree with you. Oftentimes when I'm out talking with
4 folks, people are surprised that we have OHV Parks.
5 What does that mean, right? We throw that acronym
6 around as if everybody understands what that is. But
7 you have to make it meaningful to people. And a lot of
8 times people -- people in the Sacramento area aren't
9 always aware of that, you know, one of the best OHV
10 Parks in the nation is just right off the road even
11 though there's an exit sign on Highway 50. So we talk a
12 lot about that. But that's a good point, I hadn't
13 really been tracking it in terms of Google Trekker.

14 Essentially how those parks were prioritized, it
15 was kind of like we had some low-hanging parks in the
16 Bay Area, and then there was a desire to -- for Google
17 to walk up and down the coastline. So it's a very
18 interesting partnership that we have with them. They --
19 we still are partnering with them. They've got a couple
20 of other kind of more historic parks that they have in
21 mind, but we could definitely -- certainly have that
22 conversation with them.

23 CHAIR CABRAL: Commissioner Perez.

24 COMMISSIONER PEREZ: A couple of questions
25 and -- and then a comment.

1 I completely agree that the -- your initial --
2 your statement about building trust with the public is
3 the first priority. However, from what I recall, there
4 wasn't enough money to -- to continue to maintain parks.
5 And I guess my question is, it sounded to me like at
6 some point we would need to -- to ask the taxpayers to
7 help support the 280 parks that we have. And has there
8 ever been any discussion about -- excuse me -- maybe
9 not keeping all -- all of the -- the 280 parks? Has --
10 has that been a part of the Transformational Team
11 discussion?

12 STEVE SZALAY: Let me talk about the first part,
13 and then I'll turn it over to Lisa to talk about the
14 second part.

15 The first part is we -- we need to be able to
16 make the case, and that's what service-based budgeting
17 is all about. Right now we -- we really can't say here
18 at this -- stand here and say for sure there is or there
19 isn't enough money, and -- and at what service level?
20 There is enough money at a certain service level because
21 we're doing it. But we have no way of describing that
22 service level and -- and seeing how that service level
23 can be adjusted. And so that -- so from that
24 standpoint, that's our goal. That's the credibility
25 goal, as you said, that -- the trust goal.

1 The second part is what -- you know, the -- you
2 know, significance of all 280 park units and how -- how
3 it ties in with protection and how it ties in with
4 enhancement and -- and visitor interactions that -- you
5 know, that's another matter. So Lisa might want to
6 comment on that a little bit.

7 STATE PARKS DIR. MANGAT: Yeah. Actually, this
8 is kind of a timely discussion because we are in the
9 middle in the Executive Branch, as you know, the complex
10 budget discussions.

11 The budget conversations have -- are already
12 happening with agency and the Department of Finance, and
13 that's kind of that deliberative process that happens to
14 lead -- that leads to the Governor's budget that's
15 proposed on January 10th. And then we start to engage
16 with legislative members, and they engage in -- in
17 hearings and things and we'll have those conversations.

18 In terms of -- I think we term it "sustainable
19 fund source." One of the charges, actually, of the
20 Parks Forward Commission is that they look into kind of
21 the notion of a sustainable fund source. And if you go
22 back and look at the report, it really kind of stops --
23 stops from kind of making a -- a recommendation. I mean
24 this is a very -- this is not an easy topic, right?
25 It's -- it's not an easy one. I get approached about

1 where are we with support -- would the administration
2 support a bond? Would the administration -- is it
3 General Funds, you know, a whole host of things.

4 Now, one thing I would point out to you, when I
5 talked about kind of the highlights document, that was
6 released on January 9th of last year, there were a
7 couple of sentences in there that if you're not one
8 that's kind of in the lead and really tracking the
9 budget, you -- you may have missed it, but it was very
10 important. We -- it says that we have been funding our
11 service levels in the State Parks system through these
12 one-time kind of augmentations of our Special Fund. So
13 our Special Fund is the State Parks & Recreation Fund.
14 So the primary fund source for that is our gate fees,
15 camping reservations, all of those things. And so we
16 really have been going back to the legislature every
17 year and asking for, you know, another 14 million, 19
18 million, and that's just to maintain our current level
19 of service. That's not even really kind of -- the kind
20 of expansion that we all wish from a magic-wand
21 perspective that we would be able to be doing for State
22 Parks right now. So that's kind of the landscape of
23 State Parks right now.

24 But the other thing that it says is that when
25 you look -- we have -- we have benefited from a robust,

1 basically, a savings balance from this fund. And that
2 the next year, which is the current fiscal year that
3 we're in, was the last time that we really could take
4 that approach. So that's important. So imagine what
5 does that mean. So as we're going through this
6 transformation effort and we're out there trying to
7 maintain our current exemplary level of service across
8 all of the parks, that's kind of the reality in terms of
9 resources. So those -- that's the nature of the
10 conversation. I don't know where we're going to land in
11 terms of January, but I think that that's important to
12 know that from a leadership -- the leadership
13 perspective, that's the landscape on which we find
14 ourselves.

15 The other thing, in terms of are we looking at
16 kind of 280 parks and somehow prioritizing and are there
17 opportunities to maybe think about what does the overall
18 system look like? To that I would say I would -- I
19 would kind of harken back to 2012 when the
20 administration was proposing a closure of 70 parks. And
21 as difficult as that was at that time, it's much harder
22 to close a park now, as it really should be, right? I
23 mean these are the people's parks. That now there are
24 statute changes put in place that kind of outline this
25 very public process. So we would work with the Parks &

1 Rec Commission. So that's not something that is kind of
2 an easy go-to for us in terms of -- of a solution. So
3 that's not where -- where our head is in terms of
4 setting policy for State Parks. However, in terms of
5 partnerships, a lot of people don't realize how much we
6 benefit from our partnerships. And you, as
7 Commissioners, recognize that. And partnerships come in
8 all forms. They're operating agreements, they are with
9 National Park Service, they're with concessionaires.
10 There are volunteers. There are a whole host of
11 partnership arrangements. And if Secretary Laird was
12 here, the language that he uses is that we haven't
13 always been ideally positioned to avail ourselves of
14 those partnerships. So that's why this partnership
15 initiative is so important.

16 And partnership is not just about kind of
17 solving the math side of this, right? We still have to
18 make sure that we're protecting and preserving, and
19 we're providing the same level of recreational
20 opportunities. But also it's about furthering the
21 mission of -- of the Department.

22 So -- so partnerships are very much a part of
23 the equation going forward. In some parks, in some
24 areas we actually have these Operating Agreement
25 arrangements where others actually run the park for us.

1 We actually have some National Park Service arrangements
2 where they have come in and they're running the park,
3 but -- but we are very much partnering and keeping them
4 kind of close to us.

5 So hopefully that gives you a sense of how is it
6 that we're thinking about all of this. And so
7 oftentimes I think it's very easy for us to get caught
8 up in kind of the math exercise of it, but we always
9 have to think about kind of the -- the near term, the
10 mid term, and kind of the notion of protecting and
11 preserving so that there is someone else that comes up
12 with a 60-year scrapbook, right? And -- so think I
13 hopefully that kind of --

14 Does that address your question or --

15 STEVE SZALAY: So -- yeah.

16 STATE PARKS DIR. MANGAT: There's a lot left?

17 STEVE SZALAY: Let me just add one thing. The
18 inter- -- so what is the intersection between
19 service-based budgeting and the budget process that Lisa
20 talked about. And -- and what we need to do is -- is
21 look forward eight months -- seven or eight months,
22 we'll -- we'll have this structure -- this budget
23 structure that we'll be able to show definitively what
24 the level of services are at this point in time, talking
25 about priorities, talking about standards, and then make

1 our case for the budget which will be -- the '17/'18
2 budget going forward. And so that's the point in time
3 when we'll start informing the budget process with this
4 new budget structure.

5 STATE PARKS DIR. MANGAT: What I found in the
6 organization and we kind of have is culture scarcity.
7 And pretty soon it becomes -- becomes our reason that we
8 can't do certain things, so we can't kind of strive for
9 excellence. And so I hate that acronym SBB or -- or
10 even the title "Service-Based Budget," because
11 immediately people's eyes glaze over. So it is so
12 important because we have this culture of scarcity. But
13 then when you try to have a meaningful conversation with
14 us about what are the trade-offs that we're -- that
15 we've made, right? Because every budget, even your
16 personal budget, you can't do everything you want to.
17 You have to make some prioritization and some
18 trade-offs.

19 And so the culture of scarcity and kind of the
20 anxiety that you see from some of our staff, it's --
21 it's that -- it's kind of those things that they feel
22 that we don't have enough resources to kind of tackle
23 them. But I bet none of you can really explain what
24 that is, right? And so what this will do is it will
25 kind of allow for structure so that we can have a

1 meaningful conversation about when we say "level of
2 service," what does that mean, and what are the things
3 that -- if we have additional resources, what is it that
4 we would do? And -- and we need to be transparent so
5 that the public can look at us and understand what it --
6 how is it that we're prioritizing, and also
7 decision-makers can weigh in in terms of is our
8 prioritization methodology kind of consistent with kind
9 of a holistic vision of California, and how we should be
10 taking care of all of the State parks. So that is why
11 service-based budgeting, I think, is -- is so important,
12 too. And it's a matter of kind of -- you -- you have to
13 kind of get that base set so that for future
14 conversations, no matter what happens to our funding
15 level, we can really articulate what does that -- what
16 does that mean, right?

17 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: I just wanted to just
18 mention one thing. When we're talking about
19 partnerships and things, I would just love to see at
20 some point the -- maybe the possibility of the OHV side
21 partnering with non-OHV parks and maybe some non-OHV
22 parks that are maybe vast, underutilized, under-funded
23 and maybe making a section of those parks an OHV park,
24 if it can be done in a way that is appropriate and
25 sustainable.

1 I've said here before, one of the issues we're
2 going to tackle in the future is recreational diversity.
3 There's -- this State's population is growing by leaps
4 and bounds. And to -- to wall and fence and section
5 people off into different areas is -- that's not -- to
6 me, long term, that's not sustainable. What's
7 sustainable is people learning to work together with
8 mutual respect, which sounds like it's happening in
9 places. And I would just like to -- I would just hope
10 that that is something that can be considered at the
11 higher levels. It's not always politically correct, but
12 I would really like to see that happen. I think that
13 would be an appropriate use and -- and a good way
14 forward.

15 CHAIR CABRAL: Let me jump into that quickly. I
16 mean if you look at the issue that's rising with the
17 electric-assisted bicycles and how that could be an area
18 of possibility to start that with. I know years ago we
19 had, and the State of California used to have a
20 registration program for bicycles, and it was discarded.
21 And, you know, just looking at funding and -- a program,
22 I mean if we went back to a registration process for
23 bicycles, we could be paying for a lot of the bicycles
24 infrastructure just like the OHV infrastructure is paid
25 for through the OHV registration. So that would be --

1 you know, it's something that can be emulated.

2 One thing I wanted to discuss is just about the
3 partnerships. And I have a little bit of a concern with
4 the partnerships because we have a long history with
5 partnerships. OHV grants are in -- in a sense,
6 they're -- they're a partnership. That's what it is.
7 With that, there is a component, you know, within the
8 grants where the public can -- can comment on them and
9 they can be involved with it. And I just think it would
10 be necessary once these partnerships go forward and
11 there's going to be people operating or groups operating
12 parks, there is a -- a form for the public to comment on
13 how the performance is and how -- and have them be
14 reviewed. I think that should be something that should
15 be in there because the public needs to be able to say
16 something.

17 I know in my area there's a park up in Sonoma
18 County that has -- it's being managed by a -- a group,
19 and access is difficult. And so what's happening is --
20 the byproduct of it is is that there's a permit process,
21 you have to go through a training program and all this
22 stuff to be able to get on the trails. So what's
23 happening is the locals park by the neighbor's place and
24 they go through the forest timberland next to it, and
25 then they go ride their bikes on the trails anyway. So

1 that's -- they're working around it. So that's it.
2 Because the process is -- is -- is difficult to get a
3 permit, they're just illegally using the park. So we --
4 we want to try to avoid those types of situations from
5 happening. It could be something where the public can
6 comment and they could -- you could -- it could be
7 brought to light what's really happening there. So just
8 a --

9 STEVE SZALAY: Good point.

10 CHAIR CABRAL: Yeah. So...

11 STEVE SZALAY: Transparency.

12 CHAIR CABRAL: Yes, Commissioner Slavik.

13 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: Also about partnerships,
14 coming from the private sector, I wonder if there's been
15 a consideration into the appropriate recognition of
16 individual partners. And I know in the past that's been
17 a problem, you know, to put some corporate name on the
18 side of a vehicle. And I -- and my example is years ago
19 Honda wanted to donate a dumpster -- a dump truck to
20 Oceano Dunes to pick up trash. State Parks wouldn't
21 accept it. And we're talking probably 30 years ago. I
22 mean basically they're shooting themselves in the foot
23 because they couldn't afford their own -- you know, a
24 dump truck for their own park, but somebody's willing to
25 give it to them. But to put a small recognition plate

1 on there, you know, they -- you know, we could have --
2 we could have solved the problem.

3 So I'm wondering if that's been addressed, just
4 the recognition of partners and especially in the
5 private sector -- appropriate recognition, obviously.

6 STEVE SZALAY: It -- it is being addressed.

7 STATE PARKS DIR. MANGAT: So I'm glad that you
8 brought that up. And we kind of talked about it in
9 terms of general recognition. So I'll give you another
10 example of that. We actually had an opportunity out at
11 Huntington Beach. This was probably like the late
12 nineties -- and Deputy Director Conlin was aware of it.
13 But this is one of our non-OHV parks. And you can
14 imagine that our vehicles rust out very quickly out
15 there. And we were approached by an automotive
16 manufacturer who was willing to give us vehicles. And
17 as a matter of fact, not only just give us the vehicles
18 but replace them as they rusted out, so maintain them.
19 So that was a really sweet deal for us. Ultimately --
20 and it's very difficult for me to kind of piece together
21 what happened. But ultimately it took so long -- it
22 is -- it is far more difficult to give us things than it
23 should be. So it's -- which really puts me in kind of
24 an awkward situation where I talk about kind of our
25 resources and -- and things, and then you've got people

1 that want to come up and donate, whether it be, you
2 know, funding, whether it be vehicles, whether it be to
3 help work on our trails. And so those are -- those are
4 the types of things that we're looking at. Sometimes
5 it's statute, but sometimes, frankly, it's just our own
6 practices, or maybe we get a -- a decision from another
7 State control agency at a low level. And -- and it's
8 really kind of our job at this level to kind of pump the
9 brakes and make some phone calls to kind of make
10 government make sense, right? And that hasn't always
11 happened. So we had a decision on particular issue. We
12 had a decision, somebody at another State agency decided
13 we couldn't do this, and it was really at an analyst
14 level. So that's kind of the sad thing about this. And
15 so we get a decision from another control agency, and
16 then it doesn't happen. And I think ultimately it got
17 elevated, but at that time the automotive manufacturer
18 kind of just moved on, as you can imagine. I'm not
19 talking about this was two weeks. It was well over a
20 year that these conversations are happening. So
21 that's -- that's -- that's not kind of a shining moment
22 for government, right? And at that time there -- we
23 really weren't looking at significant branding. It got
24 caught up in kind of this notion that the State
25 government can only have X number of vehicles in its

1 fleet. And it got caught up in kind of that -- that
2 kind of conversation.

3 But we do have a conversation also about donor
4 recognition, and we are kind of re-visiting that.
5 That's really not been something that's in statute.
6 It's really kind of more of a policy. And so making
7 sure that we sit down and we have that conversation --
8 and also elevate it, so having conversations within
9 State government. But, really, what is our appetite for
10 that? Because we also don't want to see the pendulum
11 swing so far to the other side that you have, you know,
12 corporate sponsorship all over the State Parks system.
13 But there might be some areas where it just really makes
14 sense.

15 You know, the interesting thing, to go back to
16 Huntington Beach, Huntington -- the City of Huntington
17 runs adjacent beaches, as you probably are familiar, and
18 they have wonderful shiny new vehicles and it's because
19 they did engage in that partnership with automotive
20 companies. And so here you look at -- you go over to
21 kind of the State Parks side, and in some places we
22 actually have white duct tape that we found to be able
23 to patch up some of the spots. And then you go over to
24 the City of Huntington -- the City of Huntington Beach
25 and it's vastly different. So that's just another

1 example of that. So it's definitely something on our
2 radar. We're not really looking for the Transformation
3 Team doing it, because it's something that we -- we just
4 need to be, you know, talking about it anyway. So...

5 CHAIR CABRAL: Great. Thank you.

6 Commissioner Lueder.

7 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: I'll be quick.

8 I have a couple questions. One of them, I was
9 happy to hear that State Parks is embarking on
10 streamlining the hiring process because trying to
11 navigate it for a year is just too much.

12 One of the things that's facing all government
13 agencies is retirees. There's a high number, high
14 percentage of people that are eligible for retirement
15 and I'm just wondering what, if anything, the
16 Transformation Team is doing to look at attrition
17 planning either through retirement or just people moving
18 on.

19 STEVE SZALAY: Yes, that's jointly related to
20 our Leadership Development Plan because that's at all
21 levels. That plan would -- would provide a very clear
22 career path for all levels and off-ramps to -- to the
23 various levels up to the top levels. And -- and so
24 that's, to -- to us, that's the -- the first line of
25 defense. You -- you need to have two, three, four, five

1 folks ready to take on new positions as people retire.
2 So we're -- you know, it doesn't happen overnight,
3 but -- and there is no overnight way to deal with that
4 secession planning, but the way we're doing it is to
5 developing that Leadership Development Program, and --
6 and it will pay dividends a few years down the road.

7 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Okay. Great.

8 And then the second question was related to
9 assessing the status of individual parks as far as
10 maintenance and deferred maintenance goes. I'm familiar
11 with -- with county roads and there's, you know,
12 Pavement Condition Index which is used to assess county
13 roads and, you know, how they're being maintained, which
14 is useful in grabbing money from State and federal
15 sources when you can demonstrate that, hey, your -- your
16 road system is at 60 and it should be at 80 or 90. And
17 I'm just wondering at a parks level what is being done
18 to assess all the parks so you can come up with a
19 Capital Improvement Plan and kind of a total number.

20 STEVE SZALAY: You'll be glad to hear that --
21 that we've made considerable progress in that regard.
22 And we do have -- frankly, we have a -- a system of -- a
23 one-through-five system with regard to deferred
24 maintenance projects that the National -- actually, the
25 National Parks Service is looking to do some of the

1 things that we're doing.

2 Right now the Operations Committee and the --
3 and staff at facilities are -- are refining that -- that
4 system so that -- so that when there is money, like the
5 last few years we've had 20 million, but anyway for
6 deferred maintenance -- we're ready -- we're ready with
7 very well thought-out projects that -- that all
8 contribute.

9 There -- there's two other pieces to -- to the
10 deferred maintenance puzzle that -- that Transformation
11 is working on, and one is -- is developing standards for
12 an annual maintenance program that -- that is
13 sustainable over time and results in no substantive
14 additions going to the deferred maintenance list in the
15 future and -- and making sure that through this
16 service-based budgeting process park units, districts
17 and divisions get -- on annual basis get the money that
18 they need on the annual.

19 Then the third piece of the puzzle is an ongoing
20 financing scheme, and some way through bonding, through
21 some kind of an incentive program we know that on a
22 sustainable basis we're going to get X amount of money
23 every year. And -- and I think the -- the general
24 number is the way we're -- we -- we are organized right
25 now, we can -- we can do up to \$40 million worth of

1 projects in a year. So how do we develop an ongoing
2 program, maybe a 15 to 20-year program where we have
3 some confidence that we're going to get, let's say, 20
4 to 40 million a year to take care of that?

5 So all three of the components we're working on
6 now. The first one, the one that you brought up where
7 we're really in good shape on and we're making
8 refinements to that now.

9 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Great. Thank you very
10 much.

11 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. I think it's about time
12 for us to take a little break. So why don't we take
13 about a ten-minute break, and then we'll come back and
14 reconvene. Thank you.

15 (Brief recess.)

16 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Let's reconvene. If
17 everyone would please take a seat, I'd appreciate it.

18 First thing, I -- I realize the importance of
19 the Transformation -- the presentation we just had. And
20 it's not on the agenda to have public comment on this,
21 but I want to remind the public that we will not be --
22 it's not an actionable item, but I was approached that
23 people would like to make comment on it. So with that,
24 I will quickly do some public comment on this. But I'm
25 going to have to run an efficient meeting down the road

1 here given the time schedule with our -- when we join up
2 with INOHVAA. So with that, our breaks are going to be
3 short, and we're going to be sitting down quickly.

4 **NON-AGENDIZED ITEM: PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE**
5 **TRANSFORMATION TEAM PRESENTATION**

6 CHAIR CABRAL: So with that, onto the public
7 comment for the -- for the Transformation presentation.

8 Don Amador.

9 DON AMADOR: I'll pass.

10 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.

11 John Stewart.

12 JOHN STEWART: Good morning, Commission, and
13 Commissioners. John Stewart with the California 4-Wheel
14 Drive Association.

15 Thank you for the presentation on the California
16 Parks Transformation effort. I realize that taking a
17 bureaucracy that is steeped in tradition and unmarred by
18 several decades of progress is going to be a difficult
19 task, but I'm -- I'm encouraged by what I hear and
20 looking at the budget process and coming into more of a
21 service-based budgeting effort. I applaud you for that
22 effort, and I encourage you to move forward and do that.

23 People will accept change and they will accept,
24 essentially, higher fees or something if they -- and
25 paying if they know that they are getting a benefit if

1 it means some relevancy to them.

2 So I encourage you to continue. I hear some
3 good words there. And thank you for your efforts.

4 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Nick Haris, followed by
5 Bruce Brazil.

6 NICK HARIS: Good morning, Commissioners. Nick
7 Haris, American Motorcyclist Association.

8 I actually, as -- as I'm sure a lot of us did, I
9 went to some of the Parks Forward meetings, and I
10 remember -- let's face it, clearly at the time we were
11 under a real budget crisis, and there was a lot of
12 issues that maybe have been resolved at least for the
13 moment based on the current budget atmosphere. But I
14 wanted to say, number one, I hope that as part of this
15 whole process that we've talked about program
16 re-authorization for the OHV Program. I mean that, to
17 me, has got to be front and center. You know, I would
18 like to see that. If you want buy in from this part of
19 the public at least, I think that, you know, endorsing
20 the existing OHV Program and -- and endorsing the
21 continuation of it is a -- is a good start.

22 And the other issue that I brought up at the
23 meeting in Auburn, and I -- I know we've talked about it
24 at previous Commission meetings was looking for
25 opportunities for OHV recreation in the existing park

1 system in part to get some of the budget off of the
2 non-motorized parks. The only thing is we, of course,
3 would like to see some motorized opportunity. And the
4 example we -- we hear about all the time is the Henry
5 Coe facility that originally identified certain types of
6 OHV recreation in that facility, and it was just never
7 implemented. So I just -- I'd like to throw that out
8 every time the opportunity comes up.

9 So thank you for your time.

10 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Thank you.

11 Bruce Brazil, followed by Dave Pickett.

12 Bruce?

13 BRUCE BRAZIL: Pass.

14 CHAIR CABRAL: Dave?

15 DAVE PICKETT: Pass.

16 CHAIR CABRAL: Pass.

17 Amy Granat, followed by Bob Ham.

18 Amy?

19 AMY GRANAT: Pass.

20 CHAIR CABRAL: Bob Ham?

21 BOB HAM: I put down to speak on a different
22 issue.

23 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Okay.

24 Diana Mead, and then Jerry Fouts.

25 JERRY FOUTS: On Parks Forward?

1 CHAIR CABRAL: Yes. This is on the
2 Transformation.

3 JERRY FOUTS: Good morning, Commissioners. I'd
4 like to speak about Parks Forward. I'm sorry, my voice
5 has gone away.

6 I think Parks Forward -- I've done a lot of
7 reading and I talked to Ted about it at length. And I
8 think -- I think it's a really good idea. I would like
9 to see Parks -- California State Parks be in sane, at
10 least what I think is good financial condition as OHMVR.
11 And I think it has to be driven by visitor experience.

12 OHMVR, in my experience, is getting -- getting
13 way better at understanding what visitor experience and
14 their list of priorities. I've seen -- I've seen what
15 it can be when visitor experience is somewhere down the
16 road in priorities: Law enforcement number one, and a
17 bunch of other priorities number two and three. And,
18 frankly, that's why I don't go to State Parks anymore to
19 recreate. I mean I still play on the dirt bikes, but I
20 go with my family to parks and other places up on the
21 north coast. And I've been kind of driven away from
22 that experience because I just simply don't want to go
23 and be -- and -- and have my experience there be
24 overshadowed by law enforcement stuff, checking my --
25 my -- my car is out of date on their tags and my dog is

1 always on the leash. I get that part of it. But I just
2 don't go there anymore. I'd rather -- I'd rather
3 have -- go to a place where visitor experience is number
4 one and -- and, you know, along the way you certainly
5 have to have a law enforcement component, certainly have
6 to have an environmental component. But if you look at
7 Carnegie SVRA, they have made a change in culture of
8 human beings I thought would never be possible ever,
9 ever in my lifetime by just having visitor experience
10 being the number one priority. And the people there
11 responded, unbelievably have been responding. So I
12 would say State Parks you could take a lesson there.

13 Thank you very much.

14 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Thank you.

15 So that concludes the above -- oh, Bruce came
16 back?

17 Bruce?

18 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: And I think Amy did as
19 well.

20 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Bruce Brazil, would you
21 like to comment on the Transformation --

22 BRUCE BRAZIL: No.

23 CHAIR CABRAL: No? Okay.

24 BRUCE BRAZIL: I didn't have --

25 CHAIR CABRAL: Amy, would you like to comment on

1 the Transformation?

2 AMY GRANT: Good morning, Commissioners.

3 Is it on? Testing, one, two, three. It works.

4 Good morning and welcome esteemed guests.

5 I just wanted to say I was at the Parks Board
6 Commission Meeting last week, and I really was
7 impressed, and sometimes it's tough to do especially
8 with the history of Parks and what we have.

9 I think moving forward, the Transformation Team
10 and ideas is an excellent idea. And we can take a
11 lesson from that within the OHV community as well.
12 We've done a lot of things by rote year after year, the
13 same as what we've done, not only for the Division but
14 within our own communities. We can break out of that
15 mold. And I think it's an excellent -- excellent
16 example for us. So I encourage everyone in this room,
17 everyone in the Division, let's work closer together.
18 Let's have a better community.

19 And that visitor experience, that's a very, very
20 interesting thing because we serve so many populations,
21 so many different populations. We really have to reach
22 out and find those populations and see what they want.
23 It's not only -- yeah, I'm -- I'm a confirmed Jeoper;
24 that's who I am, that's what I do. Other people are
25 motorcyclists. But we have side-by-side families, we

1 have snowmobiles, we have so many different things that
2 we serve within this Division. We really need to hear
3 from them as well.

4 Thank you.

5 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

6 Okay. So moving on on the agenda, we have a
7 couple of administrative items we need to look at from
8 the Commission. The -- the first one is the election of
9 the officers for 2016, and the second is going to be
10 selections of dates for the 2016 Commission meetings.

11 So before we get going on this, I did want to do
12 a brief little recognition -- one of them just left;
13 that's nice. But I just wanted to say that -- that we
14 have three past chairmen of the Commission here, and one
15 of them would be Don Amador, who just stepped out the
16 door for some reason. So Don was once the chairman of
17 this Commission. I wanted to recognize him for that.
18 We also have Commissioner Lueder, who was a past
19 chairman, and Commissioner Slavik. So I just -- I
20 appreciate what you guys were able to accomplish, and
21 I'm glad that you're still part of the team, for sure.
22 So...

23 (Applause.)

24 CHAIR CABRAL: And, you know, we don't need Don
25 getting a bigger head, so -- anyway.

1 AGENDA ITEM VI(A) - ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS - ELECTION OF
2 OFFICERS FOR 2016

3 CHAIR CABRAL: So with that, what -- I guess at
4 this point I'll open it up to the Commission and see if
5 there's anyone who has any nominations or if they'd like
6 to nominate themselves to be the chairman.

7 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: I'd like to nominate Ted
8 Cabral for the chair.

9 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: Second.

10 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. So I'm allowed to talk
11 about myself for a minute, but I think I'll save time.

12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Other nominations?

13 CHAIR CABRAL: That's right. I'm sorry.

14 Other nominations? Would anyone else like to
15 nominate themselves for the chair? I know, no one wants
16 to do it.

17 Okay. So with that, I guess instead of talking
18 about this, let's go ahead and go right to the vote.

19 (Roll call vote.)

20 (Chairman Cabral was elected unanimously.)

21 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. So next we will move on to
22 the vice chair and --

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Wait a minute.
24 Congratulations. How about we have a round of applause.

25 (Applause.)

1 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you. Thank you. I'm just
2 trying to save that time you were talking about earlier.
3 That's all.

4 So with that, vice chair.

5 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I'll nominate -- is it
6 on?

7 I nominate Diana.

8 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: I'll second.

9 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Would you like to speak
10 about yourself for a minute?

11 LEGAL COUNSEL TOBIAS: Any other nominations?

12 CHAIR CABRAL: Any other nominations?

13 Okay. We're ready for a vote.

14 (Roll call vote.)

15 (Vice Chair Perez was elected unanimously.)

16 SECRETARY VICKI PEREZ: Congratulations.

17 (Applause.)

18 CHAIR CABRAL: All right. Looks like status quo
19 there.

20 **AGENDA ITEM VI(B) - ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS - SELECTION OF**
21 **DATES FOR 2016 COMMISSION MEETINGS**

22 CHAIR CABRAL: So the next thing we're going to
23 do is move into the dates. So we have some suggested
24 dates for our Commission tours and meetings based upon
25 some data that was collected on our schedules. And we

1 have --

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: This is your training
3 aid coming up here right now.

4 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Nice.

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Just so the audience
6 doesn't get nervous, it's just the calendar.

7 CHAIR CABRAL: All right. So the dates we're
8 looking at are February 4th and 5th, June 2nd and 3rd,
9 September 8th and 9th, November 3rd and 4th or
10 November 17th and 18th.

11 So -- now, also, I -- I realize that we have the
12 potential to have some -- a special meeting possibly
13 thrown in if we have an issue arise. Correct?

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: You always have that
15 option. Mandatory four meetings through the year. But,
16 yeah, you can do a special meeting if you need it.

17 CHAIR CABRAL: So if we had to have something
18 that was a specific issue and just -- and the whole
19 meeting would be based on that issue, that could be put
20 into the schedule based on availability of everybody.

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Right. And thrown into
22 the mix is the fact that we think Carnegie General Plan
23 will probably be ripe for decision around February.

24 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Great.

25 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I have a point -- a

1 question.

2 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Yes, Commissioner.

3 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Just a clarifying
4 question. We submitted dates. Have those already been
5 taken into consideration?

6 SECRETARY VICKI PEREZ: Pretty much, yeah.

7 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay.

8 SECRETARY VICKI PEREZ: So it should -- I
9 mean -- I tried not -- not to conflict with your
10 schedules as best I could. Sometimes it's hard, but in
11 general I try to avoid those dates.

12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: You want to let her
13 know about your code on your -- your chart there?

14 SECRETARY VICKI PEREZ: So you can see the NA's,
15 those -- if you can see -- you can see the NA's, that
16 represents dates when a certain Commissioner would not
17 be available. So we really tried to -- tried to not
18 land on an NA. But given some schedules, it was really
19 hard to pick a date around that. So...

20 CHAIR CABRAL: Well, I would like to say on the
21 November one, the 17th and 18, that conflicts with
22 another committee that I'm on within Sonoma County.
23 That's usually our budget time frame for our Budget
24 Committee. So that would be something that -- we have
25 not set the date for it yet, but I know it's usually in

1 that region.

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay.

3 CHAIR CABRAL: So the earlier part of the month
4 it isn't. So for me the November 3rd and 4th would be
5 better for my schedule.

6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. Well, why don't
7 we walk through it.

8 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.

9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: How about the -- as --
10 as -- when we took the -- the survey amongst everybody,
11 we know we had at least one Commissioner that may not be
12 able to make it on February 4th and 5th. It's an
13 attractive date because it -- if you look at the rest of
14 those dates in and around there, there's not a lot of
15 other time. There's a little bit in March kind of in
16 the second week that we might be able to do it, and
17 there's a week that -- looks like the third week in
18 April, and we could potentially do it.

19 Again, what we're trying to do with this one is
20 there's a high potential that we'll be able to do
21 the Carnegie General Plan at that point sometime in
22 there.

23 So what do we think?

24 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: That works for me.

25 MARK HADA: Sir, could I just point out that

1 during the February time frame, that will be the King of
2 the Hammers, the last event, just as a consideration.

3 CHAIR CABRAL: Well, I -- I -- I -- I think
4 we've had time to look at this. So I mean maybe it
5 might be -- just to go ahead and make a motion and see
6 if we can accept the proposed dates, and then we can go
7 from there.

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: I don't even think we
9 have to get that formal. The 4th and 5th okay? You're
10 all right with February?

11 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: That works.

12 CHAIR CABRAL: Yeah.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. All right.

14 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: The question I would have
15 is, is the Director apprised of these dates? Is she
16 going to be able to attend our meetings as well?

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: We just -- I'll answer
18 a little bit for her. These dates are also
19 de-conflicted with all the other Commissions --

20 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: Okay.

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: -- partially because
22 yours truly has to be able to attend two different ones.
23 So -- so right now these are de-conflicted with all the
24 other three commissions. So there is a potential that
25 we'd be able to get attendance.

1 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: Perfect.

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay.

3 CHAIR CABRAL: All right. So the next one would
4 be the June 2nd and 3rd.

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah. And that one's
6 attractive because we can get -- looks like we can get
7 all of you there. We want to do that. We -- usually we
8 try and do that in that June time frame so we don't get
9 into the summer vacations.

10 CHAIR CABRAL: Correct.

11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. That one okay?

12 CHAIR CABRAL: Looks like it.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: All right.

14 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Hold on.

15 CHAIR CABRAL: And then following would be
16 September 8th and 9th.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Wait, I'm getting --
18 wait, wait, wait. I'm getting a concern from --

19 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: I'll figure it out, yeah.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay.

21 CHAIR CABRAL: All right.

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. Next, so for the
23 audience, that's June 2nd and 3rd.

24 All right. Now, we're into September 8th and
25 9th.

1 CHAIR CABRAL: Uh-huh.

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: When's Labor Day?
3 Labor Day is right before? Okay.

4 CHAIR CABRAL: I hope we have that in a really
5 good location because I can see a Reno vacation coming
6 up.

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: We'll try and make it a
8 place that you can ride, right?

9 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: All right. Okay.
11 All right. Does that one work, 8th, 9th?

12 CHAIR CABRAL: Yes.

13 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Yes, that works.

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay.

15 All right. And then we're into November. So...

16 CHAIR CABRAL: Like I said, I would prefer the
17 first part of November for -- because I know that other
18 meeting is going to be coming up in that period of time.
19 It's -- it's usually the third Thursday of November.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. All right.

21 CHAIR CABRAL: So is everyone okay with the
22 first part of November?

23 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: The 3rd and 4th?

24 CHAIR CABRAL: Yes.

25 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Yeah.

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: We may have a conflict
2 with one of you because obviously it looks like you've
3 got an NA there. So I won't ask you to fess up, but --
4 all right?

5 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.

6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay.

7 CHAIR CABRAL: All right.

8 LEGAL COUNSEL TOBIAS: Can I get in on this?

9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah.

10 LEGAL COUNSEL TOBIAS: I just wanted to point
11 out -- I just wanted to point out in asking for that,
12 when we can meet -- set a new meeting that's not on the
13 schedule, it still requires the Bagley-Keene notice. So
14 you would still need the ten days in order to have a
15 special meeting, but you can always do that. There is
16 another emergency-type meeting, but we very rarely
17 qualify for it. So I just want to make sure everybody
18 understood that that was still -- would be a noticed
19 meeting.

20 CHAIR CABRAL: Understood. Thank you.

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: And we went through
22 that procedure for Clear Creek, and -- and it worked
23 out. So...

24 Okay?

25 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Sounds great. Well, thank

1 you.

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: All right. So just for
3 planning purposes, right now we anticipate that the
4 February meeting is probably going to be -- need to be
5 located in the vicinity of Carnegie. Okay?

6 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: Or something like that?

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Or Tracy. More to come
8 on that.

9 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Sounds good.

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: All right.

11 CHAIR CABRAL: Well, Tracy certainly would be an
12 option, I think, would be a good one.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah. I don't -- you
14 know, I -- I think -- my recommendation would be that,
15 although Mark Hada wants to kill me on this, but we hold
16 off on committing to the location of the -- of the June
17 one. We'll go ahead and figure that out as -- as time
18 goes on and we see what's going on out there.

19 CHAIR CABRAL: Certainly.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah, Mark's staring at
21 me right now. He's furious. But -- okay. All right.

22 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: One question. Where are
23 we with Onyx in the next coming year? Is there
24 something there that we ought to be paying attention to?

25 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: We're in the build-up

1 phase right now, so there's not really any significant
2 events. I was out at Red Rock Monday taking a look at
3 the trails and all that out there. Remember we talked
4 about that at the last meeting, how that Cudahy riparian
5 area is going to work out? I think we've got some good
6 decisions there.

7 As far as Onyx itself, I think -- are we
8 getting -- I can't remember.

9 Dan, are you reporting on Onyx at all?

10 DAN CANFIELD: No.

11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: No.

12 Onyx is at a stage where the MOU -- I think
13 we're down to the point where we'll be ready to sign on
14 that. And -- and that helps us out, management. That's
15 going to be something that the District Superintendent
16 Kathy Weatherman will be signing with BLM. But no other
17 major events there. You know, we -- we have to kick
18 start the General Plan on it, and that will be starting
19 here pretty soon. I think Dan is -- is about to start
20 that one up when he finishes out a couple of these other
21 plans. Good news is it's looking real nice out there.

22 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. So I guess we -- do you
23 have any more questions there, Commissioner?

24 ///

25 ///

1 AGENDA ITEM VII(A) - BUSINESS ITEMS - PROPOSAL TO DRAFT
2 A LETTER IN SUPPORT OF S 414 (FEINSTEIN - CALIFORNIA
3 DESERT CONSERVATION AND RECREATION ACT OF 2015) AND HR
4 3668 (COOK - CALIFORNIA MINERALS, OFF-ROAD RECREATION
5 AND CONSERVATION ACT)

6 CHAIR CABRAL: All right. So at this point I
7 think we're going to move forward and we're going to get
8 into some business items. And we're going to look at
9 the proposal to draft a letter in support of S 414, the
10 Feinstein Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015
11 and HR 3668, the Cook -- Congressman Cook, the
12 California Minerals, Off-Road Recreation, and
13 Conservation Act.

14 So, Katie.

15 KATIE METRAUX: Good morning, Commissioners. My
16 name is Katie Metraux. I'm an Associate Park &
17 Recreation specialist with OHMVR Division and Planning.

18 The subject of my report is a proposal to draft
19 a letter in support of the California Desert
20 Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015, the California
21 Minerals, Off-Road Recreation and Conservation Act, or
22 to write a letter in support of both bills. This report
23 is located in Tab 7 of your binder, and there are also
24 copies located on the table just outside the door.

25 At the September Commission meeting, I presented

1 a staff report about the California Desert Conservation
2 and Recreation Act, also known as S 414.

3 During the public comment period for this
4 report, a representative from Congressman Paul Cook's
5 office presented information about a companion bill, the
6 California Minerals, Off-Road Recreation, and
7 Conservation Act, also known as HR 3668, which would be
8 introduced into the House of Representatives at the
9 beginning of October.

10 The Commission decided to postpone taking an
11 action and requested the OHMVR Division prepare a report
12 that compares the OHV components in each bill and as a
13 Business Item at this Commission meeting.

14 Senator Diane Feinstein -- Diane Feinstein
15 introduced S 414 on February 2nd, 2015, and it was
16 referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural
17 Resources at that time. Congressman Paul Cook introduce
18 his companion bill HR 3668 more recently on October 1st,
19 2015, which was referred to the House Committee on
20 Natural Resources.

21 Both bills have the potential to protect and
22 enhance OHV recreation with the California -- within the
23 California Desert Conservation Area. For example, both
24 bills would designate five to six existing off-highway
25 recreation areas managed by the Bureau of Land

1 Management as national off-highway recreation areas.

2 The bills also propose expanding three of
3 these -- of these OHV recreation areas, though the
4 amount varies in size and comparison. In addition, both
5 those protect OHV recreation on existing BLM-designated
6 routes within the proposed National Monument Management
7 Areas.

8 There have been several recent actions taken for
9 these bills. The Senate Subcommittee on Public Lands,
10 Forest and Mining held a hearing on S 414 on October 8th
11 of this year. Senator Feinstein and Congressman Cook
12 hosted a joint public hearing on October 13th to discuss
13 the proposed National Monument destination. This was
14 held in Southern California.

15 For a more detailed comparison of the
16 legislative text, see Attachment 1 after this report in
17 your binder. It's a matrix. And also key portions of
18 both bills are located behind Tab 14 of the Legislative
19 Report. You can see a lot of the text, especially the
20 Cook bill there.

21 So this concludes my report. The Commission may
22 decide to draft a letter in support of S 414, in support
23 of HR 3668, draft a letter in support of both bills, or
24 decide to take no action.

25 I would like to turn this over to the Commission

1 for discussion and public comment. Thank you.

2 AGENDA ITEM VII(A) - BUSINESS ITEMS - PROPOSAL TO DRAFT
3 A LETTER IN SUPPORT OF S 414 (FEINSTEIN - CALIFORNIA
4 DESERT CONSERVATION AND RECREATION ACT OF 2015) AND HR
5 3668 (COOK - CALIFORNIA MINERALS, OFF-ROAD RECREATION
6 AND CONSERVATION ACT) - PUBLIC COMMENT

7 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. So why don't we go ahead
8 and do the public comment on it, and then the Commission
9 can discuss this and then we can decide what we'd like
10 to do.

11 So I'll start with public comment here.

12 First person would be Don Amador, followed by
13 John Stewart.

14 DON AMADOR: I'm Don Amador, Blue Ribbon
15 Coalition. Good morning, Commissioners.

16 Just wanted to, you know, encourage the
17 Commission to support this legislation. As you know,
18 our founding fathers intended for Congress to struggle
19 with these types of legislative processes. And it's,
20 you know, Blue Ribbon's feeling that it's always better
21 if Congress can designate legislation. You know, we've
22 seen some National Monuments designated recently, the
23 Berryessa Snow Mountain, which is sort of outside of the
24 norm; it was as a result of the five years of intensive
25 meetings with stakeholders, and I think it was an

1 example of something that could work.

2 But anyway, just like to encourage the
3 Commission to support a legislative fix rather than a
4 monument designation.

5 Thank you.

6 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

7 John Stewart, followed by Nick Haris.

8 JOHN STEWART: Good morning, Commission, and
9 Commissioners. John Stewart with the California 4-Wheel
10 Drive Association.

11 Cal 4-Wheel supports this legislation as a
12 legislative agenda, legislative fix, and it moving
13 forward as a legislative priority.

14 OHV recreation in the desert region has a long
15 history, and over the years that keeps getting cramped
16 and moved into smaller and smaller locations, which is
17 extremely problematic because opportunities are being
18 lost at the expense of other developments, such as the
19 various solar and wind energies in the area. And we're
20 also losing opportunities to wilderness and proposals.
21 So creation of additional monuments, we find that to be
22 problematic and in the big pictures, we really have to
23 ask why. This is the California Desert Protection Area,
24 an area that was set aside to be protected from
25 development beginning with the Federal Lands Management

1 Policy Act back in about '76. So it has a long history
2 of protection. And there's a point there that we need
3 to look at the historic usage of the area. And with the
4 amount of OHV dollars that have been spent to promote
5 and provide for recreational opportunities within that
6 region, it's something that investment should be
7 considered and looked at.

8 But the bottom line is that Cal 4-Wheel will
9 support this provided it is a legislative fix that
10 incorporates the stakeholders' concerns, and that means
11 retaining the OHV opportunities in the area.

12 Thank you.

13 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

14 Nick Haris, followed by Bruce Brazil.

15 NICK HARIS: Good morning, again, Commissioners.
16 I'm Nick Haris, American Motorcyclist Association.

17 I brought two copies -- I didn't bring enough
18 for everybody, but I have two copies of our conditional
19 support letter that we have sent to Senator Feinstein.
20 I know our Southern California membership feels very
21 strongly that they've had a pretty fair shake in these
22 negotiations. And their concern, as you've already
23 heard from others, is the monument designation as
24 opposed to the legislative remedy. We do support the
25 Cook bill. I think we feel a little stronger in that.

1 But, frankly, we expect there will be some -- some
2 compromise and some discussion.

3 I just wanted to mention, I did go to the
4 meeting in White Water, California two weeks ago that --
5 that Senator Feinstein held, and I saw a few -- few
6 folks I recognized there from -- from -- some past
7 commissioners, actually. June Henderson was there as
8 well. And Senator Feinstein said on numerous occasions
9 at that meeting she preferred a legislative fix. And I
10 understand, you know, she feels maybe a two-prong
11 strategy is what she wanted to pursue. But she made it
12 very clear at that meeting that she would prefer a
13 legislative solution. And I know there was staff from
14 Congressman Cook's office as well. And it seemed like a
15 pretty firm commitment. So I think anything from you
16 guys would help back that version of how we should get
17 this handled. And the fact that it's been a long and
18 maybe difficult process, I think that's a good thing. I
19 don't think we need to expect something like this to
20 happen overnight.

21 So I will provide the two copies I brought if
22 anybody wants to see them.

23 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

24 Bruce Brazil, followed by Dave Pickett.

25 BRUCE BRAZIL: Good morning, Commission, and

1 staff. Bruce Brazil. And I think I'll be representing
2 myself on this one. We've got other members of CORVA
3 here that may be speaking on this.

4 And I'd like to bring up the point where I guess
5 Senator Feinstein, I guess, is getting a little
6 impatient with the legislative process and wanted our
7 president to utilize the American Antiquities Act of
8 1906 in order to establish the three major monuments in
9 her bill. However, if you read through the actual
10 Antiquities Act, it has to do with historic objects or
11 places. Now, all these three -- these three great --
12 you know, these three monuments of great land mass are
13 not necessarily historic in any sense. There may be
14 small sections of it that could be satisfied as such.
15 Along with that, it could -- if there are historic areas
16 or objects within the boundaries, he could designate
17 some of the land, but the wording is that the limits of
18 the parcels shall be confined to the smallest area
19 compatible with proper care and management of the
20 objects to be protected. Now, I find it hard to believe
21 that something like the Mojave Trails Monument, if you
22 do the math on it, that's 1,500 square miles. Somehow
23 that doesn't equate in my mind to the smallest area
24 available. Sand to Snow Monument, 210 square miles.
25 The Vinagre Wash Special Area Monument, 127 miles --

1 square miles. So something to consider as far as
2 whether the president could even utilize the Antiquities
3 Act in order to back it up. So yes, the legislative
4 approach, I think, is about the only way it's going to
5 happen.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

8 Dave -- Dave Pickett, followed by Amy Granat.

9 DAVE PICKETT: Good morning, Commissioners.

10 Dave Pickett, District 36, Motorcycle Sports Committee.

11 District 36 also supports the legislative
12 process on S 414 and the companion bill HR 3668. We
13 also feel that enough monuments have been put in place
14 down in the southwest. And we all know the amount of
15 closures to OHV recreation over the last 20 years and
16 its impact. We do not support any effort whatsoever
17 concerning the Antiquities Act. Mr. Brazil just pointed
18 out the expansion of what the law's intent was way back
19 in the early nineteenth century.

20 Thank you.

21 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

22 Amy Granat.

23 AMY GRANAT: Pass.

24 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.

25 Bob Ham, followed by Diana Mead.

1 BOB HAM: Good morning, Mr. Chairman,
2 Commissioners, Director, Deputy Director. Bob Ham,
3 legislative director for the American Sand Association.
4 I also serve on the Board of Directors at CORVA and the
5 Imperial Valley Race Committee.

6 Would like to speak really to exactly what the
7 proposal is. As it was pointed out, you have a variety
8 of options. I would come down in favor of two letters:
9 One that supports Senator Feinstein's S 414 as far as it
10 goes, and perhaps suggest that as the bills -- her bill
11 moves forward that she take a hard look at some of the
12 improvements that were added in the Cook bill for -- for
13 OHV use.

14 And secondly, I would ask that you send a letter
15 supporting the Cook bill, but also, by the same token,
16 ask him to take a look at some of the things that he
17 left out when he actually introduced the bill, and those
18 other ones that deal with some of the hard work,
19 compromises, particularly the -- the Vinagre Wash
20 Special Management Area. All of the Imperial Valley
21 stuff did not get into his bill. And we -- and we
22 understand that -- that he wants Congressman Vargas to
23 come on board and show his support and that he will --
24 he's -- he's already drafted the amendments. But I
25 think it's important that there are some -- there are

1 some OHV items that were in the Feinstein bill that are
2 not in the Cook bill, and -- and that would be important
3 to send a separate letter and basically telling them
4 both that we like them as far as they go, but they could
5 both go further. And we hope that during the process
6 they'll be open to that.

7 And then finally, with respect to the monuments,
8 Senator Feinstein and even Congressman Ruiz who was one
9 of the co-sponsors of her bill, both mentioned at the --
10 at the meeting in White Water that their preference is
11 to go forward with the legislation. And I think both
12 letters should -- should carry that notion that -- that
13 a bill that takes care of all of the issues is far
14 better than a limited presidential designation under the
15 Antiquities Act.

16 Thank you.

17 CHAIR CABRAL: Well, thank you.

18 Diana Mead, followed by Jerry Fouts.

19 MS. MEAD: Good morning, Commissioners, staff,
20 State Parks. Diana Mead with CORVA, California Off-Road
21 Vehicle Association.

22 We look at our job as education and giving voice
23 to our stakeholders. The legislative process is messy,
24 ugly, partisan. I mean we can apply all kinds of
25 different adjectives to it. But it is the only process

1 available to us that gives voice to the stakeholders.

2 An executive action, as much as I may or may not
3 appreciate it, does not allow us to have a voice in the
4 process. And the amazing thing about these bills -- and
5 I -- at CORVA we discussed it at length in our
6 conference call the other evening, they're companion
7 bills. Both miss facets that are important to our
8 stakeholders. Both protect some of the OHV
9 opportunities that we all need and appreciate. One is
10 Senate, one is House. And the way our process works,
11 there would have to be bills in both Houses and both
12 chambers.

13 We urge the Commission to write the letters.
14 And I think Bob Ham's idea of two letters is perfect
15 urging the legislative process to go through, that both
16 bills get reviews in their respective chambers and get
17 us on the road to a process that includes the voice of
18 the stakeholders I represent and you represent.

19 Thank you very much.

20 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

21 The last one would be Jerry Fouts.

22 JERRY FOUTS: Pass.

23 CHAIR CABRAL: You're going to pass. Okay.

24 Okay. Commissioners, well, we were able to hear
25 the public comment on this. We've been kind of informed

1 on both of these a number of times -- well, not a number
2 of times on Cook's. This will be the first time we
3 really want to get -- do the side-by-side comparison.
4 And I also wanted to just let everyone know that I've
5 been trying to keep in touch with -- on the back end of
6 the political side of it, and it does seem that we're
7 getting some collaboration between Feinstein's office
8 and Cook's office. So we're starting to see that
9 happening. And so things are moving in that direction.

10 So, Dakota, would you like to quickly address
11 that before we make a decision as far as what's going on
12 the -- on that side of it?

13 DAKOTA HIGGINS: Thank you, Chairman Cabral.
14 I'll try to make this very brief.

15 As was mentioned before, Senator Feinstein had
16 her first hearing on her bill, S 414, on October 8th.
17 We believe that's in part because Congressman Cook
18 introduced his bill and Senate Republican leaders just
19 saw that there was a companion bill and that this was
20 gaining traction. So they gave her hearing. As you
21 know, it's been, you know, in the Senate since February
22 or -- with no action whatsoever.

23 Your letters of support, if you choose to write
24 them, are very important to us. That's going to help us
25 get an expedited hearing date. We're looking at our

1 first hearing being in late November or early December.
2 And Congressman Cook is actually committed to moving
3 this throughout the legislative process. He believes,
4 as many people mentioned here, that it needs to go
5 through the legislative process. It cannot be made --
6 get stuck the designation of this land. And he also
7 believes that while there is some differences between
8 HR 3668 and S 414, that those differences are best
9 worked out in conference after both bills have moved out
10 of their respective Houses.

11 So that's -- that's the really the political
12 finding. We always have an open relationship with
13 Senator Feinstein's staff. We're working closely with
14 them, and we're both cautiously optimistic. So...

15 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Thank you.

16 So, Commissioners, do we have any discussion on
17 this?

18 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Well, I'm just -- I think
19 you're going to go in the direction where -- excuse me.
20 I think you're going to go in the direction where we
21 consider two letters. Is that the first thing that we
22 need to decide?

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yes.

24 CHAIR CABRAL: Well -- yeah, I'll just try to
25 wrap up what I see from what the public is telling us

1 and what we've seen developed here is that I think we
2 need to send a letter of support for each side with the
3 OHV components, support for that. I think we should be
4 specific. I also think we should note the investment
5 and the time of the investment and the financial
6 investment that's been made throughout by the OHV, you
7 know, Grant Program in the area. I think it's important
8 that possibly the economic impact of OHV is possibly
9 noted in this -- in this letter. And, also, I think
10 it's been apparent that the public has completely made
11 their voice known, that they do not want to support the
12 Antiquities Act, and I think we should note that in some
13 way. And we should also encourage a -- you know, a
14 solution to the legislative process. So that's kind of
15 like an overview of what I can see of how this could
16 look, you know -- and one addressed to each specific --
17 you know, the senator and also the congressman.

18 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Mr. Ham mentioned that
19 Congressman Cook's bill didn't have verbiage in there to
20 the Imperial Valley. What exactly -- was that left out
21 for a reason or why -- I need clarification on that, and
22 if that's something that we should add to our letter or
23 not.

24 CHAIR CABRAL: Actually, I think that's
25 something we could -- we could research that as we're

1 building the letter.

2 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Okay.

3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: And then -- so we could
4 be clear on that.

5 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Yeah.

6 CHAIR CABRAL: Commissioner Slavik.

7 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: Our -- is it appropriate
8 for us to address this Antiquities Act at the executive
9 branch level, in other words, send a letter to them as
10 well? I don't remember ever doing anything like that,
11 but...

12 CHAIR CABRAL: I don't think it's the -- I don't
13 think that's something we should probably stick our toe
14 in those waters at this point.

15 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: I don't know.

16 CHAIR CABRAL: I mean I appreciate you bringing
17 it up because it does have --

18 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: That's an 800-pound
19 gorilla.

20 CHAIR CABRAL: Yeah. And it's -- it's something
21 that -- but, you know, what -- what happens there is --
22 is we certainly -- the political environment gets -- you
23 know, it -- it opens up a lot of cans of worm -- can of
24 worms there, and we start looking at -- you know, like
25 myself, I'm a Governor appointee and I would have to be

1 able to discuss this issue with the Governor's Office
2 before I said anything that -- commenting on an
3 Antiquities Act.

4 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: But I -- I think in
5 the -- in the arena -- talk about it positively, that
6 the legislative process is a more appropriate process
7 to --

8 CHAIR CABRAL: Yes.

9 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: -- to pursue this. And --
10 and not -- not saying that we're, you know, throwing
11 darts at the president or anything like that, but just
12 suggest -- maybe in our informed suggestion that this is
13 a more appropriate way to do this.

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: All right. I'll make a
15 quick suggestion here. The State of California does
16 have an -- obviously a liaison for both -- with the
17 legislature and at the executive level. So if you were
18 to create a letter that was going in support of these
19 bills, what we would do is make sure that -- that was --
20 that the Governor's office was informed of that, and,
21 therefore, they know the intent of the OHV Commission
22 and all that, and they can communicate that. I think
23 that's probably a more useful of way of -- of getting
24 that information on up.

25 You know, the -- the big thing is I think -- I

1 think the letter is half written, I mean of the people,
2 by the people, for the people. We've been involved with
3 the process, and we want to see a legislative solution
4 to it that incorporates that involvement, both
5 economically involved and -- and also obviously
6 providing our input on recreation. So I think that that
7 could be incorporated into either one letter that goes
8 to both or two separate letters. And we can determine
9 that probably as we sit down and write it.

10 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. So would anyone like to
11 make a motion for some action here?

12 Yes.

13 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I just wanted some
14 clarification. I think we should send in our letter --
15 I thought I read somewhere that we also have a national
16 monument listing in play for this area.

17 CHAIR CABRAL: Yes.

18 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Proposed.

19 CHAIR CABRAL: Proposed. So -- so
20 essentially --

21 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Yeah, I'm just saying
22 that -- is that a variable? That's a variable?

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Right.

24 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: And -- and I didn't mean
25 to cut you off. I'm sorry.

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Uh-huh.

2 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: But I'm saying that
3 because that's something that's going to like overshadow
4 the year and -- a year left. So that's something that
5 will take place or may not take place.

6 And then how fast does Congress work anyways?
7 What harm do we have in sending a letter of support? I
8 mean it's lucky if it could get to committee. Just my
9 perspective.

10 CHAIR CABRAL: Well, I -- I see your point. You
11 know, I -- I think what we need to do is we need to be
12 focused on -- on the fact that OHV recreation has been
13 for -- for many years a strong part of Southern
14 California -- Southern Californians, their lifestyles,
15 their experiences, their -- their economy. And I think
16 that's what we need to kind of focus on is how important
17 this type of recreation has been out there. I mean
18 let's be realistic, that's a harsh environment. And I
19 mean one thing I can say about it, one of the reasons I
20 do what I do is because of -- of the OHV trails and
21 OHV access -- I'm going to go away from trails to
22 access -- is inclusive access. And myself, having
23 multiple sclerosis, it's very difficult for me to be
24 able to go out in that type of a harsh environment
25 without having some kind of a motorized assist. So if I

1 was out there in the heat and -- and trying to go on a
2 hiking trail -- I'd love to be able to go hike the PCT
3 in the Southern California region, but I can't do it.
4 So that -- this allows me to have access of those areas,
5 and this protects for people that have disabilities. So
6 I think it's really important that we have that OHV
7 component protected. So that's a side bar.

8 So I think that's what we need to focus on is
9 that OHV, the inclusiveness and the access -- the
10 recreational access. It's not -- a lot of times -- like
11 a motorcyclist gets characterized as a person that goes
12 out there and it's all about the thrill of riding the
13 trail, but that's not it, actually. It's a lot of times
14 just to go see the scenic vistas, to go to that wild and
15 scenic river or something. I just am not capable of
16 doing it in high temperatures and walk the whole
17 distance. So that's what I kind of want to focus on.

18 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: I'd like to make a motion
19 to authorize the Chair to work with Division staff in
20 drafting a letter of support for the OHV components for
21 S 414, a letter of support for the OHV components of
22 HR 3668, and to transmit those letters once they're
23 finalized.

24 COMMISSIONER HAFKENSCHIEL: Second.

25 COMMISSIONER PEREZ: Second.

1 CHAIR CABRAL: Any further discussion?
2 Okay. I think it's time for us to vote.

3 (Roll call vote.)

4 (Motion passes unanimously.)

5 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. I'm going to check my time
6 here so I -- how many people --

7 You doing good?

8 THE REPORTER: Yes.

9 **AGENDA ITEM VII(B) - PROPOSAL TO DRAFT A LETTER IN**
10 **SUPPORT OF HR 1838 (FARR - CLEAR CREEK NATIONAL**
11 **RECREATION AREA AND CONSERVATION ACT)**

12 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. So why don't we go ahead
13 and jump into the next item, then, which is going to be
14 the Congressman Farr and the Clear Creek letter of
15 support.

16 DAN CANFIELD: Hello, again -- excuse me.
17 Hello, Commissioners. Dan Canfield, OHMVR Division
18 Planning Manager, presenting the business item on a
19 proposal to draft a letter in support of the Clear Creek
20 National Recreation and Conservation Act. This is
21 proposed federal legislation out of the House of
22 Representatives, Bill Nos. HR 1838.

23 You have the report in your binders behind Tab
24 No. 8. And as an FYI, the actual text of the bill is
25 located behind Tab 14, which is the legislative report.

1 United States Congressman Sam Farr introduced
2 the Clear Creek National Recreation Area and
3 Conservation Act on April 16th of 2015. The bill
4 established the Clear Creek National Recreation Area as
5 well as a new 21,000 acre wilderness area, the Joaquin
6 Rocks Wilderness.

7 A little background. The Clear Creek Management
8 Area or the CCMA, as I will call it, was a popular OHV
9 recreation area managed by the Bureau of Land Management
10 Hollister Field Office. The CCMA provided highly
11 unique, with its topography and scenery, intermediate
12 and advanced single-track off-highway motorcycle
13 recreation as well as camping, hunting and rock
14 hounding.

15 The report has a map attachment. The CCMA is
16 located in central California in southern San Benito
17 County, also portions are in western Fresno County.
18 It's located west of the Interstate 5 along State
19 Highway 25 between the communities of Hollister and
20 Coalinga. CCMA is roughly 75,000 acres, of which 30,000
21 acres is designated as a serpentine area of critical
22 environmental concern or ACEC. Most of the OHV
23 recreation occurred in this serpentine ACEC.

24 The CCMA was temporarily closed back in 2008 due
25 to health concerns relative to naturally occurring

1 asbestos. Then in February of 2014, the BLM permanently
2 closed the serpentine ACEC to OHV recreation. The OHMVR
3 Commission unsuccessfully appealed that decision. And a
4 copy of that official appeal letter is behind the map
5 attachment in the report.

6 Since the area was closed to OHV recreation, the
7 area has been visited several times by members of the
8 OHMVR Commission as well as congressional
9 representatives. And that brings us back to that
10 proposed federal legislation, HR 1838. It establishes
11 the new Clear Creek National Recreation Area where OHV
12 recreation would be prioritized, as well as other
13 recreation like hunting, hiking and rock hounding.

14 Last month the San Benito County Board of
15 Supervisors sent a letter to the House Committee on
16 Natural Resources where the bill currently resides. The
17 letter requested a hearing on the -- on the proposed
18 legislation. That letter is also attached to the
19 report. It's the last page behind Tab No. 8.

20 This item has been agendized as a business item
21 allowing the Commission to take action after public
22 comment and discussion.

23 The possible action would be to direct an ad hoc
24 committee of the Commission to draft a support letter
25 for this federal legislation. Likewise, the Commission

1 could decide to take no action.

2 That ends my report. And I'd like to turn it
3 back over to the Commission for discussion and public
4 comment on the subject.

5 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Thank you.

6 **AGENDA ITEM VII(B) - PROPOSAL TO DRAFT A LETTER IN**
7 **SUPPORT OF HR 1838 (FARR - CLEAR CREEK NATIONAL**
8 **RECREATION AREA AND CONSERVATION ACT) - PUBLIC COMMENT**

9 CHAIR CABRAL: I think we'll dive right into the
10 public comment.

11 First person I'd like to ask up would be Don
12 Amador, followed by John Stewart.

13 DON AMADOR: Don Amador, Blue Ribbon Coalition.
14 Good morning, Commissioners. One of our favorite
15 subjects, I think Congressman Farr best summed this up a
16 couple years ago at a town hall meeting in Hollister
17 where he told a group of about 60 to 70 people, he goes,
18 "I've toured Clear Creek," and he goes, "In my opinion,
19 that is an appropriate area for OHVers to enjoy." He
20 goes, "If I was a younger guy, I'd probably go out there
21 and ride my Jeep or dirt bike and -- and enjoy it as
22 well." And he said, "Furthermore, my granddaughter, who
23 rides her ATV at Oceano Dunes," he says, "I'd like her
24 to be able to ride her ATV out there at some point in
25 the future."

1 So I just strongly urge the Commission to send a
2 letter of support in for that bill. As you heard before
3 from Congressman Cook's staffer, these letters of
4 support are critically important to help generate
5 momentum for these bills to be heard in Congress. So
6 appreciate your support. Thank you.

7 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

8 John Stewart, followed by Nick Haris.

9 JOHN STEWART: Good morning, Commission,
10 Commissioners. John Stewart, California 4-Wheel Drive
11 Association.

12 Cal 4-Wheel has long held an event in the Clear
13 Creek area called the Molina Ghost Run. It has 25,
14 30 -- almost 30 years in that area, and it has been
15 displaced into another area. What we're finding is,
16 like Southern California, different areas OHV recreation
17 is being displaced, moved out, and even locked out of
18 different areas.

19 Clear Creek, we believe, is an appropriate area
20 to go ahead and move forward with a dedicated OHV
21 recreational opportunity. And this is the type of an
22 opportunity that is so rare in the Central Valley. But
23 Cal 4-Wheel supports moving forward with a legislative
24 effort in order to provide for that recreational
25 opportunity. We would like to see the recreational

1 opportunities be improved within the State because of
2 the high demand for the recreational opportunities. So
3 it is something that we strongly feel should be moved
4 forward. We understand that there are some public
5 health and safety concerns that will be residual as --
6 but -- however, these issues can be worked out. We need
7 to start with the -- the legislation and then start
8 opening the other discussions and the management to move
9 forward.

10 So please, I encourage you to support this
11 legislation. Thank you.

12 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

13 Nick Haris, followed by Bruce Brazil.

14 NICK HARIS: Nick Haris, American Motorcyclist
15 Association.

16 First of all, I want to thank all of you. I
17 know we did a tour down there a little while ago, and
18 the continued interest from -- from the Commission, I
19 think, is really important. It kind of helps keep a
20 spotlight on this. We've talked about it before, but
21 it's just a very, very important and very unique
22 issue -- area. And we have had a number of club events
23 and nationals that have gone in there, the Quick Silver
24 Enduro being the -- the primary one that you hear about.
25 We need this place re-opened, and I think that anything

1 you can do to help support that -- and obviously we'll
2 go through the management process, but we need a
3 commitment that this is a place -- we've spent so much
4 money there in the past. And I remember on the tour the
5 amount of money they were spending to build a bunch of
6 infrastructure that didn't appear to be very OHV
7 friendly was a rather interesting discovery.

8 So thank you for your support.

9 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

10 Bruce Brazil, followed by Dave Pickett.

11 BRUCE BRAZIL: Bruce Brazil, as an individual
12 once again.

13 And like most people, yes, I want to see Clear
14 Creek re-opened. I've only been down there a couple of
15 times in my lifetime, but I know so many other people
16 that have been down there that really enjoy the area.

17 The -- see, where did I leave off?

18 Hopefully the report that, I guess, will be
19 coming up a little bit later on, the Air Quality, will
20 shed some more light on it. I had something else I
21 wanted to -- darn.

22 Can I come back later maybe?

23 CHAIR CABRAL: Yeah, we can come back to you.
24 That's fine.

25 BRUCE BRAZIL: Thank you.

1 CHAIR CABRAL: Dave Pickett, followed by Amy
2 Granat.

3 DAVE PICKETT: Dave Pickett, District 36.

4 As most of you know, this -- this particular
5 issue is very close to the hearts of thousands of our
6 District 36 members. Many of us have been riding there
7 since 1945, post World War II when the first Jeepers
8 came and started using it as a recreation area. They're
9 all healthy, doing fine, smoking cigarettes, drinking
10 too much, and having a good time, but they can't ride in
11 a place they rode for 55-plus years.

12 This temporary closure is now seven years. And
13 we support any efforts that this Commission can do on
14 behalf of the millions of OHV recreationists in this
15 State that come from all over the State as well as the
16 nation. It has been identified as a top ten OHV
17 recreation area in the nation.

18 When the EPA decided to go after this particular
19 place, to me, it's been political; it has nothing to do
20 with health. There are no dead bodies. There is no
21 records showing the health risks that's been identified
22 by EPA. The International REF Committee, what they've
23 said, it was like smoking one cigarette per year.

24 So we've got two agencies fighting each other,
25 trying to figure out is it safe or is it not safe? But

1 not much has come up about the Atlas Mine down there
2 where they had employees working 24/7. It became an
3 Atlas Super Fund site. It was cleaned up. Nobody got
4 sick. Nobody got ill.

5 So from the bottom of my memberships' heart,
6 please do everything you can to get -- to get this bill
7 through and write that letter.

8 Thank you very much.

9 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

10 Amy Granat, followed by Bob Ham.

11 AMY GRANAT: Thank you. Amy Granat. And today
12 I am channeling -- channeling Ed Waldheim with my orange
13 jacket and reporting for the California Trail Users
14 Coalition. Someone has to channel him. He's also a
15 former chair of the OHMVR Commission.

16 As Dan Canfield noted, Clear Creek is known for
17 many things and many different uses. California Trail
18 Users Coalition consists of representatives from
19 equestrian, mountain bike, motorcycle, miners, and we
20 encourage everyone to think about multiple uses when
21 they look at areas.

22 Really, the -- the question on this is very
23 similar to the question earlier on the other bills.
24 This is a legislative solution. We're looking for a
25 legislative solution so the stakeholders can have their

1 voice. I was one of -- I'm not sure -- of many people
2 who read throughout the entire document and the entire
3 EPA report. It was a lot of late-night reading. And
4 you can't help but feel a little bit targeted by it
5 because there was no -- no empirical evidence at all.
6 They offer a legislative solution as the only option
7 open to stakeholders and have their voice heard.

8 Thank you.

9 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

10 Bob Ham, followed by Diana Mead.

11 BOB HAM: I didn't have anything on this one.

12 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Thank you, Bob.

13 Diana, followed by Jerry Fouts.

14 DIANA MEAD: Good morning. Diana Mead,
15 California Off-Road Vehicle Association once again.

16 Legislative process, Clear Creek is not just for
17 motorcycles. We are the proud owners of a sandrail, and
18 I was much younger when I went to Clear Creek. I would
19 love to go back.

20 Legislative process, please support. The only
21 caveat that we would put there is that we make sure that
22 whatever we're proposing, whatever we're saying, that we
23 are looking to take into account all the voices of the
24 various stakeholders that are out there.

25 Thank you very much.

1 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

2 And the last one would be Jerry -- no, actually,
3 let me go back to Bruce Brazil. So Jerry Fouts, then
4 Bruce Brazil.

5 So, Jerry, you're up next, and then Bruce.

6 JERRY FOUTS: Thank you very much. Jerry Fouts,
7 District 36.

8 You know, this particular event is really a
9 weather vein for us in Northern California and Central
10 California. It's really about whether our sport is
11 relevant and sustainable in our community.

12 I've known Jeepers, I've known people that have
13 been -- have been recreating at Clear Creek -- Clear
14 Creek for many, many years. And they're depending on us
15 not to give up this fight. They're depending on our
16 heart and what we're doing to get that riding area and
17 recreation area back again. And there's another example
18 of a legislative process, a great example of how we have
19 to be committed to different ideas on -- on how we're
20 going to get motorcycle areas and OHV areas to -- to
21 recreate in. State Parks area, same deal. There's --
22 there's some great State parks that -- that maybe we can
23 partner in to have some riding areas in. But here's
24 another way that -- that creative minds have looked and
25 said, Hey, listen, here's a possibility on it. I really

1 would ask for your support in that regard.

2 Thank you.

3 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

4 Bruce Brazil.

5 BRUCE BRAZIL: Bruce Brazil, recovering from a
6 little brain fade.

7 Part of Sam Farr's bill is -- states that in two
8 years that the -- basically, the BLM would have to come
9 up with a new management plan. Well, the BLM, they
10 really shut the place down. And there's a good part in
11 the bill that I would like to see some emphasis on if
12 you should decide to write a letter of support, and that
13 has to do with having more of a collaborative input from
14 the different government agencies and the recreational
15 people and others that actually access the Clear Creek
16 Area. I'd like -- really like to have some strong
17 emphasis that their input carries a lot of weight in the
18 new management plan.

19 Thank you.

20 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Thank you.

21 So after the public comment there, what we're
22 looking at is is the possibility to make a motion to
23 authorize the CCMA Ad Hoc Committee, which would be
24 Commissioner Perez and myself, to draft a letter in
25 support of HR 1838. And I guess we can have some

1 discussion on that and see what we'd like to do.

2 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: Can I make a comment
3 and ask a question quickly?

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Absolutely.

5 CHAIR CABRAL: Yes.

6 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: I -- I think that the
7 congressional action is the -- most likely to succeed.
8 But how we do it on the administrative appeals through
9 the Office of Hearings and Interior Land Appeals Board?

10 DAN CANFIELD: Well, I might defer that to the
11 BLM for a more detailed response, but I believe it was
12 an unsuccessful appeal.

13 CHAIR CABRAL: Is it possible for us to have the
14 BLM maybe speak to that?

15 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: It's a done deal. That
16 was a done deal.

17 ESTE STIFEL: Hi. Este Stifel, BLM Southern
18 California District Manager.

19 Yes, there was an unsuccessful appeal. So the
20 ROD was -- is in full force and effect at this point.

21 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. So that means that really
22 our only avenue at this point would be a legislative
23 solution.

24 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: Comment?

25 CHAIR CABRAL: Yes.

1 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: First of all, I -- I would
2 like to reflect some of the input we've had from the
3 public. In the page No. 2 on the report where it says
4 the CCMA based on health concerns related, blah, blah,
5 blah, I think we ought to insert the word "alleged" in
6 there. You know, I mean it's a small thing, but if we
7 continue to reflect the -- the EPA's view of this whole
8 situation -- we know there's no dead bodies, we know
9 that people have been recreating there for years and
10 there's never been a problem. So let's -- let's --
11 let's keep saying that in our correspondence.

12 And to kind of piggyback on that, in the letter
13 I think we need to hit that very hard. If there's never
14 been a documented and -- you know, if -- if I'm wrong on
15 that, I'll -- I'll -- I'll stand by it. But if we --
16 but as far as we know, there's never been a documented
17 health issue related directly to CCMA. We ought to make
18 that firm.

19 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.

20 Commissioner Lueder, did you have something to
21 say?

22 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Just whenever people are
23 ready to make a motion, I'm happy to do it.

24 CHAIR CABRAL: I'm looking towards you.

25 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Okay. I'll make a motion

1 to have the -- authorize the Clear Creek Subcommittee to
2 draft a letter of support for HR 13 -- or 1838, excuse
3 me, and work with staff to draft that letter and
4 transmit it when it's final.

5 COMMISSIONER PEREZ: I'd like to second that.

6 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. So we have a motion that
7 could be voted on.

8 (Roll call vote.)

9 (Motion passes unanimously.)

10 SECRETARY VICKI PEREZ: Motion passes.

11 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Thank you.

12 How are you? Fine?

13 THE REPORTER: Yes.

14 **AGENDA ITEM VII(C) - APPOINT AN OHMVR COMMISSIONER TO**
15 **SIT ON THE OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE SAFETY EDUCATION**
16 **COMMITTEE**

17 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. And let's keep moving on.
18 So we have -- the next business item would be the
19 Item C, and that would be the appointment of an OHMVR
20 Commissioner to sit on the Off-Highway Vehicle Safety
21 Education Committee.

22 GREG SCHUMAKER: Good morning, Commissioners.
23 Good morning, Commissioners. Greg Schumaker,
24 Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Training & Safety Coordinator
25 for the Off-highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division.

1 My subject is the appointment of an Off-highway
2 Motor Vehicle Recreation Commissioner to serve on the
3 Off-Highway Vehicle Safety Education Committee. The
4 report can be found behind Tab 9 in your binder.

5 At the last Commission meeting we discussed the
6 Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Education Committee. To
7 recap, Section 38500 of the California Motor Vehicle
8 Code establishes the Off-Highway Vehicle Safety
9 Education Committee. The Off-Highway Vehicle Safety
10 Education Committee is made up of the commissioner of
11 the Highway Patrol, the deputy director for Parks &
12 Recreation for the OHV Division, the director of Motor
13 Vehicles or their designee, and a member of the
14 Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Commission.

15 The Off-Highway Safety Education Committee
16 approves the ATV safety training organizations. The ATV
17 Safety Training organizations provide the public with
18 the safety certificate required under Section 38503 of
19 the California Vehicle Code.

20 At the last Commission meeting, the
21 Commissioners recommended that the OHMVR Division
22 reconvene the Off-Highway Vehicle Safety Education
23 Committee.

24 So the possible Commission actions, the
25 Commission may appoint one Commission member to serve on

1 the Off-Highway Vehicle Safety Education Committee,
2 appoint one Commissioner and an alternate to serve on
3 the Off-Highway Vehicle Safety Education Committee,
4 appoint two Commissioners to divide the work between
5 them, or take no action.

6 That concludes my report on this business item.
7 I'll turn it back over to the Commission Chair for
8 discussion and public comment.

9 **AGENDA ITEM VII(C) - APPOINT AN OHMVR COMMISSIONER TO**
10 **SIT ON THE OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE SAFETY EDUCATION**
11 **COMMITTEE - PUBLIC COMMENT**

12 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. So I think we will move
13 right into public comment. Thank you. And then we
14 can -- from there can discuss it amongst the Commission
15 and see what we'd like to do.

16 So the first person on this would be Don Amador.

17 DON AMADOR: Pass.

18 CHAIR CABRAL: John Stewart, followed by Nick
19 Haris.

20 JOHN STEWART: I'll pass.

21 CHAIR CABRAL: Nick Haris.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He just stepped out.

23 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. I'll get back to him.

24 Bruce Brazil.

25 BRUCE BRAZIL: Pass.

1 CHAIR CABRAL: Dave Pickett.
2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Stepped out.
3 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Amy Granat
4 AMY GRANAT: Pass.
5 CHAIR CABRAL: Bob Ham.
6 BOB HAM: Pass.
7 CHAIR CABRAL: Diana Mead.
8 DIANA MEAD: Pass.
9 CHAIR CABRAL: Jerry Fouts.
10 Okay. The other two gentlemen have not come
11 back in the room. So I'll give it another second.
12 Okay. So it's amongst us.
13 COMMISSIONER PEREZ: I have (inaudible.)
14 CHAIR CABRAL: Yes, absolutely.
15 COMMISSIONER PEREZ: Okay. So I think at the
16 last Commission meeting Paul and I expressed interest in
17 this particular membership. And -- so -- so I'd like to
18 suggest one of the actions for the Commission. I think
19 that since -- you know, unless someone else wants to
20 step into this process, I would like to recommend that
21 Commissioner Paul Slavik be the assigned member, and I'd
22 like to be the alternate if for some reason he cannot
23 make a certain meeting. I think that that -- and then
24 we can just stay in touch and communicate with each
25 other.

1 Paul, I'm not sure if you would be okay with
2 that. So -- so I'd -- I'd like to make a motion to
3 appoint Paul Slavik as the Commissioner for the
4 Off-Highway Vehicle Safety Education Committee and
5 myself as an alternate.

6 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Any discussion on that or
7 a second?

8 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: I'll second.

9 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.

10 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: Is that -- is that okay
11 with Paul?

12 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: I'm being quiet here
13 again in respect to our time frame.

14 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

15 Okay. So we have a motion that could be voted
16 upon.

17 (Roll call vote.)

18 (Motion passes unanimously.)

19 SECRETARY VICKI PEREZ: Motion passes.

20 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Just a quick note on
22 that. I've got two invitation letters to go to DMV and
23 CHP. They're literally sitting in my in-box for work.
24 So that's on me for not having it done yet. But we'll
25 get those in a fast turn, and we'll get them out. And

1 thank you very much for supporting this.

2 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: A comment, please.

3 CHAIR CABRAL: Yes.

4 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: So I -- I -- my
5 understanding is that there's a much broader
6 responsibility of this committee rather than just
7 identifying a provider for safety education. So I --
8 I'm going to really focus on education in a broader
9 sense and youth in general this time. So I think
10 everything we've always heard about, we need to work
11 hard on.

12 CHAIR CABRAL: Well, you know, Paul, I know you
13 have a lot of experience building programs. I'm looking
14 forward to what you can accomplish with all your -- you
15 know, I think you coming to the table on it.

16 And I know, Diana, you -- you -- you have
17 been -- this has been a key subject for you since I've
18 been on the Commission, and I really appreciate this,
19 and with both of you stepping up with this. And -- and
20 with that, I think we should probably reorganize the
21 Ad Hoc Committee. The ATV Safety Committee currently is
22 with Commissioner Perez and Commissioner Murphy. I
23 think it would be appropriate to -- to have Commissioner
24 Murphy removed and have Commissioner Slavik added. So
25 we have you guys officially on the sub-committee

1 communicate as much as you'd like to and as much as you
2 need to. So that would make it so we'd be correct with
3 Bagley-Keene.

4 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: I agree.

5 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.

6 SECRETARY VICKI PEREZ: Does this need to be
7 voted on?

8 CHAIR CABRAL: I think this is just a decision
9 that I can make as the Chair.

10 SECRETARY VICKI PEREZ: Yeah.

11 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay?

12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah.

13 **AGENDA ITEM VIII - PROGRAM REPORTS**

14 CHAIR CABRAL: All right. Okay. So our
15 business items are now taken care of. So we can get
16 into program reports.

17 **AGENDA ITEM VIII(A) - PROGRAM REPORTS - CLEAR CREEK**

18 **MANAGEMENT AREA MONTH-LONG RISK ASSESSMENT REPORT**

19 CHAIR CABRAL: So the next -- the first one up,
20 we have the program report is going to be the Clear
21 Creek Management Area Month-Long Risk Assessment Report.

22 RICK LeFLORE: Good morning, Commission,
23 Executive Team. I'm Rick LeFlore, Environmental Program
24 Manager for California State Parks Off-Highway Motor
25 Vehicle Division, headquartered in Sacramento.

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Just a quick note
2 before you -- he is now officially the Environmental
3 Program manager. We selected him from some very stellar
4 candidates. So he's going to be shy, but I'm not going
5 to be. So this is a big deal.

6 CHAIR CABRAL: Well, thank you.

7 RICK LeFLORE: I flunked retirement.

8 (Applause.)

9 RICK LeFLORE: Thank you.

10 We're working off of Tab 10 today. And this
11 is -- we have a couple acronyms, so we're working off
12 the International Environmental Research Foundation or
13 IERF Report Update, and this is for the Clear Creek
14 Management Area, CCMA, and this is the Asbestos Study
15 that has already been referred to this morning.

16 I'm going to be generally following the staff
17 report. And then if you want to follow me, we have the
18 update attached as a part of the tab. And then I'm
19 also, at the end, I'm going to share conversations I've
20 had with California Geologic Survey Scientists since we
21 got this report update. So hopefully I can bring some
22 clarity to some rather abstract concepts.

23 In May 2013, the OHMVR Division entered into
24 agreement with the IERF to determine adequate and
25 accurate and health-based risk analysis of asbestos

1 present and serpentinite rock and soil at the CCMA in
2 San Benito and Fresno Counties, California. The work is
3 additional and complementary to work previously
4 performed by IERF at CCMA in 2010.

5 At that time, ambient and activity-based
6 motorcycle trail riding, air samples were collected and
7 later analyzed to determine if particles collected on
8 membrane filters were asbestos related and what the
9 airborne concentrations of this mineral may be.

10 A Risk Assessment Analysis was performed based
11 on the data generated, and IERF issued a report of its
12 findings on April 8th, 2011.

13 In general, based on the findings it was
14 determined that there are times and conditions during
15 which motorcycle trail recreation can be performed at
16 CCMA when OHV enthusiasts would not be exposed to
17 unacceptable high levels of airborne asbestos.

18 The purpose of the subsequent center report is
19 for IERF to analyze additional air samples collected
20 during other months and previously studied when OHV
21 recreation is traditionally popular at CCMA.

22 An additional Risk Assessment has been performed
23 using a larger number of air samples collected over the
24 months that IERF did not previously sample. A final
25 Risk Analysis and report was to be delivered by

1 September 2014 per our agreement. After the
2 September 25th, 2015 OHMVR Commission meeting in Mammoth
3 Lakes, OHMVR Division staff requested an update from
4 IERF on the status of its efforts. The update, dated
5 October 15th, 2015, is attached as part of the staff
6 report and incorporated by reference.

7 The October 15, 2015 update is not to be
8 inferred as a conclusionary risk analysis and assessment
9 as IERF has additional research and write-up work yet to
10 be performed in order to fulfill terms and conditions of
11 the existing agreement. As stated in the attached
12 update, IERF collected 34 additional motorcycle air
13 samples over two-day periods in November and December of
14 2013, and January and March 2014. And the results of --
15 for 31 of those samples are listed on Table 1 in that
16 report.

17 Sample strategies were identical to those
18 performed in the earlier IERF study as follows: Each
19 motorcycle ride was about 20 miles; one in the morning
20 and another in the afternoon over two days. Air samples
21 were collected on the first two motorcycle riders while
22 additional riders followed taking videos of the two lead
23 riders using helmet-mounted Go-Pro cameras. Two
24 additional air samples were collected on the last
25 motorcycle rider on the final day of air sampling in

1 March 2014.

2 So preliminary review of the Table 1 fiber
3 exposure data shows mean exposure of the lead rider in
4 this study is about two times higher than what was found
5 in the previous study. The mean of the 13 air samples
6 collected on the lead rider was similar to that found in
7 the previous study, however, one sample was higher. The
8 rider trailing the lead rider had a ten-fold high fiber
9 exposure than found in the earlier study where the two
10 riders had about the same exposure to airborne fibers.
11 The update notes that the trailing rider's increased
12 exposure was not consistent as on some rides the lead
13 and trailing rider had similar exposures.

14 At this point the IERF study shows exposure to
15 airborne mineral fibers at CCMA, quote, could be a
16 factor of ten-fold higher than the earlier estimates or
17 about two asbestos-related cancers per million
18 lifetimes, unquote. So I shared this with our contract
19 California Geological Survey scientists, and, again,
20 realize -- and this is -- this was not the final
21 analytical write-up from our contractor. Their comments
22 were that the permissible risk to riders adopted by the
23 park and ROD was 1 in 10,000, whereas from this report
24 the risk indicated in the current study would be about 1
25 in 500,000. So those are significant numbers. So even

1 though the second study numbers appear to be higher than
2 that first study, the risk to riders is still much less
3 than what the park limit would indicate. So certainly
4 there are many questions regarding the comparable
5 presence of rainfall, humidity levels, even down to the
6 types of riding gear, types of fibers that the riders
7 were wearing with their gear and how that might collect
8 those samples.

9 So we're actually looking forward to seeing the
10 final analytical write-up, the report. According to
11 Dr. Nolan, the project lead, we are to expect that mid
12 to late spring of this coming year. So anywhere from
13 March to May we're looking for that report. And we are
14 going to engage our California Geological Science Team
15 in the analysis of that report. And our contract does
16 allow for Dr. Nolan to come, and we will request him to
17 come and present the findings of the report at the best
18 appropriate Commission meeting.

19 So that concludes my report on the update to
20 Dr. Nolan's work, and I'll turn it over to the
21 Commission.

22 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Thank you.

23 I do have a quick question on this, is on the
24 final report, are we going to have any information on
25 soil moisture content, or, like you were saying, putting

1 the humidity? I know we've been -- you know, some of
2 these tests have gone on through an historic drought in
3 the State of California which can affect the outcome of
4 the tests. So -- and I'm -- management-wise, when you
5 look at Cal-OSHA or federal management of
6 asbestos-related issues, one of the first things they
7 talk about is damping down the asbestos. So is that
8 going to be something we're going to see, or is this
9 something that's been overlooked?

10 RICK LeFLORE: Yes, we will be seeing that. I
11 note in that first report they actually had rainfall the
12 day before they brought that first crew out for their
13 sampling. I don't know what those -- what the
14 comparables on the humidity and weather were for the
15 second one. Again, it'd just be an update. I don't
16 have that information. But we will expect that to be
17 there.

18 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Thank you.

19 COMMISSIONER PEREZ: I have a question.

20 Yes, I note that there's a new director for BLM.
21 Are we expecting to invite him at some point to get
22 engaged in terms of what -- the discussion with Clear
23 Creek? I think his name is Gerry Perez.

24 Deputy Director, have you met him?

25 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Not yet. I mean he --

1 he literally found out about his selection, I think, a
2 couple of weeks ago. And he's in Oregon, and he's
3 transitioning down to here. So I think he's probably to
4 the point where he's still trying to find his desk and
5 his parking space. But we will absolutely engage, once
6 the time is appropriate, and start talking -- talking to
7 him.

8 COMMISSIONER PEREZ: Okay. Thank you.

9 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Thank you.

10 RICK LeFLORE: Thank you.

11 CHAIR CABRAL: Let's see.

12 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: Comment.

13 CHAIR CABRAL: Yes. Go ahead, Commissioner.

14 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: So my understanding of
15 this, it seems like with BLM's own Adoptive Management
16 Plan, we -- we have far exceeded the -- the threshold
17 in -- in acceptable risk. Isn't that right, Rick, 1 in
18 500,000?

19 RICK LeFLORE: I wouldn't want to reach that
20 conclusion at this point, honestly, until I see the end
21 of that report.

22 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: Okay.

23 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. I want to remind the
24 public that we're going to be doing public comment on
25 the CCMA Risk Assessment, the BLM and Forest Service

1 Reports at one time. So keep that in mind. If you need
2 to make some notes or anything, this would be the time
3 to do it while it's fresh in your mind. But that's how
4 we're going to handle that. So...

5 The other thing, too, would be is, is that I
6 realize that the EPA is the overriding agency on this.
7 And how much have they been engaged at -- because the --
8 the BLM is basically just -- they're following the
9 directive they got from the EPA. So has the -- has
10 the -- has the EPA been engaged since the person that
11 ran this before has retired? Has anything happened
12 there?

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: We have not directly
14 engaged the EPA. Part of it, the challenge, is we have
15 to wait until this report is done before we can really
16 present any evidence that's in conflict with what they
17 had already kind of assumed. So we'll wait, we'll see
18 what the finalized report looks like. And that -- the
19 good news is indications are, as you just heard from --
20 from Rick, the indications are that -- that we've got a
21 good threshold and we can make that argument. It's
22 probably also, you know, that particular report, I
23 think, the senator -- or Congressman Farr's staff has
24 also reached out. They're obviously very interested in
25 it as well. But that -- that helps us along the route.

1 And you're right, Paul, I mean this -- even if
2 the Farr bill did not go through, the good news on this,
3 apparently, is if this report comes out with what we
4 think it's going to come out, that is an opportunity to
5 discuss adaptive management in -- in the area. And the
6 BLM has been very good about that. I mean they've --
7 they've kept that dialogue going with us. So we feel
8 pretty confident as we go back to them with these
9 results that -- that might allow them to do some things.

10 You know, EPA took an extremely conservator
11 outlook on it. But that's kind of what they do. That's
12 what they get paid to do.

13 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Any other Commissioners
14 have a comment on this?

15 All right. How are you doing? Would you like a
16 break?

17 THE REPORTER: Yes, please.

18 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Let's -- why don't we take
19 now -- we're at -- it's 11:46. So why take ourselves
20 about a ten-minute break, and then we'll run through
21 until 12:30 or so for lunch. Okay? So ten-minute
22 break. Thank you.

23 (Brief recess.)

24 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Let's bring this meeting
25 back into order.

1 **AGENDA ITEM VIII(B) - PROGRAM REPORTS - BLM**

2 CHAIR CABRAL: And we are moving on to Program
3 Reports, and the next one will be the BLM Report. I
4 know I'm being kind of -- I'm being pushy today, aren't
5 I? I'm trying to be efficient.

6 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: At 3:00 we've got a
7 deadline.

8 CHAIR CABRAL: I know, I've got a 3:00 deadline.

9 JANE ARTEAGA: Good morning. Jane Arteaga, BLM,
10 California State Office, Management of OHV and Travel
11 Management Program. Commissioners, Director Mangat, OHV
12 Division, and the public, thank you very much for this
13 opportunity to present to you.

14 So since one of my topics was already spoken on,
15 I don't really have to -- we could dive into that. But
16 we did testify on October 8th, our director did, and we
17 are in support of the bill with a -- a few
18 modifications, mainly to help us implement the bill
19 and -- and help us with the interpretation of the bill.
20 So some of the definitions we need to clarify a little
21 more like "permit" -- when they mention "permitted,"
22 what does that mean? Does it actually mean we have
23 to issue a permit or this is allowable, those kind of
24 things we have to work on with Feinstein's staff. And
25 then with Congressman Cook's bill, we have not been

1 asked to testify yet. So...

2 One of the things that I'm sure quite -- quite a
3 few of you are interested in, we have extended, as I
4 spoke about on the last presentation -- last month's
5 presentation, we have extended the WEMO Route Networking
6 Project. We were anticipating the decision will be
7 signed next December 2016. The judge has allowed us to
8 do that. With that we want to build in the -- the
9 impacts or the analysis of DRECP. So we're working on
10 that now. We're working on that analysis as a potential
11 impact. But with that we're also asking for the public
12 for some input. And what else? As far as all the
13 analyses that we have to do, maybe there's something
14 that we didn't do in the first WEMO that we can look at
15 in -- in this second go-around as far as potential
16 analysis to -- to -- to look at.

17 So we would like you -- we're asking for public
18 comment related to that.

19 So any questions about that?

20 CHAIR CABRAL: Well, there's -- my in-box
21 exploded a couple of days ago about this subject. So,
22 you know, I think some people were expecting me to sit
23 here and made a big grand stand with you, but I -- I
24 actually enjoy our working relationship; I think you do
25 a very effective job. So what I'm hoping to do is, is

1 we need to see about building some relations with the
2 new director. And I'd like to see if there's a way that
3 the -- that our deputy director could be engaged with
4 him at the appropriate time, and also see if we can be
5 able to -- maybe with the -- the person that's handling
6 the job at this point, I think maybe get some
7 communication started so they could get the right staff
8 in place and everything.

9 My concerns while with -- that this has become a
10 political process, like some things do. I belong to
11 some environmental organizations who have been not happy
12 and have been using WEMO as a fund-raising cause and are
13 really trying to generate a lot of comments on that. So
14 they were characterizing it as being this huge expansion
15 of off-road use in Southern California.

16 And so with that in mind, I hope we can keep
17 calmer heads and -- and -- and have good communications,
18 just be able to protect what we have. Because I do want
19 to point out that there's been in the Southern
20 California area about -- just under 50 percent loss of
21 OHV-use areas since around 1980. So it's been a pretty
22 significant loss of -- of -- of OHV areas. And we want
23 to protect as much as we can going forward.

24 So I know Commissioner Patrovsky is also the --
25 on the -- our Ad Hoc Committee for the BLM and that him

1 and I can probably engage this process with him being a
2 retired BLM ranger, I think that would be -- he would be
3 very helpful in this process. So...

4 JANE ARTEAGA: Well, if -- if you want to meet
5 with the new director, I believe he'll be coming in --
6 I -- I believe he'll be here in January, but I'm not
7 sure about when they're going to be signing the DRECP.

8 CHAIR CABRAL: Uh-huh.

9 JANE ARTEAGA: So if you want to meet with
10 the -- our acting director --

11 CHAIR CABRAL: Uh-huh.

12 JANE ARTEAGA: -- who's actually our associate
13 director, prior to the signature of DRECP, that's who
14 you would meet with. It depends if you want to go ahead
15 and wait until after the DRECP or before, and I'll try
16 to get that audience for you if you want to do it
17 before.

18 CHAIR CABRAL: I think we should probably try to
19 do it before just to kind of -- you know, I think we
20 should have some clear lines of communication and be
21 able to do that as much we can and see where we can --
22 where it's at. Because a lot of times in this stuff,
23 you know, the public on both sides of an issue, they
24 completely explode it and pull it out of proportion.
25 And I think what we can do is, as long as we -- we can,

1 you know, communicate and see where we're at and be
2 realistic with it, I -- I'd rather know what's really
3 going on than having -- getting it through, you know,
4 100 emails. So...

5 JANE ARTEAGA: Okay. Great.

6 And then also would you want an audience with
7 our new director if --

8 CHAIR CABRAL: When it's time, that would be
9 wonderful.

10 JANE ARTEAGA: Okay.

11 CHAIR CABRAL: Yes. Thank you.

12 JANE ARTEAGA: All right.

13 Let me figure out -- that goes -- nope, that's
14 not good.

15 Okay. One of the things that we just did, both
16 myself and the Forest Service, for the OHV Division is
17 put together some stats related to usage. If you take a
18 look, this is just an example. So I -- I put together
19 from 2006 to 2015 the data. So if you take a look at
20 just 2015, to give you an example, Imperial Sand Dunes,
21 El Centro, that's -- so that -- that was their mark for
22 2015. What's -- it's really interesting with the
23 statistics -- so these are the number of participants,
24 not the number of vehicles; these are number of people
25 that we're looking at. So we average around, you

1 know -- well, you'll see the last slide, but 3 to 5
2 million.

3 So with participants, I mean you can see how the
4 numbers go up and down. And the -- when we had the
5 recession, it really dropped, you know. It's -- it's
6 kind of evident in those areas. The ATV use was a
7 significant drop, which I thought was kind of
8 interesting. But I think people were traveling more and
9 you -- we had more users in the cars, trucks, SUVs, you
10 know, that type of use where you could take more of the
11 family versus individual vehicles.

12 So, again, this is number by type of vehicle.
13 And you really saw the drop during the recession for
14 motorcycles. And Imperial Sand Dunes, we really --
15 it -- we had a significant drop. And you'll see these
16 numbers. We -- Imperial Sand Dunes, you know, we -- we
17 looked at 2012, 2013 to 2014, and this year we started
18 seeing it climb again, which was good. This -- this is
19 by fiscal year, by the way, not -- federal fiscal year
20 not year or State years or drought years or calendar
21 years.

22 So you could really see in 2011, we did a
23 significant drop in use, and then -- but -- I mean
24 Imperial Sand Dunes dropped like 5 million people in one
25 year. It was -- that was pretty significant. And it

1 did affect our match a lot of times, you know. So our
2 match for our -- our Operations Grant, what we usually
3 do, we use like our -- how many trash pick ups. Well,
4 we didn't do as many trash pick ups, so it affected our
5 match. So we actually ended up having to pay back the
6 State Parks because we were low on our match. It was
7 kind of interesting how we didn't calculate that in. We
8 didn't anticipate that drop in usage and the potential
9 of, you know, we'll be low in our match for incoming.

10 So with those statistics, a couple meetings ago,
11 I was discussing with you -- and, also, you -- on part
12 of my presentation, you do have a hard copy of this --
13 this presentation, this slide.

14 So with those statistics, we were discussing how
15 I manage and work with our law enforcement on managing
16 how we distribute our Law Enforcement Grant dollars. So
17 we get an estimate around a million five each year
18 for -- you know, somewhere's around there, and it's
19 adjustable, you know, according to what -- what State
20 legislation allows. So we've looked at how many law
21 enforcement officers are in each field office, then from
22 there we look at the workload related to those law
23 enforcement officers, whether they're OHV workload or
24 not. Then from that we determine whether or not, you
25 know, is it significant. Like, for instance,

1 in comparison to Southern California, the Ukiah Field
2 Office has a smaller OHV Program compared to El Centro.
3 So we look at that, and we build in a percentage. So
4 I -- we average -- you know, so last year we averaged
5 like 28,000 per officer that each office can apply for.
6 And so El Centro had 14 officers that -- that -- that
7 participate in the OHV Program. They -- so in their
8 regular program, they only have 12 officers. But what
9 they do, they use -- El Centro has kind of like the
10 training program. I'm sure Ed's been there. So they're
11 kind of our training program, you know. And then we
12 ship the officers off to other places, and not only
13 within California but throughout the United States to go
14 work. But it's because of the heavy workload that we
15 have down there and also the -- you know, they get to
16 work with border issues, so there's quite a few things
17 that they work down -- down in El Centro.

18 So just really quickly, you know, if you -- if
19 you're -- I believe Paul was concerned about, you know,
20 where the -- where we ship our -- where we have our
21 funding go to. You know, 85 percent of our funding that
22 I have the field offices apply for goes to Southern
23 California because that's the majority of our workload
24 for OHV. So this is how it's looked at, and I just
25 wanted to share that with you. This is how BLM does

1 their programming related to, you know, workload and
2 making sure that that money is distributed to where the
3 workload is for officers. You know, and just -- the
4 other thing is it, it costs about -- for
5 (unintelligible) 11, and \$125,000 a year for one
6 officer. That's an average. So -- and I'm only giving
7 them 28,000, so -- per officer. So it's only a drop in
8 the hat kind of for the amount of workload they do
9 related to OHV. So...

10 And that's the end of my report. If you have
11 any more questions.

12 CHAIR CABRAL: Questions?

13 JANE ARTEAGA: Uh-oh, the budget lady.

14 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I'm not the budget lady.

15 Just so I can understand this correctly, so that
16 chart, that last one that you had, was it our Grant
17 Program -- our OHV Grant Program --

18 CHAIR CABRAL: Yes.

19 JANE ARTEAGA: Yes. So the --

20 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Was it total 1.5?

21 JANE ARTEAGA: One point five is total of what
22 we can apply for. Then we build on our 25 percent
23 match, which is, you know, just over 2 million total,
24 the -- the whole Grant Program, the whole grant itself.

25 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay. Is the 1.5 what

1 we allocate?

2 JANE ARTEAGA: Yes.

3 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Fiscal year?

4 JANE ARTEAGA: Per State fiscal year.

5 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay.

6 JANE ARTEAGA: So it covers actually two fiscal
7 years for us, '15 and '16. It rolls over.

8 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Got it. Thank you.

9 JANE ARTEAGA: Yeah, it's kind of confusing in
10 trying to manage that because, you know, it's like -- so
11 depending on where it's at. So in Southern California
12 right now is their heavy workload coming up during the
13 wintertime. So it's actually '16. But for Ukiah,
14 Redding and those areas, they use the majority of their
15 money in fiscal year '15. So it's -- it's -- it varies
16 from area to area.

17 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: Jane, the use figures
18 for Barstow's from, you know, what I've seen in
19 historic, they don't look -- look way too low.

20 JANE ARTEAGA: Yeah, I noticed that, too. And I
21 don't know if -- if we're not working with our friends
22 group well enough in recording that data. So that --
23 that was one good thing about me running these reports
24 and really looking at -- it was like, you know, Barstow
25 looks a little low to me. Because I noticed that, too.

1 It's like, okay, so what are we doing as far as our
2 reporting? Do we not have enough calendars, you know?
3 So I mean the -- where we have fee collection areas,
4 that's simple. You know, those are easy to be
5 accountable for. But where we don't have fee collection
6 areas, that's where it gets a little harder to capture
7 that data.

8 CHAIR CABRAL: Any other questions on this?

9 Well, Jane, first off, I want to thank you for
10 putting this together. It was a short period of time
11 between the last meeting and this meeting. And I also
12 know you were out fighting a wildfire in Texas or
13 organizing that. So once again --

14 JANE ARTEAGA: Fire then flood.

15 CHAIR CABRAL: Yeah, fire then flood. That's
16 right, huh? So, you know, I know this was a tight
17 schedule for you even to get to this meeting. So thank
18 you.

19 It was brought up earlier with the permits and
20 the cost-recovery type stuff this morning, I think, by
21 Commissioner Lueder towards the Forest Service type
22 thing, but it brought up a -- a couple of questions I
23 have on permits. There's been criticism in the past of
24 how long it takes to get a permit for an event. And
25 it's not just for motorized events. I know that there

1 was a big deal based around Burning Man this year and
2 the process to get the permit that came out. So I know
3 our next Commission meeting's going to land in February
4 right around the time of King of the Hammers. So I was
5 wondering how the permit process -- if -- you don't have
6 to give me a report on it now, but I would like to be
7 kept abreast of what's going on there. So if maybe
8 someone could kind of throw me an email here or there
9 and keep me up to date on what's happening on that
10 permit process.

11 JANE ARTEAGA: Well, you know, it's -- it's
12 funny how you mention that. That was going to be part
13 of my presentation. But, actually, I was -- my
14 coworker, he's actually in charge of the permitting
15 process. And I was going to have him do a presentation,
16 but he hurt his back, so I had to like knock that out of
17 the presentation really quickly. Because we did come up
18 with a new manual and how to implement the permit
19 process, and just recently -- and like I haven't even
20 gone through the training. I'll be going through the
21 training next month. So with that, there's a lot of
22 confusion. And we're trying to get people trained up
23 really quickly. And so I -- I -- I'm seeing that's part
24 of the delay in the process. And so we're working on
25 that hard and -- and -- you know, and getting everyone

1 trained up and that we're going according to those
2 standards. And the -- the big part of the new manual is
3 because of the public input of our processes. So
4 unfortunately now we need to implement it and there's
5 always the delay in implementation. So I'll have Brian
6 show up to the next meeting and give that presentation
7 for you.

8 CHAIR CABRAL: That would be great. Thank you.

9 Anything else? No? I think that would be it
10 then. Thank you very much.

11 JANE ARTEAGA: Okay. Thank you.

12 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: We'll quickly I'll say it,
13 we actually did get some items in their newsletter.

14 JANE ARTEAGA: I think like three or four of
15 them this round. And that's within a month. So let's
16 just see it -- you know, like I said, we're coming up
17 with our busy season, and I'm hammering on Southern
18 California, you know, and saying, you know, we got to
19 sell our product. We've got to be out there to -- you
20 know, we're -- we're doing our job; we just need to show
21 everyone this is what we're doing. So...

22 CHAIR CABRAL: Well, you know, it's interesting
23 to see that, you know, like with State Parks is doing as
24 far as trying to reach more people and get more
25 involvement. And -- and with the BLM and the Forest

1 Service both become a little more recreational-oriented
2 agencies and getting away from, you know, binding and
3 other things is just because of how things have adapted
4 over the last, you know, 30 years or something. And --
5 and to see that the need for that and that you guys are
6 trying to do it -- I know Paul has constantly brought
7 that up on that email, but it was refreshing to see.
8 And as we get into that busy season down there, I'm
9 looking forward to having more stuff on OHV. So...

10 JANE ARTEAGA: Yeah. And, you know, the -- we
11 only have two Facebook sites. That's the BLM
12 California. But Imperial Sand Dunes has their own
13 Facebook site. And then I want to say the AMA, as far
14 as -- does a really good job of putting out -- articles
15 out there, also, related to what goes on in Imperial
16 Sand Dunes the next few months. Because as you saw, 2
17 million people --

18 CHAIR CABRAL: Right.

19 JANE ARTEAGA: -- within -- and that's the
20 majority -- you know, within a four-month time that we
21 get all that -- those folks coming in. So...

22 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Well, I think what we can
23 do now at this point, it's 12:23, and we're going to be
24 scheduled for a lunch break at 12:30. So why don't we
25 take it a little bit early. And then at 1:30, we'll

1 come back and there will be public comment on non-agenda
2 items, and that will be the blue cards. So they're not
3 the green one, but the blue ones that Vicki has. So if
4 you have an interest in doing that type of comment,
5 please fill out that card. So we'll see you at 12:30 --
6 or I mean, excuse me, 1:30. Yeah, thank you.

7 (Lunch recess, 12:25 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.)

8 CHAIR CABRAL: All right. Well, I hope everyone
9 had a great lunch. That was a nice little break.

10 **PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

11 CHAIR CABRAL: And we're going to move right
12 away into some public comment on non-agenda items. So
13 if there's anyone sitting outside the door, if we can
14 kind of take a peek and tell them to come on in, that
15 would be great.

16 So I'm going to start moving forward on this.
17 The first person up would be Jerry Fouts, followed by
18 Jeff Blewett.

19 SECRETARY VICKI PEREZ: Ted, just remind them
20 one last time.

21 CHAIR CABRAL: Oh, yes. Yes, I would like to --
22 If you do want to do public comment on
23 non-agenda items, please do like Mr. Haris just did, and
24 bring your blue card up to the front. Take care of
25 that.

1 Okay. Jerry Fouts.

2 I'll return back to these because I know some
3 people are going to trickle in from lunch.

4 Jeff Blewett.

5 JEFF BLEWETT: Good afternoon, Commissioners.

6 Am I even on?

7 (Multiple speakers.)

8 JEFF BLEWETT: Punch the red button. Okay.

9 One of the questions I wanted to have asked is
10 at the last Commission meeting I asked about the
11 possible renaming of the training area Clay Pits. I was
12 wondering where we -- have we got -- I know it's only
13 been a month since our meeting, but --

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Sir, you're very
15 patient. No, we -- we -- we actually took a look at it.
16 I think we can -- we can do that. We -- we were just
17 checking and making sure that the books are all straight
18 and everything and -- and allowed what -- we -- we feel
19 like we're probably able to do something like that.
20 Okay? So more to come as we -- we go through the
21 paperwork requirements. But that was a great
22 recommendation, and we appreciate it.

23 JEFF BLEWETT: Okay.

24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Thank you.

25 JEFF BLEWETT: Thank you.

1 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

2 Is that something we're going to have to do
3 because -- is it a Commission decision or is that just
4 something that could be handled within the Division?

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Our -- our -- as we've
6 reviewed it, it looks like that's the District
7 Superintendent thing. We can do that. And that's why
8 we're just making sure that that's all could be done.

9 CHAIR CABRAL: Great.

10 Amy Granat, followed by Diana Mead.

11 DIANA MEAD: Just to keep you on your toes, we
12 switched positions. I don't move fast, but I move
13 faster than Amy. That's the short story. Anyway...

14 Short and sweet, pun intended, while we have our
15 director of State Parks here, I want to take a moment
16 and say how much we appreciate Deputy Director Conlin
17 and what he's given to this team, if you will, because
18 that's how we look at it. But we would much appreciate
19 having 100 percent of him, as in not sharing him.

20 I'd also like to talk about the Truckhaven event
21 that CORVA has presented for the last eleven years, and
22 it's a major fundraiser for us, and it's presented at
23 Truckhaven hills adjacent to Ocotillo Wells. It's a
24 one-of-a-kind event as in it's named after the area.
25 And we're unable to do that this year or this coming

1 year because of the flat horn-tailed lizard or it might
2 be a tailed -- a flat, something, lizard. Anyway, I've
3 never actually seen one. And I don't want to come off
4 as disrespectful to the environment because anything is
5 further from the truth, but listening to the statistics,
6 I must have killed in that right-hand seat in the
7 sandrail at least a million of these guys.

8 We need your help to address this issue with the
9 closure for the EPA designation for that particular
10 lizard. It's been reviewed three times before, and I
11 doubt very much anything has changed. It has
12 significant areas where the numbers are high for this
13 lizard. And for us, canceling a major fundraiser like
14 this is critical. We're -- we're trying to figure out
15 other ways to fill this hole. That's one portion of it.
16 The other portion of it is the numbers of people who are
17 disappointed. It's on their calendar, and they won't be
18 going this year -- or next year.

19 The last thing I'd like to say to you all is you
20 will be reviewing EIR -- Draft EIR and General Plan for
21 Carnegie at one of your next upcoming meetings. Earlier
22 this morning we talked about Hollister Hills and what an
23 incredible place it is. There's one thing Hollister
24 Hills is missing, and that's contiguous camping and play
25 between the motorcycle community and the four-by-four,

1 UTVs, sandrail group. So quads and motorcycles are in
2 one area of the park, and in the other area of the park
3 the other folks are. They can't camp together. They
4 can't play together. They don't have -- they don't have
5 fires together and stories told at the end of the day.
6 It's separate. The General Plan for Carnegie calls for
7 contiguous camping and trail usage. We need this area.
8 And it also meets every designation for an urban park.
9 There is no down side. It's a State Park. The
10 allocations are even made for the land. The General
11 Plan and the Draft EIR are in place. It's programmatic.
12 It works. And we need your support behind us 100
13 percent. I can't tell you how much it means to somebody
14 like me who has that sandrail and the remainder of my
15 family's on motorcycles. So it matters.

16 Thank you very much, guys.

17 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

18 Amy Granat.

19 And I also want to remind everyone to please
20 state their name and organization when they come up.
21 Thank you.

22 AMY GRANAT: Amy Granat, Managing Director of
23 the California Off-Road Vehicle Association. Thank you,
24 Ted, Mr. Chair, because I often forget.

25 I want to talk about something very close to my

1 heart. We have a saying -- I know there's a saying in
2 the armed forces that there's no man left behind. In
3 the off-road community, we treat each other very, very
4 similarly. I can't tell you how often I've stopped by
5 the side of a road on my Jeep just really wanting to
6 take a rest and people come by and say, "Is there
7 something we can help you with? Do you need a tool?
8 Something wrong?" And I keep muttering, "No, I really
9 want to take a rest. Sorry, guys, but I'm fine."
10 That's the kind of community we come from. At the night
11 ride at Carnegie, Visitor Appreciation Day, we were up
12 on top of the hill with Randy Caldera. We were all
13 motorcycles, four-wheel drives, everyone looking at the
14 view of Tracy, which was beautiful. And a father came
15 along on a motorcycle and said, "My daughter's really
16 thirsty. Does anyone have water?" Five people jumped
17 up, "I have water," "I have water." That's the type of
18 community that we come from.

19 That said, we have somebody named Will Harris
20 that I've worked with for years that has somewhat been
21 left behind. And I would be remiss if I didn't mention
22 it. Not only do I consider Will a friend, but he's a
23 very knowledgeable person. We've walked the Rubicon.
24 Now, for me to walk the Rubicon with someone and someone
25 has patience to do it, it says a lot about the character

1 of that person. And he was patient and he walked with
2 me. He got a very bad wrap, and that's the only way I
3 can put it, and was treated poorly in the Air Pollution
4 Control District in San Luis Obispo County. I'm
5 reaching out to the Commissioners because he's done so
6 much good work for us. I think we need to return the
7 favor, and I think that would be a very kind thing.
8 Because right now I feel like we've left that man
9 behind.

10 Thank you.

11 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

12 Dave Pickett, followed by Don Amador.

13 DAVE PICKETT: Pass.

14 CHAIR CABRAL: Don Amador.

15 DON AMADOR: Good afternoon, Commissioners, and
16 staff.

17 First wanted to let the Commission know, if you
18 haven't heard this already, that Kathy Mick, the Region
19 5 trails coordinator has taken a new post at Region 5
20 working under a Volunteer Partnership Program. And just
21 wanted to recognize her for the service she's done for
22 OHV over the last 10 to 15 years tackling one of the
23 most contentious issues that the Forest Service has had
24 in -- in -- in my recent memory.

25 So, Kathy, I just wanted to thank you for your

1 service over the last, and we'll do something special
2 for you.

3 Let's give her a hand.

4 (Applause.)

5 DON AMADOR: But the good news is that she is
6 being replaced by Garrett, and he'll be giving a
7 presentation pretty soon. And so I think that OHV is in
8 good -- going to be in good hands with Garrett doing the
9 trails and Kathy helping with volunteers and
10 partnerships.

11 Just quickly, I want to encourage the Commission
12 and Division to support ongoing efforts for bilingual
13 Travel Management signing. You've seen some of it in
14 the south, Stanislaus National Forest has done Travel
15 Management and some restoration and the signing in
16 bilingual. So I want to encourage that.

17 Also want to encourage the Division and
18 Commission to look at setting up an emergency fund,
19 we've talked about this before, for catastrophic events,
20 whether they're wildfire or the floods we may be seeing
21 this year and the impacts that they have on destination
22 OHV areas. And I think we need to have a fund available
23 to help address that when emergencies strike.

24 And then lastly, encourage the Division to
25 continue working on a Forest Service, BLM and State

1 joint Trail Tractor Task Force to better deploy and
2 utilize the trail equipment that we have on the ground.
3 Areas that don't have that equipment available being
4 deployed in a more effective manner, that would be
5 great.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

8 John Stewart, followed by Bob Ham.

9 JOHN STEWART: Good afternoon, Commission, and
10 Commissioners. John Stewart with the California 4-Wheel
11 Drive Association.

12 I talked a little bit about the importance of
13 the OHV Program, and it is extremely important, and it
14 was so important that the legislature sought fit to
15 designate a program itself under the Parks being the
16 OHMV -- you know, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Program
17 through legislation. And within that structure, there's
18 always been a full-time deputy director. And I went to
19 previous speakers, and we need to have a full-time
20 deputy director, not someone that is splitting in order
21 to look to the efficiencies of management and, you know,
22 oversight on the program as your Transformation for
23 Parks indicates you're pushing for.

24 The OHMVR Program is a broad interest-based, and
25 it appeals to a -- broad bases of the State, not only

1 through the SVRAs themselves, but also with the -- the
2 public partners with the Forest Service and BLM. That's
3 a lot of the recreation for OHV occurs off of the SVRAs.
4 But still, the SVRAs are an extremely important
5 component of the entire program. And with this, I
6 would -- you know, in the future, I'd like to see a
7 little more said at these meetings about the status of
8 the SVRAs with the updates. And right now, after being
9 down in the Ocotillo Wells SVRA area last weekend, I
10 have noticed that there are all kinds of new fencing
11 going up. And there's -- I'm getting reports of a lot
12 of exclusion areas being set. And I have to scratch my
13 head and say, well, the Ocotillo Wells General Plan is
14 not even out and they're already implementing the plan.
15 So we have a problem here that needs to be looked at and
16 we need an explanation of why these -- these type of
17 actions are happening in advance of the General Plan.

18 Again, this is a -- the fact that with the
19 diverse program, diverse interest, not exclusive
20 interest, and it would help this diversity does not
21 develop into an exclusivity point. We have worked hard
22 in the past to move the program in the Grants Program,
23 which is very important to the State recreation options
24 to move it from a very subjective determination into an
25 objective criteria and possibly to a point where we

1 might have tightened it up too far. So somewhere within
2 this renewal program, we need to look at some adaptive
3 management concepts in order to allow for some
4 flexibility in management in the future.

5 So thank you.

6 CHAIR CABRAL: Bob -- Bob Ham, followed by Nick
7 Haris.

8 BOB HAM: Hello, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners.
9 Bob Ham again, American Sand Association, CORVA, and the
10 Imperial Valley Off-Road Committee.

11 Diana Mead mentioned the flat-tailed horn
12 lizard. This is a real problem in Imperial Valley.
13 The -- the CBD Petition, the State Fish & Game
14 Commission to list it as endangered. As Diana
15 mentioned, three times before this has been proposed
16 before the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Commission. And on the
17 science, this critter is not threatened. It's not
18 endangered. It doesn't need to be listed. The -- the
19 habitat is pretty limited. It is Eastern San Diego
20 County, a little bit of Coachella Valley and Riverside
21 County and all of Imperial County and then the Western
22 Mexicali Valley including Laguna Salada to the south.

23 Right smack in the middle of that, if you're
24 thinking of drawing a circle, is Ocotillo Wells,
25 which -- which is a wonderful habitat for this critter.

1 And the studies have shown that it simply isn't being
2 affected by the use that takes place there, and that's a
3 fact. Every place else that this -- the -- the
4 flat-tailed horn lizard survives. The trouble is this
5 Commission and its sister agency, Department of Parks &
6 Recreation, Department of Fish & Wildlife, will be
7 making a recommendation, from all indications -- they
8 have excellent staff there; they will look at the
9 science, and they will recommend that it not be listed.
10 Unfortunately in Imperial Valley we're hearing a lot of
11 horror stories from outdoor people who have been dealing
12 with the State Fish & Game Commission that they don't
13 always take the staff recommendations, they don't always
14 look at the science; they look at what they're hearing
15 from people, what they think is right, and that's not
16 the way they're supposed to operate.

17 I do believe that we all need to get involved in
18 this. They are going to make their decision in February
19 2016. So I notice that you folks will be meeting again
20 the first week of February. So at least by then there
21 should be a position -- or I would suggest you start
22 thinking about doing something earlier.

23 Those of you who are appointees of the Governor,
24 you might want to have contact with the people that you
25 know inside the horseshoe there and -- and speak to them

1 about the significance of this. It's not only important
2 to OHV; this is ground center for renewable energy,
3 geothermal, solar wind projects are not going to get
4 done if this is put on that list. The -- the cost for
5 permits, one wind company already paid \$100,000 for a
6 one-week permit for incidental take. They're not going
7 to be able -- the Governor's not going be able to get
8 his 50 percent renewable portfolio by 2030 if this
9 critter is listed. So it goes far, far beyond OHV, and
10 it's very, very important. And Ocotillo Wells is at
11 risk.

12 Thank you.

13 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

14 Nick Haris, followed by Jerry Fouts.

15 NICK HARIS: Good afternoon, Commissioners.

16 Nick Haris, American Motorcyclists Association.

17 First of all, I want to echo some of the earlier
18 comments. We will be -- we will miss Kathy. And I
19 think you're one of the first people I actually met in
20 the Forest Service when I started my job with them. So
21 I know we'll still see you. We talked earlier. And I'm
22 happy that Garrett is already very much up to speed and
23 able to step in.

24 Also, I think I've said it a few times in front
25 of the Commission, but we very much support the Don

1 Klusman naming of -- of Clay Pit. I think that's a very
2 appropriate thing. I -- I have spent a lot of time with
3 Don over the years. I miss him.

4 I want to mention two things. Also, I -- I
5 touched on it a little bit earlier, but we really do
6 need to start talking about the program renewal and the
7 sunset. And I -- I know that there's only so much that
8 individuals can do there, you know, possibly subject to
9 the sunset, but I still think that as a group we could
10 start having those discussions and figure out what is
11 the appropriate role, if there is one, for the Division
12 or the Commission. And likewise, I'm sure the OHV
13 community would, you know, want to be part of those
14 discussions.

15 And we would very much support a full-time
16 person in the deputy director position. I -- I don't
17 know how you do it. I -- I know you're incredibly busy.

18 And the last thing I want to mention, I -- I
19 thought of this earlier and I -- the IMS show, which is
20 International Motorcycle Show, is coming back to
21 Sacramento. It's going to be here in about two weeks.
22 And I think it would be a great opportunity for State
23 Parks to be there, as we've seen you guys do in other
24 places. And so they're going to be in Sacramento on the
25 6th, 7th and 8th of November, which isn't far away. And

1 Long Beach, I believe, is the 20th, 21st, and 22nd. And
2 so it's two good opportunities, I think, for the State
3 to, you know, reach out to maybe a street-oriented but
4 very much, you know -- I think there's going to be a
5 good turnout especially in Sacramento because they
6 haven't had the show here in couple years. It's been in
7 San Mateo. So I've seen a lot of people talking about
8 going. So I encourage you guys to have a role there.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

11 And then Jerry Fouts.

12 JERRY FOUTS: Good afternoon, Commissioners.

13 Jerry Fouts, IMA, District 36.

14 I'd like to urge the -- the Commission and --
15 and the OHMVR Division to expedite however they can the
16 Carnegie General Plan, a vote on that. I know you guys
17 are doing a lot of hard work, work really hard with
18 the -- with the new company to get that thing going, but
19 I don't want to let processes get in the way of the
20 momentum we built for that motorcycle park. We've had a
21 bunch of really, really dedicated people that are
22 working on that. So I'd like you to support that.

23 Number two, you can feel -- feel very much
24 assured that that motorcycle park will be sustainable
25 into the future. And part of that is in response to the

1 staff that has created a different culture there. That
2 place was a motorcycle park that just people went riding
3 to in the fifties. They rode everywhere, and they
4 destroyed that place. And we've all seen what's
5 happened. And it's taken us all these years to get back
6 to something that's sustainable. And that is a culture
7 change I never thought would ever happen. I just didn't
8 think it was going to happen. And it happened
9 through -- it happened through a bunch of people sitting
10 down and looking at -- at the problem and dealing with
11 the public one on one and dealing -- had to do with law
12 enforcement. And the way that they did law enforcement
13 that was completely different to the nine other
14 administrations I've worked on. So, remember, that
15 place has gone almost two decades ago. That means that
16 my daughter was 13 when they bought it, and my
17 granddaughter's now eight. Okay? So -- so that's two
18 generations of my family that haven't had a chance to
19 use that place yet. So I ask you to support that.

20 And in that regard, I'm not going to give this
21 to you because I'd have to give 980 pages to all the
22 Commissioners, but I have petitions here, 800 petitions
23 from Carnegie users. These aren't people that we got
24 petitions at Wal-Mart or at the Super Cross; these were
25 all gotten at Carnegie, 800 of them. So I'm going to

1 give those to -- to our Deputy Director, and -- and he
2 can give you copies of them if you want. The copy
3 machine will hold that, but...

4 Anyway, thank you very much

5 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Thank you.

6 Is there any more -- any more public comment on
7 non-agenda items? Everyone has their blue card in and
8 they're happy with it?

9 Okay. Deputy Director, would you like to
10 address any of the things that came up or -- or --

11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Sure, I can do that.

12 Real quick, a couple of things. First off,
13 thanks for the tip on the International Motorcycle Show.
14 We'll see if we can't get somebody out there.

15 Jerry, thank you very much for providing all the
16 signatures here.

17 JERRY FOUTS: And the -- the dates are on the
18 cover for the motorcycle show, by the way, that I just
19 gave you.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Oh, okay. All right.
21 Good. Great. Appreciate that. Keep me straight, yeah.

22 So we're marching ahead with -- with vigor for
23 the -- the -- Carnegie. I mean I -- I can't tell you
24 how excited we are that come February we think we'll be
25 able to have this Commission go ahead and sign off on

1 the thing. So that's really exciting. You're right,
2 hats off to the folks that are running that place, you
3 know, Randy and his crew. Every time I go out there,
4 it's exciting because they always show me something
5 different, something that I hadn't seen before that
6 they've fixed or made better or -- or some initiative
7 that they've come up with. So I know they just had
8 their Visitors Appreciation Day, and I'm shooting myself
9 because I missed that one. But it -- it -- it's just a
10 tremendous park. And I think the future of that is
11 going to have to be only so much better, you know, once
12 we get into the other side of those new properties.

13 Bilingual signage, you know, I was talking to
14 some of the industry folks the other day, and they were
15 telling me that there has been a 47 percent increase
16 in -- in purchases of -- of off-road vehicle equipment
17 by Latinos. And we are -- we are really doing ourselves
18 a disservice if we're not getting out and helping that
19 community to -- to get into our parks. And I'll tell
20 you what, you know, you go down to a place like Ocotillo
21 Wells, and it's amazing. It's a -- it's a -- it's a
22 great, very diverse population. And I think we do that
23 because, first off, it's very open, you know. We're not
24 charging a gate fee. We're not charging a camping fee.
25 It's just there for the public and it's there for

1 anybody that wants to come on out. And, you know, if
2 mom and her -- and her kids want to go out and just have
3 fun for the day, they can go there and for the cost of a
4 sandwich that they bring with them, I mean they could
5 have a terrific day, to include getting out on those
6 practice tracks.

7 I like the idea of the contiguous camping, and I
8 know that we made that a -- a part of the General Plan.
9 You're right, you know, we -- we have some parks where
10 you've got the segregated camping, not necessarily on
11 purpose; it just kind of wound up that way. But I think
12 we're going to create a great family environment when we
13 do the -- the plan out there for -- for Carnegie.

14 Yeah, I -- I understand that there's a lot of
15 public frustration right now with Ocotillo Wells and
16 with the temporary listing. I would ask you to be as
17 patient as you can with the staff. That park wants to
18 serve everybody. They want to do everything they can.
19 But you can understand that with this temporary listing,
20 if there's a misstep, then we wind up with a boat load
21 of lawsuits, and then we lose the park or we lose access
22 for a period of time. So they're really walking on egg
23 shells right now as we try and get through this -- this
24 temporary listing period. They were actively pursuing
25 the science aspect, and I think that's very important.

1 However, I -- I also would say that -- that, you know,
2 Bob -- Bob Ham and some of the other folks that got up
3 and talked, you know, you're citizens, make your voices
4 heard. I mean that's important. That's how things like
5 the sage-grouse issue was resolved. I mean you -- you
6 need to kind of make your voices heard.

7 Also understand that -- that in your planning,
8 we understand that -- that it may be that the decision
9 of that Commission -- of the Fish & Game Commission,
10 they want it being extended, and they can do that. They
11 can do that up to six months. So while February was the
12 one-year target date, there's a high likelihood, they've
13 done this on several other decisions, that that's going
14 to be extended. That's not necessarily bad news for us.
15 That's more time and opportunity for us to get them that
16 science so that they can make a -- a good solid decision
17 on everything.

18 I think that was most of the -- of the -- the
19 big topics you guys hit me with. If I forgot something,
20 though, please remind me during the break or -- or
21 something else.

22 Oh, and Kathy Mick, yeah, we -- we owe a great
23 appreciation for all that she's done. She has been
24 headache central out at Forest Service and has really
25 made some stuff happen.

1 So, Kathy, I'm so glad that you came here today
2 so we recognize her. I know we're going to hear from
3 you later, but thank you so much for all that you've
4 done and balancing that along with the forest fires
5 and -- and everything else that's been happening out
6 there. Just tremendous work on every -- every level.

7 Okay. I think that's all I've got. Thanks.

8 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

9 Okay. I think we have tackled all the public
10 comment on non-agenda items.

11 **AGENDA ITEM VIII(C) - PROGRAM REPORTS - U.S. FOREST**

12 **SERVICE**

13 CHAIR CABRAL: And we'll move back into our
14 program reports. And program report, the next one up is
15 going to be the U.S. Forest Service.

16 TERI DRIVAS: Good afternoon, Commissioners,
17 and -- and Executive Team. My name is Teri Drivas. I'm
18 the Acting Director for Public Services, which includes
19 recreation and motorized recreation and a myriad of
20 other public services and benefits to people.

21 And I wanted to address with you a little bit of
22 an introduction about a lot of changes in areas, and --
23 and the first one is organization. So I'm excited that
24 a lot of you have spoke about Kathy Mick's good work.
25 We recognize that, too, and -- and -- and so that's one

1 of the first changes that we're making. And though she
2 will not be the representative to the Commission, she
3 will continue to be a mentor and a lead in motorized
4 recreation through the engagement of Youth and Volunteer
5 Services and leading that program -- developing that
6 program from the ground. It's a new program that
7 we're -- we've established just a few months ago, and --
8 and so she'll be developing the frame work for it. So
9 she'll be behind the scenes in motorized recreation.

10 With that, we have transitioned to a new
11 representative for the Commission as well as the new
12 Trails Travel Management and Motorized Recreation
13 manager for the region, and that's Garrett Villanueva,
14 whom you'll hear from in just a few moments. And so
15 that's the first change.

16 Yes, the fire season for 2015 has been very
17 tough on the Forest Service organization. A lot of loss
18 in a lot of ways. And so we're in the recovery,
19 restoration period, if you will, both on the human side
20 as well as the restoration period. We do -- you know,
21 the fires were just the -- the acres burned on National
22 Forest System land has been about 600,000, close to
23 700,000 acres. And -- and not all of those acres burned
24 into a damaging condition. Some of those acres, in
25 fact, 400,000 of those acres were ecological burns that

1 we would normally, you know, have benefits to the
2 ecosystem for the -- the degree of intensity that they
3 incurred. So not all of the trails within those areas
4 have been damaged, but we do have about 166 miles of
5 trails throughout California that have been damaged in
6 those intense heat areas, as well as about 15
7 facilities. Those -- and that's about as much
8 information on those as I have at the moment.

9 We are in the process of studying with each of
10 those fire teams what are some of the recovery efforts
11 and what is some of the needs for those areas, and then
12 doing -- that we'll be sending out a team to look at
13 some of the conditions of those trails and facilities to
14 see what we need to do to restore them alongside with
15 the other recovery efforts that are going on. So that's
16 the state of the -- the fires.

17 There's two other things that I wanted to just
18 quickly mention before I turn it over to Garrett, and
19 that's the -- and it was brought up before, the efforts
20 that were going on with early adopters on Forest Plan
21 revision where we're really taking a look at sustainable
22 recreation. While it might not be as far as we would
23 like it, and I'm sure not half as near as what you would
24 like to see, we are in that transition period of
25 defining what is -- what is it and what do we mean by

1 sustainable recreation. And -- and the intent from our
2 leadership is really about the enhancement of our
3 services to people, what is our benefits to people, what
4 is our connection to the land, to people. And so since
5 this is a new planning process and integrated -- you
6 know, we know how to do the environment real well, and
7 we're -- we're at the beginning stages of social
8 inter- -- integrated processes. And so we would like to
9 walk with you in that journey as -- as Ted mentioned
10 about the dialogue that we had. And there's a lot of
11 still contention, a lot of work to do that move towards
12 collaborative understanding as well as defining what's
13 the desired condition in these special places that we
14 manage. And so we have a long way to go, and we do have
15 several other forests that we'll be doing across the
16 Sierra Nevadas as well as the northwest forest in this
17 arena.

18 And so -- so I encourage more discussions on all
19 ends, what's going well, what's not going well, what
20 needs to change. And -- and -- and then as we unfold
21 these areas out in the Draft Environmental Impact
22 Statement that we'll be releasing at the beginning of
23 the year at some point to -- to really encourage you to
24 take a look at where we have hints of that information
25 in there, hints of description of special places. And

1 the more information that we can hear about that, the --
2 the better that we can understand what it means to the
3 people that use these places so that we can make sure
4 that we incorporate the things that might be missing
5 from the plans. So that's one ask I have of you guys.

6 The second piece is -- is the -- not only the
7 regional Forester Randy Moore as well as our Chief Tom
8 Tidwell is look at special uses. And we heard that a
9 little bit this morning about some of the processes or
10 cost recovery and inconsistencies. And we too are
11 looking at that right now. In fact, I'm tasked to look
12 at what do we need to do to improve the delivery of
13 services and special uses, and what does that mean
14 organizationally, what does that mean to take a look at
15 the actual instruments, including rec events.

16 And so -- so we're starting to have those
17 conversations for consistency as well as how can we
18 streamline it so that the process to get those rec
19 events is not so long as well. So, again, we're at the
20 beginning stages of this, maybe not being -- delivering
21 it as fast as you'd like to see, but it is an effort
22 that's on -- on our way.

23 And with that, unless there's any questions of
24 me that you'd like, I'll turn it over to Garrett.

25 CHAIR CABRAL: Any questions? No?

1 All right. Thank you for coming to the meeting
2 and addressing us. I appreciate it. I know you're --
3 you're at an intern at this point, but -- interim, but
4 I'd like to see -- you know, I -- I think you're
5 qualified, and I'd like to be able to see -- I like
6 your -- what -- the interaction that we've had has been
7 brief, but I -- I think it's -- you're open and --
8 and -- and ask us to -- you're challenging us to be able
9 to communicate and get along and stuff, and I appreciate
10 that. So...

11 TERI DRIVAS: Well, thank you.

12 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.

13 TERI DRIVAS: And whatever happens, I'm still
14 the deputy, so I'll still be helping with the
15 transition. So thank you very much.

16 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Thank you for coming.

17 TERI DRIVAS: And without further ado, the --
18 the new representative for the Forest Service for here,
19 Garrett Villanueva.

20 CHAIR CABRAL: All right. Thank you.

21 Hi, Garrett.

22 (Applause.)

23 GARRETT VILLANUEVA: Thank you.

24 Garrett Villanueva, Forest Service.

25 So I -- I do want to just recognize that it's --

1 it's a pretty big deal to have the director come and --
2 and speak to us today. So I just wanted to give a shout
3 out to Teri for coming in and being a part of this, and
4 also to Kathy, too. She's helped me a tremendous amount
5 over the years. And I look forward to continuing to
6 work with Kathy.

7 Okay. So for today I have a couple quick items
8 for you. First, on the OSV, the off-high- -- the
9 Oversnow Vehicle Planning Update, the Plumas National
10 Forest is out for scoping right now. So if you have an
11 interest in what's going on in that forest for oversnow
12 vehicle use designation, take a look at their web site.
13 Now is the scoping period when we need to comment.

14 And then coming up in January of 2016 we are
15 anticipating Lassen to release their Draft Environmental
16 Impact Statement. So on my report that I put together
17 of the dates, we're a little bit different. They've
18 shifted back a little bit. So that -- I want to make
19 that correction. And part of our transition that we're
20 going through, I'm going to be coming in contact for the
21 Oversnow Vehicle Use Plan pretty much from this point
22 forward. So just make a note, and I'll -- I'll keep --
23 I'll change that on the future reports and become that
24 contact person, as well as Megan Smith, who's in a
25 detail right now to work on that.

1 Okay. We're continuing on with the Ride-on
2 Campaign, which is -- as I mentioned last meeting, I
3 just want to keep people's attention focused on that
4 because it does affect this user group that we're --
5 we're launching that campaign. We're going to plan a
6 stakeholder meeting. I'd like to talk to the Division
7 about maybe tagging on to the next Commission meeting
8 with a stakeholder meeting at some point to see if we
9 can have a robust dialogue about the messaging that we
10 want to have go out for motorized use.

11 Other than that, I'd like to jump into a couple
12 of slides. Last -- last Commission meeting I had a
13 slide -- I'm going to show you the same slide again --
14 about where the opportunities are in California. And I
15 wanted to build on that a little bit more to -- to fill
16 that out to get you all a better idea of kind of the
17 scope and scale of the opportunity that exists on
18 National Forest lands in Region 5, in the context of
19 that international setting of National Forest
20 opportunities.

21 So to give you an idea of national trails, we
22 have 157,000 miles of National Forest system trails.
23 That's managed trails. Thirty-two thousand of those
24 miles nationwide are on wilderness, leaving the far
25 majority of it outside of wilderness and potentially

1 opening them up to motorcycles and -- and off-highway
2 vehicles. We have 155 National Forests and 600 ranger
3 districts for a total of just under 2 million acres of
4 land.

5 From the GAO Report, the Government Accounting
6 Office 2013 Report, you know, there we calculated that
7 we need \$210 million annually to maintain our trail
8 system, and currently our allocated budget is about
9 \$80 million. So do the math, it's a pretty good gap.
10 We aren't even halfway to where we need be. And that's
11 kind of what I want to focus on a little bit is that gap
12 and talk about how do we -- how do we bridge that gap
13 into the future. And it's not just about the dollars,
14 but it really is more about the experiences that we're
15 able to provide and sustain on National Forest lands.
16 We want to make sure that we do protect those
17 experiences. So, you know, the -- the -- as I like to
18 say, the gap lies external to the agencies. So we -- we
19 need to find ways to embrace new partnerships and
20 maximize those partnerships. And on the other side, we
21 need to look at how we align our workforce. A lot of
22 the same transformation conversation that's happening is
23 very much aligned with the direction that we're moving
24 in the Forest Service to provide for sustainable
25 recreation into the future.

1 So I mentioned this map. As you can see for
2 those -- of you that can see it, a lot of the forest --
3 National Forests actually are on the West Coast; the
4 majority of them are. So we've got a lot of land, you
5 know, in our neck of the woods, so to speak. And,
6 again, the California opportunities -- we have 40,000
7 miles of designated routes in California alone. That's
8 a combination of roads and trails, not just trails. So
9 that's -- that's a lot of miles.

10 So the relevancy of talking about the GAO Report
11 that came out is that the Forest Service is tasked with
12 addressing the concerns that were raised in that report.
13 And so we're moving forward with the National Trails
14 strategy right now. We were in Portland last week
15 meeting about what our -- our focus areas are going to
16 be for the National Trails strategy. And so the top
17 line is understanding the benefits to our users. So
18 that -- that equates to the experience that the users
19 are -- are receiving on public lands. So we are
20 shifting from being very focused on the ecological
21 impacts or -- or conservation to looking at the -- the
22 human experience and how we need our -- our public lands
23 into the future for recreation and for wellness, and --
24 and for the ecosystem.

25 We're also focusing on training, skills and

1 expertise within our agency. You know, with the
2 declining budgets that have occurred over the last 15
3 years, we've lost a tremendous amount of our knowledge
4 base, and our -- our skilled work force has declined
5 substantially to the point where on some forests we
6 don't have a trail person anymore. So we're looking at
7 how we can align our agency's work force in order to
8 provide those services and benefits the public seeks.
9 So we -- we expect to see some changes within our
10 organization as this plan rolls out and beyond. It is
11 going to take some time. But now is the opportunity to
12 provide for the input over the next probably year or
13 maybe a little longer as the trail strategy evolves and
14 becomes more developed.

15 Collaborative planning and engagement, so we're
16 looking at different ways to increase our engagement
17 with our -- our stakeholders and public and -- and
18 provide those opportunities that best suit our users and
19 local communities. We're looking at how we can expand
20 our capacity. So that's not only the partnerships I'm
21 talking about, but that's also internally how we can do
22 our jobs a little bit differently or maybe a lot
23 differently in order to get the results that -- that we
24 need within our budgets.

25 And lastly is information. This one -- this

1 topic is -- it's -- it really kind of overlaps into
2 everything else we do. We're looking at ways we can
3 engage the -- the current data stream that's available
4 to us and -- and increase our public engagement in our
5 data collection and sharing our data as well. So that's
6 through crowd-sourcing opportunities, social media, you
7 know, basically enabling the public to use the
8 technology that they have in their pocket, their cell
9 phone, to help us better collect information of
10 what's -- what's out there, the current conditions
11 and needs. And in turn their -- their level of
12 knowledge of the management challenge that's in front of
13 us all will go as well. So we're looking at all aspects
14 of it. We're also looking at the challenge that is
15 created by the -- we have a very sophisticated database
16 that we use right now for collecting data on our trails
17 in particular, and it's so sophisticated that it's
18 actually very burdensome and very difficult for us to
19 have the public participate in helping us to collect
20 that data and keep up to date. So we're -- we're
21 looking that at as well and how we can change it into
22 the future.

23 So the next piece that's happening with the
24 National Trails Strategies is the Trails Summit that's
25 going to occur the week before Thanksgiving in

1 Washington, D.C. We have identified our stakeholder
2 groups that are going to be attending as representatives
3 for motorized use groups. That's going to be the
4 American Council on Snowmobile Associations, the
5 National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council, and
6 the Blue Ribbon Coalition.

7 And with that, that's all I have.

8 CHAIR CABRAL: Well, thank you.

9 And, Commissioners, on this side?

10 Commissioner Slavik.

11 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: Yeah, I'd -- I'd like to
12 say, you know, I -- I really like hearing what you're
13 saying, Garrett. And I -- I think we're -- what we're
14 hearing here as the Commission is kind of a change in
15 the -- in the -- in the Forest Service, the attitude
16 toward recreation. It wasn't that long ago where we
17 were almost starting to be considered as part of the
18 equation. So I'm -- I'm hoping the things that are
19 showing up on the slides and your words are -- are
20 moving into actions.

21 GARRETT VILLANUEVA: Well, I can tell you we are
22 moving that way, and that's exactly what I'm saying is
23 that we're recognizing the need for -- to -- to elevate
24 recreation in our -- our profile of how we manage the
25 National Forests. And as you kind of implied, there

1 is -- there's always going to be conflict with
2 management of National Forests, you know, with resource
3 protection, with abstraction needs or natural resource
4 needs and -- and with our want to recreate. Those kind
5 of have inherent conflicts. And we are looking for ways
6 to align those opportunities through our -- changing
7 our -- the way we look at our planning processes and --
8 and changing the way we view our recreating public, and
9 looking at the forests as a commodity and a resource in
10 itself.

11 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Well, Garrett, I -- I
12 appreciate you going back and kind of covering some of
13 that territory and expanding on it from what -- the last
14 meeting. That was -- that was adding some
15 clarification. That was wonderful.

16 I do want to kind of address the -- on a
17 specific issue what Commissioner Lueder brought up at
18 the beginning of the meeting, and the -- the situation
19 with the people with -- mainly their clubs. So they're
20 enthusiasts that are volunteering their time to put on
21 an event. And there's a couple issues that I've been
22 made aware of over the years that just -- I think if we
23 could be look at that process, and if there's a way
24 to -- I know their -- you can't just rubber-stamp
25 anything that comes through, but to -- to streamline it

1 and make it easier or -- and also the cost recovery
2 stuff, to have it tiered depending on the size of the
3 event, how many people actually show up would be
4 beneficial. And with the cost recovery, it would be
5 nice to -- to see those -- those funds going back in to
6 directly on the areas that were being used. So that
7 would be another thing that -- because a lot of times
8 the criticism of the cost recovery is, is that the
9 monies just get distributed and they don't go into
10 actually the trail that was used, and then the trails
11 get beat up and go from there. So that's -- a couple
12 things on that.

13 And then -- there was one other thing -- oh, I
14 know what it was. On the closing of the areas when they
15 get a certain amount of rain, like in the Eldorado and
16 other areas, those hard closures on stuff, I -- I would
17 also like to see, as you guys are developing this -- the
18 you know, the soil moisture analysis, the program that
19 you're putting together, that we can kind of have a
20 little more flexibility in that as far as like when we
21 are in a situation, if there is -- the drought we've had
22 where, you know, you get an inch of rain up in -- in a
23 certain area and it's really going to knock -- if
24 anything, it's going to make the condition significantly
25 better than they are, but instead it's having -- you

1 have a certain amount of rain and you have to close it.
2 So if there can be some flexibility based off of that
3 science that's being developed, that would be wonderful.
4 So...

5 GARRETT VILLANUEVA: Yeah, that's definitely the
6 goal of the Wet Weather Management Plan is that we
7 established those conditions so that we can really
8 maximize the -- the opportunity that exists already --
9 already out there, you know, without adding more miles
10 of trails. I mean it's -- it's kind of a no-brainer. It
11 is -- there -- there are some challenging aspects to it
12 that we're still working through, to be honest --

13 CHAIR CABRAL: Sure.

14 GARRETT VILLANUEVA: -- particularly with how we
15 would enforce it. But that's our problem, right?

16 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Any other questions at
17 this time?

18 All right. Well, thank you, Garrett.
19 Appreciate it. And congratulations on your position.

20 GARRETT VILLANUEVA: Thank you.

21 CHAIR CABRAL: All right. How you doing?

22 THE REPORTER: Good.

23 CHAIR CABRAL: Doing good? Okay.

24 ///

25 ///

1 AGENDA ITEM VIII(A), (B), (C) - PROGRAM REPORTS - CLEAR
2 CREEK MANAGEMENT AREA MONTH-LONG RISK ASSESSMENT REPORT,
3 BLM, U.S. FOREST SERVICE - PUBLIC COMMENT

4 CHAIR CABRAL: So the next thing we're going to
5 do is have some public comment on these items. So the
6 public comment is going to be on the Clear Creek
7 Management Area Month-Long Risk Assessment Report, the
8 U.S. Forest Service and the BLM Report.

9 So I'm going to start off with Don Amador.

10 Don?

11 I'll go back to him.

12 John Stewart, followed by Bruce Brazil.

13 JOHN STEWART: Good afternoon, Commissioners.
14 John Stewart, California 4-Wheel Drive Association.

15 I liked hearing the refreshing attitude now out
16 of the Forest Service and they're looking at recreation.
17 And I appreciate the numbers that the BLM gave as hard
18 numbers for what they have visitations. And I would
19 like to have the -- request the Forest Service start
20 looking at providing some visitor counts with the number
21 of people that do visit the forest just to put it in
22 perspective as to underscore the overall importance of
23 recreation, OHV recreation, you know, within the State
24 of California and -- because this is -- like I said,
25 earlier, this is part of the over -- overarching OHMVR

1 Program is the opportunities on the lands with the
2 public partners of the Forest Service and BLM.
3 Recreation is a new industry, and it is something that
4 has to be considered because that is the growth in the
5 future. And I think by looking at the numbers of
6 participants and begin tracking that and looking at the
7 economic impacts involved, that will begin to show a
8 definitive picture for management opportunities.

9 One of the numbers I'd like to see coming out of
10 the Forest Services is, it's nice to know the overall
11 trail system numbers, but how many of those designated
12 trails are motorized trails and available for motorized
13 recreation opportunity. And conversely, with the --
14 with the BLM, the BLM has certain areas, but they have
15 not really identified the number of acres in their
16 areas, nor have they looked at the length of their
17 designated trail system and the type of designations on
18 their trail system. But overall, it appears that
19 they're starting to look in that direction, and I would
20 encourage them to continue to explore that more and more
21 because that is going to be very beneficial in the
22 future.

23 Now, in looking at the Clear Creek Study,
24 realizing that this was just an update from the
25 International Environmental Research Station -- group, I

1 notice that one of the key items highlighted and -- and
2 referenced was a preliminary analysis of the asbestos
3 exposure associated with motorcycle riding and hiking in
4 the Clear Creek Management Area. And yet underscored
5 within the update here was only the motorcycle
6 component. Now, while this is just a preliminary, I
7 would expect to see in the final report an inclusion of
8 what the results are for the hiking component. And I'd
9 also like to point out that the amount of moisture has
10 yet to be determined. And the fact that this was done
11 in one study day or a couple days, to me, that is just a
12 singular data point. It has to look at multi-seasons of
13 use with different humidity and different temperature
14 variation really to put a valid perspective as to what
15 kind of airborne contamination is available.

16 So thank you.

17 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

18 Bruce Brazil, followed by Amy Granat.

19 BRUCE BRAZIL: Bruce Brazil, and I'll be
20 speaking for CORVA on this one. Has to do with the
21 Clear Creek Air Quality Report.

22 I think it's great that the Commission and
23 Division has had a second study being done down in Clear
24 Creek. And both studies seem to be coming up with what
25 a lot of users know, that very little medical impact due

1 to the asbestos in the area. But there is something
2 that has been omitted from both the EPA Report and both
3 of the IERF Reports and that's toxicity level of the
4 chrysotiles type asbestos in the area.

5 As most of you may or may not know, there are a
6 variety of different types of asbestos, and "asbestos"
7 is just kind of a generic umbrella term. And the
8 chrysotile has got a unique property compared to the
9 other styles, and that is that it can actually be broken
10 down and dispersed from human lungs in a much, much
11 quicker method or quicker medical way than the other
12 forms of asbestos, therefore making it a lot less toxic.
13 The other forms can build up in the lungs over a long
14 period of time so you get a large accumulation. The
15 chrysotile actually can be broken down. So in a couple
16 months, basically, you're clear of the -- the chrysotile
17 asbestos in your lungs.

18 So when the Commission submits their letter in
19 support of -- not that one -- excuse me. When the
20 report on the air quality is complete and should the
21 Commission want to pursue getting the Clear Creek Area
22 opened up or at least having it reassessed -- having the
23 Management Plan reassessed due to new data, I'd like to
24 see some documentation going along with it to show the
25 difference in the toxicity levels because chrysotile is

1 the dominant style of asbestos down there. I think it
2 would add a lot of relevance to your report.

3 Thank you.

4 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

5 Amy Granat, followed by Bob Ham.

6 AMY GRANAT: Bob Ham has already left.

7 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.

8 AMY GRANAT: Good afternoon, Commissioners. Amy
9 Granat. And right at this moment I'm representing
10 California Trail Users Coalition. And I want you all to
11 picture a screaming, yelling Ed Waldheim, right?

12 Because I cannot do it, nor do I want to. But he feels
13 betrayed, sorely betrayed by what happened with WEMO and
14 the delay. And I understand the legal reasons why the
15 BLM had to do it, but I want it understood that many
16 people spent hours and hours and hours on WEMO, years on
17 WEMO Plan. And what they're scared of and why they feel
18 betrayed is they feel all that work is going to go down
19 the drain because of the conditions of the DRECP, Desert
20 Renewal Energy Conservation Plan. I don't know if
21 that's true, but we have to keep very close track of it.

22 I am preferring to depend on our friends at the
23 BLM, our partners with the BLM to say they are
24 protecting our interests, they're looking out for our
25 interests, and they knew when WEMO was extended that it

1 could affect the viability of those trails.

2 So please join me in requesting from the BLM,
3 our close partners, that they do protect those trails.
4 Because we're talking about thousands of miles of mostly
5 motorcycle trails down in the Southern California
6 Desert.

7 The second thing, I just wanted to make everyone
8 aware of something that the Forest Service did. They
9 now have an MOU with the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, a
10 sister State agency to Parks. And it's very, very
11 interesting. It's through the Watershed Improvement
12 Program -- or Plan, and I'm on the -- I'm the actual
13 recreation representative on the Healthy Forest
14 Initiative Community Collaborative. I probably missed
15 an initial there -- one or two. But the whole thing is
16 what they did is they looked at improving watershed
17 conditions in the Sierra Nevada. And instead of looking
18 at closing trails or limiting access, they looked at how
19 do we improve those trails. And they do have Water Bond
20 money to improve the trails. Well, that said, that's
21 great that they signed with the Forest Service and
22 everybody is very excited about it, but the OHMVR
23 Division of State Parks is the expert in trails. You
24 guys know trails inside and out, you know the conditions
25 on the ground, and you have soil experts within the

1 Division. So we request maybe a little bit of
2 communication because I don't think one side is talking
3 to the other. Jim Brannon, a very nice guy with the
4 Sierra Nevada Conservancy and Jerry Bird, the Regional
5 Forester's representative in Sacramento, have
6 spearheaded this. And I think it can set a precedence
7 for future collaboration between State agencies that
8 don't represent closure.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

11 Diana Mead, followed by Jerry Fouts.

12 DIANA MEAD: I'll pass.

13 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Jerry Fouts.

14 JERRY FOUTS: Pass.

15 CHAIR CABRAL: Pass.

16 Dave Pickett.

17 DAVE PICKETT: Dave Pickett, District 36.

18 Garrett, welcome aboard.

19 Kathy, thanks for the years. I know you really
20 did a lot of hard work and put up with me for 12 years.

21 I just wanted to touch again on the IERF Report
22 that Rick did here. And this is some positive news. It
23 gives hope. I don't want to beat this thing to death
24 any more than I already have. So please stay focused on
25 this particular issue. It -- there are thousands and

1 thousands of member families that really, really miss
2 this place.

3 And, Chair Cabral, thank you for staying on top
4 of this, giving me calls back when I'd call you and
5 scream at you. Those kind of things. But this one
6 issue, as I've said many, many times through many, many
7 Commissions over the last eight years since this thing
8 was closed, seven years, it is critically important to
9 people of Northern California. They recreate not only
10 on motorcycles, but also four-wheel drive, rock hounds
11 and -- and the other folks that have spent many, many
12 countless hours of personal time attending meetings up
13 and down the West Coast.

14 So thank you for your efforts on that.

15 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

16 And I think I was going to go back to Don
17 Amador, but I believe he has left. So that will be the
18 end of the public comment on that period.

19 And how -- do you need a break now? Are you
20 okay?

21 THE REPORTER: Yes.

22 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.

23 THE REPORTER: Thank you.

24 CHAIR CABRAL: I just want to keep checking it
25 out.

1 THE REPORTER: Thanks.

2 **AGENDA ITEM VIII(D) - DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORTS**

3 CHAIR CABRAL: All right.

4 Okay. So the next thing that we're going to do
5 is, is we're going to go into the Deputy Director's
6 Report.

7 Mr. Deputy Director.

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Thank you.

9 So I've gotten a chance to talk a lot during
10 the meeting so far, but just let me say how much I
11 appreciate that we've got the Director here to -- to sit
12 with us and to hear some of these issues.

13 So, Lisa, I can't tell you how much I appreciate
14 that. And I know we had the Communications Director
15 that was here as well for a little bit and Steve Szalay.
16 So this is -- this is Parks really kind of showing you
17 that -- that it is one big family, and that there's a
18 great amount of care and concern of -- of everything
19 that's going on out here. So I -- I hope that everybody
20 takes that to heart, and that's important to see.

21 And thank you, everybody, for taking up those
22 issues and a lot of side conversations and everything
23 that -- that you've had along the --throughout the day.

24 But we're going to lose Lisa in about 30 minutes
25 because she has to go downtown to a Governor's event,

1 but we're going to see her again, I think, for tomorrow
2 on the tour. So that will be -- that will be terrific.

3 It -- it has not been very long since our last
4 Commission meeting, so thank you for all the
5 appreciation of the staff. But we really wanted to make
6 sure that this one happened. We wanted to make sure
7 that we had a chance to celebrate with -- with our
8 partners here that -- that are celebrating their 25th.
9 It -- it is really a great opportunity.

10 And -- and, Paul, I know that you did a lot of
11 ground work on this thing, but thank you for making it
12 work. Thank you, also, for being patient because our --
13 our counsel here, Kathryn, had to make sure that --
14 there are a lot of rules that we had to follow so that
15 we didn't cause any -- any -- any of us to go jail or
16 any bad perceptions or any of those kind of things. So,
17 again, I deeply appreciate that -- that everybody
18 followed that. What's resulted now is I think we're
19 going to have a great day here where we're able to
20 invite a lot of the folks to come to see what we're
21 doing, to include bringing the international guys in
22 here in about an hour to see what we're all doing. And
23 then to partner tomorrow and actually go out and do what
24 we all like doing, go check out a park, one of the
25 premier -- you know, we're talking about Hollister

1 probably being the premier park of the world, but I
2 would offer up that Prairie City's probably the premier
3 urban park in the -- in the world, I mean when you look
4 at all the things that are going on out there. And for
5 those of you that haven't had a chance to see it or, you
6 know, you -- you've only had a chance to see bits and
7 pieces of it, what a great venue. What -- I mean this
8 is -- this is Disneyland for the public. Anything they
9 want to do pretty much they can do safely at a nice park
10 and a nice setting. You know, 30 minutes out of a major
11 city, 10 minutes out of -- out of Folsom and -- and some
12 of these environments. So really, I think, a great
13 opportunity here.

14 But we're also really excited about the fact
15 that we released the General Plan on it. We'll be
16 talking about that where the -- we've released a draft
17 which means that we're going to be coming along pretty
18 soon with you guys making a decision on that so we get
19 some up-close and personal time with it, and also all of
20 Dan Canfield's work to try and get the Carnegie Plan
21 together, and Randy's work being the superintendent to
22 make the public happy with that. We're finally going to
23 see that come into fruition probably here around
24 February, which is really exciting. And -- and I know
25 that the community appreciates that. But thank you for

1 all your support. And we just need to push that one on
2 through.

3 Onyx Ranch, we -- we talked about that a little
4 bit earlier. Was just out at Red Rock on Monday working
5 out to -- to make sure -- we talked about that at the
6 last Commission meeting, that there was a -- a -- a
7 riparian area there that -- you know, Cudahy Camp. I
8 wanted to go down and walk that ground one more time to
9 see, you know, was it making sense because there's a
10 pending, perhaps, superintendent closure on it. And you
11 guys have to -- have to trust me on this. I had Kenny
12 Glaspie out there, and it makes sense. Okay? We've got
13 a riparian area that is under severe drought. We're
14 going to lose it if we don't do something. And quite
15 honestly, there's also an historic and prehistoric issue
16 that's going on out there that -- that -- that we need
17 to -- we need to pay attention to. So Norm Ruhmke,
18 which some of you may remember from his Ocotillo Wells
19 day is now the sector -- or the district superintendent,
20 he gets it. He understands OHV. He grew up in this
21 community. So he is going to set it up so that there
22 will be connectivity on those trails. There will be
23 connectivity going up Lower Last Chance, around the
24 Cudahy Reservoir area, and there's a trail called
25 "Butte" that -- that is going to have a connector that

1 is probably, from when I was walking out there, even as
2 a -- even as a Marine that thinks that there's a lot of
3 miles between stops, there was probably less than a mile
4 the connectivity. So you're going around, and then
5 you're coming back in. I think, actually, when it's all
6 said and done, it will probably be a more interesting
7 ride when you go around it. And what you'll have is the
8 Cudahy area, you can drive on up, you can park, there
9 will be all sorts of interpretive displays. So it will
10 be a destination, and then you can continue around and
11 go up. And that's great news for Onyx because that
12 means you can go up and get that connectivity with Onyx.
13 And we've also worked on the 1,400 pass out there.
14 That's for real. It's nice. They've got it all set up,
15 really well done. So a lot of good things going on out
16 there. And that's synergy.

17 You know, earlier there was discussion about,
18 you know, synergy between, you know, the standard parks
19 and between the SVRAs, and that's a -- a chance where
20 we're seeing a lot of synergy going on. I mean this
21 is -- this is a park that has got Green Sticker trails.
22 It goes through -- to connect right into a major new
23 SVRA and that connects with the BLM lands.

24 So I know there's a lot of nervousness about
25 that and what it's all going to look like when it's

1 done, but, again, I think this one is -- is going to
2 turn out to be a really great venue when it's all said
3 and done. Okay?

4 **AGENDA ITEM VIII(D)(1) - DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORTS -**
5 **GRANTS PROGRAM**

6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: All right. I don't
7 want to take any more time because we're going to take a
8 hard break at 3:00, if that's okay. But let's get to my
9 first presenter and we'll deal with grants.

10 GEORGE MacDOUGALL: Good afternoon,
11 Commissioners. I'm George MacDougall, Grant
12 Administrator, OHMVR Division. I'm here to give you a
13 very short update since it's only been a month since I
14 gave you the last update on the Grants Program.

15 There's a Grants Update sheet under Tab 13 of
16 your binders and outside for the public. The sheet
17 talks about the impact of the California wildfires on
18 OHV areas and also gives you more dates for our new
19 upcoming 2016 Grants Cycle.

20 The OHV Regulations Revisions Package was
21 approved by the Director's Office, and it's currently
22 under a 30-day review at the Office of Administrative
23 Law. The team's hoping to have approval by OAL by early
24 November.

25 Regarding RTP, grant applications for the

1 Recreational Trails Program, the Division received 29
2 grant applications. The total amount requested
3 5.7 million, and there's \$4.8 million available. This
4 is the first time in the history of motorized RTP that
5 the demand has exceeded what's available. So it's
6 pretty significant.

7 Division's begun a review process for the
8 applications and hopes to have that process completed by
9 the end of December.

10 With that, my brief report ends and I'll turn it
11 back to the Chair.

12 CHAIR CABRAL: That was brief. So okay.

13 Any questions? Okay.

14 GEORGE MacDOUGALL: Thank you.

15 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

16 **AGENDA ITEM VIII(D)(2) - DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORTS -**

17 **LEGISLATION - CALIFORNIA AND FEDERAL LEGISLATION**

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. Legislation.

19 Tina.

20 TINA WILLIAMS: Good afternoon, Commissioners,
21 Director, Deputy Director. My name is Tina Williams. I
22 am a State Parks Superintendent here to give you a
23 Legislative Summary Report. And with the permission of
24 the Commissioner, I would like to focus in on California
25 legislation, as we have talked a lot about the federal

1 legislation.

2 My report is located behind Tab No. 14, very
3 large report. I'd like to start by updating you on the
4 legislative activity in California that has happened
5 after October 11th. That was the date that -- or the
6 last date that the Governor had the opportunity to sign
7 or veto legislation.

8 I'd like to start with Assembly Bill 549, the
9 State Parks System bill. It was talked about earlier, I
10 believe, by the Director. But this bill clarifies that
11 the Department's authority to enter into agreements with
12 non-profit organizations, the acquisition, installation,
13 and operation of camping cabins and recreational vehicle
14 parking facilities. This bill expands the type of
15 services and donations that can be made by the
16 Department and clarifies the Department's authority.
17 This bill also increased the threshold on the concession
18 contracts which require legislative approval from
19 500,000 to 1 million.

20 I'd like to move on and brief you on legislative
21 activity that occurred regarding the Sustainable
22 Groundwater Management Act. At the last meeting, we had
23 a nice presentation that was given on that Act, and
24 there was some legislation that was signed by the
25 Governor on October 9th. This was Assembly Bill 939.

1 And it just clarifies some of the deadlines under the
2 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

3 The second bill, which is related, was signed by
4 the Governor in -- excuse me, September. This bill
5 corrects a lot of technical amendments and is really
6 focused in on the Water Code.

7 Next I'd like to move on to the second State
8 Park bill. This bill, Senate Bill 204, contains a
9 number of provisions affecting three main areas that
10 were discussed earlier today, and that is improving and
11 expanding partnership opportunities in three areas: The
12 protection of historic and natural, cultural resources
13 and General Plans. The purpose of this bill is to
14 create opportunities for the Department to implement
15 recommendations on the Parks Forward Commission and the
16 Transformation Team. This bill was signed by the
17 Governor on October 7th.

18 And lastly, I'd like to update you on Senate
19 Bill 795. This is the Public Safety bill. This bill
20 clarifies that a person violating Department rules and
21 regulations regarding damage to State Parks -- to any of
22 the State Parks System's facilities or natural resources
23 is guilty of a misdemeanor and/or an infraction. It
24 gives the judge the opportunity to determine whether or
25 not it could be an infraction or misdemeanor.

1 This concludes my report. I'd like to turn it
2 back over to the Commission.

3 CHAIR CABRAL: Any questions?

4 Yes. Director.

5 STATE PARKS DIR. MANGAT: Thank you for that
6 report.

7 I think there's a -- a couple of these bills
8 here I want to highlight, maybe kind of give you some
9 context into how we arrived at these. And it's in
10 particular -- there were two Parks bills to share. If
11 you look back to last year, we actually -- two bills
12 were sent to the Governor and they were vetoed. And the
13 message -- the veto message was very clear to the
14 legislature that the Governor was looking to folks to
15 work very closely with Parks. And so this last kind of
16 legislative session and these two bills is very much a
17 result of that close collaboration. So I would call
18 your attention to AB 549, which is the Levine bill, and
19 then SB 204, which is by Hadley. This is a collective
20 result of some really close collaboration and work with
21 legislative staff. So we're very proud of that. We
22 actually held an event about two weeks ago at Baldwin
23 Hills State Park where Senator Hadley and Assemblymember
24 Levine joined us and a lot of our partners to talk about
25 these bills and how it will help better situate us to

1 partner. One example, for example -- and a lot of these
2 things sound like technical things. One of the things
3 in here, for example, is that it's given us this
4 authority to expedite entering into arrangements with
5 our concessionaires.

6 In the past -- absent this legislation in the
7 past, we could collectively be engaging with a
8 concessionaire or -- or talking about amending an
9 existing agreement, and if it exceeded in a certain
10 dollar threshold, even if we all agreed that this was a
11 great thing for us to do, we were subject to the budget
12 process. That process could take us a year and a half
13 from when we all kind of like thought it was a good idea
14 and when we actually had the authority to implement and
15 execute that arrangement. So this statute, one of the
16 things that it did was allow kind of a sweet spot with
17 the legislature that allows this process where they
18 still have a level of oversight that's important to them
19 but allows us some flexibility to be a little more
20 nimble when we work through these partnership
21 arrangements. So that's kind of the overall theme. I
22 suspect that we are -- we are continuing to look for
23 other statutes that -- that we should think about
24 changing to help give us some of the flexibility. So I
25 expect that we're going to continue that collaboration.

1 I just think it's really important to know about those
2 two bills. We're very excited about it.

3 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Commissioner.

4 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I just have a technical
5 question.

6 Is your staff trained now on these, on the
7 bills? I mean it's one thing to go through like
8 legislative stuff, but certainly implementing and doing
9 the contract so that they are knowledgeable --

10 MARK HADA: I'm sorry, we can't hear the
11 question in the back.

12 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I'm so sorry about that.
13 I didn't have my mike on.

14 I was just asking if the staff is going to be
15 trained or if they're aware, those that do the
16 contracts, all that kind of stuff.

17 STATE PARKS DIR. MANGAT: And so the answer to
18 that is absolutely, yes. You know, anytime -- but our
19 normal process is when we have a statute change and we
20 have a program change, we kind of gather and then we
21 figure out what do we need to -- and then to -- in terms
22 of our overall internal processing, what do we have to
23 do to train for that. It's actually one of the -- one
24 of the presentations that we'll be talking about in our
25 December three-day training event that we talked about.

1 Because it's one thing to have statute change, but if
2 it's like the best kept secret within the Department, it
3 doesn't really help us in terms of implementation. So
4 we are very aware of that. And a lot of the statute
5 changes was really a result of the -- the Transformation
6 group, also, and -- and kind of that there's a Advisory
7 Committee that includes many partners who help us kind
8 of just put -- put our heads together. It's like an all
9 hands on deck in trying to figure what would better
10 position State Parks. And so I think while this isn't
11 the end of it, I think it's a really -- it -- it really
12 moves the dial in the right direction. So...

13 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Thank you.

14 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

15 Any questions? I think we're clear.

16 Thank you, Tina.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. I think what
18 we'd probably like to do now is we hear the public
19 comment, and then we'll go with a hard break, and then
20 we'll probably try and figure out the INOHVAA piece, how
21 we're going to get all in.

22 And then for the public what will happen is
23 we're going to bring in the INOHVAA folks. They want to
24 monitor the next part of our meeting because we're going
25 to have Dan Canfield come up and brief on Prairie City.

1 So that the staff of Prairie City will talk about
2 Prairie City, and then Dan will brief on the General
3 Plan. And we'll kind of have a -- a joint session.
4 Although it will still be our Commission meeting, but
5 we'll all be sitting in the same room together. So you
6 don't have to go anywhere, but what we may ask the
7 public to do is just move back a couple of rows so we
8 can fit the -- the folks on in here. Okay? If that
9 makes sense.

10 Oh, and one thing, Tom Bernardo is trying to
11 take care of setting this up. I just want to remind
12 everybody, as many of you know, California Air Resources
13 Board is working with us on a Red Sticker issue.
14 They're doing emissions testing on all the bikes. I
15 think all of you are -- are fairly familiar with that.
16 As a piece of that, CARB went out with an online survey.
17 It went live last week. As many of you as possible, if
18 we can try and get you to participate with that. It's a
19 very important survey. I know the Chair knows a lot
20 about it. If you do the survey, your -- your benny is
21 you get generated a -- a day pass for SVRAs, which is
22 pretty cool, but more importantly, you help the program.
23 We had a brief from the folks at CARB last time we were
24 here purely based on what they have done to date. They
25 have proven invaluable. Because what they did was they

1 took a look at the DMV process for identifying vehicles,
2 and as we all suspected, it was way out of whack. And
3 it was not -- I mean this is not a hit against DMV;
4 they're stuck using software that's pretty darn old.
5 So, you know -- and -- and, also, some less scrupulous
6 vendors have figured out ways, kind of around it.
7 Imagine that. But what -- what they did was they came
8 in and literally by hand crunching the numbers, they
9 came up with an extremely accurate analysis. They got
10 rid of a lot of the error rate. Just based on that, we
11 now have a much better handle on whose -- whose bikes
12 are out there, whose ATVs, ORVs, the actual numbers, the
13 rises and declines in numbers across the years, which
14 ones are actually Red Sticker and which ones are Green
15 Sticker. Huge advance in everything. So please do our
16 part and try and participate in the survey. Okay?

17 With that, I think we can go to the public.

18 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Thank you.

19 So yes, we'll --

20 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: Comment, please.

21 CHAIR CABRAL: Yes. Yes, Commissioner.

22 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: This -- this is for the
23 Chair. So when the INOHVAA people and hopefully some of
24 the NOHVCC people come in for -- at 3:00, I thought it
25 was going to be, not 3:30 --

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah.

2 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: -- but could we have them
3 do a round of -- of

4 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Intros.

5 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: Say it again?

6 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Intros.

7 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: Intros -- introductions,
8 that's what I'm trying to come up with. At least I
9 was -- I was hoping you could be here to give them a
10 welcome to our wonderful State of California.

11 I know you want to get -- to run off, but I
12 guess Deputy Director takes over. But...

13 But I would like to have them stand up and --
14 and at least introduce themselves. They're from a wide
15 range of the United States.

16 CHAIR CABRAL: I think that's a great idea.
17 And -- and we'll have the -- the Director will be here
18 tomorrow on the tour, so we'll be able to have the
19 advantage --

20 STATE PARKS DIR. MANGAT: Yes.

21 CHAIR CABRAL: -- of her being there at that
22 point. So she -- she'll have time to address them at
23 that point. Okay?

24 So -- and with that, you need to get going then,
25 right? You need to pretty much go?

1 Well, thank you very much. I mean --

2 (Multiple speakers.)

3 CHAIR CABRAL: I think you probably -- you --
4 have the time for the public comment?

5 (Multiple speakers.)

6 STATE PARKS DIR. MANGAT: At least one.

7 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Okay. Got ya. All right.

8 STATE PARKS DIR. MANGAT: I've got people
9 managing me.

10 CHAIR CABRAL: Lucky you. All right.

11 **AGENDA ITEM VIII(D)(1), (2) - DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S**

12 **REPORTS - GRANTS PROGRAM AND LEGISLATION - CALIFORNIA**

13 **AND FEDERAL LEGISLATION - PUBLIC COMMENT**

14 CHAIR CABRAL: So then with that, let's move
15 into the public comment on the Deputy Director's items,
16 which would be the Grants Program and the legislation.

17 We will start with John Arenz. I think -- am I
18 saying that correct? John?

19 JOHN ARENZ: John Arenz.

20 CHAIR CABRAL: Followed by John Stewart.

21 JOHN ARENZ: Hi. My name is John Arenz. I'm
22 Vice President of the Rubicon Trail Foundation. I'm
23 also the District 4 Parks & Recreation Commissioner for
24 El Dorado County. So I'm kind of wearing two hats here.

25 Today I'm here just to -- I -- I saw that Grants

1 were on the -- on the agenda. I'm here to thank you for
2 the Grants Program and to encourage you to -- obviously
3 there's legislation that requires you to continue it,
4 but encourage you to -- to encourage the Grants Program.
5 Without it, the Rubicon Trail would not be what it is
6 today. I know you've toured up there. Without --
7 without your Grants Program, without the non-profit,
8 without El Dorado County, without the volunteers, that
9 trail would be closed. And you should be proud to be a
10 part of that.

11 With your help, the County's working on new OHV
12 opportunity on the Rubicon trail, and with your help,
13 the Rubicon Trail Foundation will be opening new OHV
14 opportunity on the Rubicon Trail. They've purchased
15 property and are opening new opportunity there next
16 summer.

17 That's really all I have to say. In closing,
18 Commissioner Cabral mentioned earlier to the Forest
19 Service some discussion about hard closures. On the
20 Rubicon Trail we have a Saturated Soils Plan that has
21 soft closures based on the science. So when the Forest
22 is ready to come talk to us about that, El Dorado County
23 already has it in place.

24 Thank you very much.

25 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Thank you.

1 John Stewart, followed by Bruce Brazil.

2 JOHN STEWART: Good afternoon, Commissioners.
3 John Stewart, California 4-Wheel Drive Association.

4 The Grants Program is a very important component
5 of the OHMVR Program. And would highly support keeping
6 it going and appreciate the report and the disruption
7 that the fires have caused to the Grants Program. And
8 thanks for the information about the reverberating
9 impact of the -- for the fires on existing grants. And
10 I -- I hope there's some kind of flexibility or
11 something can be created to be able to move those
12 forward when they -- when appropriate.

13 But that does bring up a -- a question here is
14 that within the Grants Program, I'd like to ensure that
15 we have a way to monitor or audit to make sure that the
16 work is actually being -- being accomplished on the
17 ground. And in the past, it has been an effort to do
18 grant, you know, audits to completion. And I'd like to
19 see it put up into a forefront where there are reports
20 about how many grants have been audited and to find out
21 if there have been funds returned or requested returned
22 because of non-performance of the grants.

23 Thank you.

24 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

25 Bruce Brazil.

1 BRUCE BRAZIL: Pass.
2 CHAIR CABRAL: Pass.
3 Amy Granat.
4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Gone.
5 CHAIR CABRAL: Gone.
6 Diana Mead.
7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER. Gone.
8 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.
9 Jerry Fouts.
10 JERRY FOUTS: Pass.
11 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.
12 Dave Pickett
13 DAVE PICKETT: Pass.
14 CHAIR CABRAL: Nick Haris
15 NICK HARIS: Pass.
16 CHAIR CABRAL: Pass. So we're moving right
17 along. I guess we're getting to the --
18 Yes, sir.
19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: If I can just add real
20 quick, good comment from -- from John Stewart. We're
21 actually getting ready to go live on the OLGA web site.
22 It was that software thing that we're trying to sort out
23 that will provide feedback on what our staff is seeing
24 out when they go and they do some of the -- the audits
25 on the -- on the grants, also the law enforcement

1 grants. So we're getting ready to go live on some of
2 that. Some of it was, you know, how much can we put
3 into public format and how much, you know, can we not.
4 But we're -- we're -- you should be seeing those
5 reports. I think the last time I talked Sixto, he was
6 imagining sometime around the beginning of the new year.
7 Okay? And we're excited about that, too, because
8 there's a lot -- there's a lot of good news to tell out
9 there. You know, there's some problems, but there's a
10 lot of good news to tell on those grants.

11 Thanks.

12 CHAIR CABRAL: All right. So at this point I
13 believe we're going to be getting close to our break
14 here until bringing in the INOHVAA stuff.

15 I -- I did want to say briefly on the Grants
16 situation that I know we've beat around at the -- a
17 couple Commission meetings and -- and off the record,
18 too, the idea of an emergency-type grant. And I think
19 that's something as we move forward with the OHV program
20 to look at renewing it to have in -- within -- built
21 into the Grants Program an -- an emergency-type fund,
22 and to -- to kind of expand on it so you can
23 understand --

24 I'm speaking to you, obviously, Director, but is
25 that when there's a fire or a catastrophic long fire,

1 and we'll use that situation, if you -- they have to go
2 out there and -- and -- an OHV Trail can easily be used
3 as a fire break. So that will be a -- a large bulldozer
4 will be brought down through there and -- so it will
5 take up -- it can take up the water controls, they can
6 do all kinds of different things like that. If there is
7 a fire in the area, sometimes they'll just blow through
8 afterwards and clean things up. There's -- it -- it
9 would be of benefit to everyone involved if we were able
10 to have emergency grants and be able to have those water
11 controls put while they're doing the clean-up work
12 within a reasonable time after the fires. So if there
13 was a way we could fund that -- because the equipment's
14 on the ground -- it would save taxpayers a lot of money,
15 and it would also protect the environment considerably.
16 So there's a way we can probably just do an adjustment
17 with the program that would be real beneficial. So I
18 know that the Deputy Director has discussed this before,
19 and that's something we'd like to see move forward.

20 So -- so with that, I think we're going go into
21 our break. And, once again, I'd like to thank you for
22 being here. It was our pleasure. And I'm hoping to see
23 you again. I'm looking forward to seeing you tomorrow,
24 and I'm hoping to see you again at another one of our
25 Commission meetings. All right.

1 Yeah, let's go for about a 15-minute or so break
2 so we can have a nice decent break, and then we'll go
3 from there. So it is now -- it's basically 3:00. So
4 let's call it 3:15, then, and return.

5 (Brief recess.)

6 **AGENDA ITEM IX - JOINT MEETING WITH INOHVAA**

7 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Anyway, I'd like to
8 welcome the INOHVAA folks in to our Commission meeting.
9 We've been here for -- almost since about 8:30 this
10 morning and have had a few breaks, a little lunch. But
11 we're moving forward, and we're getting into the section
12 that we're welcoming you in here, and I'm glad to have
13 you here.

14 My name is Ted Cabral, and I'm the Chairman of
15 the California Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation
16 Commission. And most of the -- the Commission up here,
17 how it works here in California is that we are either
18 appointed by the -- we're all appointees. So we're
19 either appointed by the Governor, by the Speaker of the
20 Assembly, and the other one is the Senate Rules
21 Committee, I believe how it works. So we have a couple
22 different ways you can get appointed to this. So -- so
23 we're basically -- we're the conduit for the public to
24 be able to -- to -- to come in and be able to make their
25 comments and speak and -- and have exchange on the OHV

1 Program here in California.

2 We also have the Grants Program, which is an
3 important component of our -- our stuff that helps us
4 build partnerships with -- with federal partners on --
5 and also counties, too, I've got to point that out. So
6 you get the counties and cities. But a lot of the --
7 most of the -- the grants go towards federal partners
8 for the Forest Service and BLM. But what we're going to
9 be talking about here is we're going to get into one of
10 our own State Parks. So this is an actual State Park,
11 but it's a motorized State Park. And we're going to be
12 looking at the Preliminary General Plan and all the
13 documentation that goes with it.

14 So I think what we'll do is -- I should have
15 every Commissioner up here introduce themselves. So why
16 don't we start with Paul, if you'd like to introduce
17 yourself.

18 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: Yeah. Hi. Welcome. Once
19 again, I saw a lot of you last night. I'm Paul Slavik.
20 I'm one of the Commissioners. I'm from Southern
21 California. And my background was I raced desert -- in
22 the California desert like in the early sixties, ended
23 up working for American Honda Motor Company for 30 years
24 and been retired for 10 years. But pretty much a
25 life-long motorcyclist.

1 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Hi, there. I'm Eric
2 Lueder, from Northern California, just north of
3 San Francisco. And I've been a life-long motorcycle
4 rider. I'm Chief of Real Estate for the County of
5 Marin. And I've done a lot of work with Parks &
6 Recreation in that county. Also a member of the Marin
7 County Motorcycle Association. And we're one of the few
8 private clubs in California that has their own property
9 and our own trail system. So have brought a lot of
10 experience on that when I came to the Commission in
11 2008. So welcome.

12 COMMISSIONER HAFKENSCHIEL: Hi. I'm Erin
13 Hafkenschiel. I'm from San Francisco. I work for an
14 environmental consulting firm in San Francisco. I am
15 not an OHV user, but have enjoyed being exposed to the
16 OHV community since being on the Commission.

17 Thanks.

18 COMMISSIONER PEREZ: Okay. Hi. My name is
19 Diana Perez. And I am an administrator at a community
20 college. And I have a son who will be a life-long user,
21 so -- and I'm from the Santa Maria area.

22 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: Good afternoon. My
23 name is Ed Patrovsky. I live in Apple Valley,
24 California, up in the High Desert. And I'm a retired
25 ranger with the Bureau of Land Management.

1 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Hi. Good afternoon. My
2 name is Teresa Villegas. I'm from Los Angeles. I've
3 been on the Commission probably for about two years now.
4 I am also not an OHV user, but I've also enjoyed my time
5 on the Commission. I've learned a lot. And I work for
6 the Board of Supervisors in Los Angeles.

7 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Hi. My name's Kevin
8 Murphy. I'm from the South San Francisco Bay Area. I'm
9 also a life-long OHV user. I used to work -- or I spent
10 a period of time working as a volunteer at one of our
11 State Vehicular Recreation Areas, and then the rest of
12 my time is spent as a fire captain and a father and a
13 husband.

14 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. So I guess I'll turn, at
15 this point, over to our Deputy Director who runs the
16 California OHV Division, so the program itself.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Thanks.

18 So yeah, I'm the Deputy Director. And let me
19 tell you, on behalf of California State Parks &
20 Recreation, I want to welcome you here. We -- we
21 just -- our Director was here just until a couple of
22 minutes ago. And I know that if she was here, she'd be
23 expressing this, but we deeply appreciate the fact that
24 it was -- that California was chosen for you to
25 celebrate your 25th for NOHVCC and that the -- the

1 INOHVAA came here as well to participate with us in this
2 meeting. This is great for us. We -- we understand all
3 the support that we've been getting over the years from
4 both of these organizations. We also understand that
5 we're all in this together. I mean this is -- this is
6 all of us looking at recreation, trying to get access
7 into these wonderful areas that -- that we all enjoy,
8 these wonderful natural areas. So by working together,
9 we have that opportunity to do it.

10 Thank you for being here. If you have questions
11 about anything we do, please don't -- don't hesitate.
12 If you have suggestions, please don't hesitate. The
13 venue that we're going to be using right now is talking
14 about the -- the release of this -- this version of a
15 General Plan which is our planning product of the
16 last -- for up to 20 or 30 years on this particular
17 park. So we're interested in your thoughts and all
18 that. It is part of our public -- public process.
19 We're going to be taking in all sorts of thoughts from
20 everybody all throughout the State on this. So -- so we
21 welcome your opinions as well.

22 We will tell you that if you want to comment
23 officially, though, we'd ask that you jump on our web
24 site, and there are opportunities. And I'm sure during
25 the brief that people will talk to you about that.

1 I will also educate you a little bit as to how
2 we do General Plans out here, which -- which is
3 important for you to know just as a comparative fact
4 and -- and to -- to kind of give you a baseline for how
5 we do business out here in California.

6 It is a huge program. We are blessed by the
7 fact that it was started back in the seventies, and it
8 has carried forth this far, this long. It is a -- it is
9 a well-funded program because of some smart use of gas
10 taxes and registration fees and all that. And it has
11 allowed us to do a lot. And it's created some -- some
12 tremendous partnerships with people like U.S. Forest
13 Service, Bureau of Land Management, the various counties
14 throughout the State to be able to make this thing
15 endure.

16 So I am not a life-long OHV recreationalist. I
17 did it professionally as a U.S. Marine for 30 years
18 and -- and kind of fell into this job afterwards. But
19 I'll tell you what, having been here, I've loved the
20 mission, I love the community, and it's just been a
21 great opportunity.

22 So with that, I'll introduce the rest of the
23 table. Kathryn Tobias is our counsel. She keeps us out
24 of trouble, gives us all that critical legal advice and
25 keeps us on the road.

1 And Maria Mowrey is our Acting Chief for OHV
2 Division. She is the one that makes everything work out
3 here.

4 And thank you.

5 CHAIR CABRAL: Great.

6 So with that, I'd like to see if we could have
7 you guys -- we know we have an international crowd here,
8 so if I can get you guys to introduce yourselves, that
9 would be wonderful. So if you'd all each stand up and
10 say your name and where you're from and -- and stuff,
11 that would be great, if we could do that and spend a
12 couple minutes there.

13 So why don't we go ahead and go first.

14 (Introductions of the audience.)

15 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. We got the -- is that all?
16 Okay. Great. Okay.

17 (Introductions of the audience continued.)

18 CHAIR CABRAL: Alaska?

19 (Introductions of the audience continued.)

20 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. I think what we'd like to
21 do is when this is done, if we could maybe get a sign-in
22 sheet going for everybody. That would be something that
23 would be beneficial for our official recorder. Is there
24 one going around? Yes, so if you could sign in that --
25 that would be wonderful, and then we can make sure that

1 it gets into the public record. So we have
2 these California rules we've got to follow.

3 But with that, I -- I -- Prairie City's an SVRA.
4 Okay? Where a lot of people hear about Prairie City is
5 from Hang Town -- from the Hangtown National MotoCross.
6 It's been a race that's been around for a very long
7 time. It came to Prairie City I guess 20-some or more
8 years ago. But it -- it's one of the -- traditionally,
9 it could be the opener for the AMA National MotoCross
10 Series. That's what you see a lot about it.

11 What you're going to see with this presentation
12 that Mr. Canfield is going to put on and the staff, that
13 we're going to have a -- it's really -- it's an urban
14 park, and it's a park that has a lot of different
15 recreational opportunities for many different types
16 of -- of motorized recreationalists. So it's going to
17 be adjusting as times change. I mean we're looking at
18 here in California looking at electric vehicles are
19 becoming popular vehicles. You know, you see like kids'
20 vehicles, that can be tremendous growth in electric. So
21 that could be an area that could be looked at. So the
22 General Plan is going to be -- it's going to be set up
23 in a manner so we're going to have a -- a course on
24 environmental protections put in place, but also there's
25 going to be a -- you know, a way to make this so we can

1 have, you know, the best possible experience for OHV
2 recreationalists here in this area.

3 **AGENDA ITEM IX(A) - JOINT MEETING WITH INOHVAA - PRAIRIE**
4 **CITY STATE VEHICULAR RECREATION AREA (SVRA) PRESENTATION**

5 CHAIR CABRAL: So with that, I think you'll
6 be -- it will be a nice little connection. So can we go
7 ahead and have you come on up and then we can dive into
8 our presentation.

9 JEANNE SISSON: Good afternoon, Commissioners,
10 NOHVCC members and INOHVAA members. Thank you. Glad to
11 have you all here. And I'm glad to be here. My name is
12 Jeanne Sisson. I'm the superintendent of Prairie City.
13 And what I'd like to do is give you -- we have our tour
14 out there tomorrow, Commission tour, and the NOHVCC
15 tour. So I'd like to give you an overview of the park
16 so you kind of know what to expect tomorrow.

17 So Prairie City takes its name from the 1850s
18 gold mining community of Prairie City. The town was
19 located near the present-day park. At its peak, the
20 community had about 2,000 residence. After a few
21 prosperous years, the gold gave out and by 1860 the
22 residents moved away. That wasn't the end of the gold
23 mining out there, however, because the dredge came along
24 and extended the gold mining period. The gold rush
25 ended in 1855, but with the invention of the gold dredge

1 in 1898, the search for gold continued in this area
2 until World War II. The gold-dredging process was
3 profitable, and the altered landscape and tailings
4 provided a unique and challenging off-road riding
5 opportunity. Some people might challenge my wording on
6 that. Those cobbles are not a favorite with all our
7 riders, for sure. The piles of rocks found throughout
8 Prairie City SVRA are known as dredge tailings. After
9 the end of the war, the -- the -- the altered
10 landscape -- I'm sorry, the tailings like these are
11 found throughout the park. We're seeing a little more
12 vegetation. They're getting slowly converted into
13 something else, but they're still definitely piles of
14 rocks.

15 In the early 1960s, Prairie City underwent
16 another land-use change when Aerojet bought the property
17 and developed the world's largest site for rocket engine
18 development and testing. There were actual rocket
19 testing took place after Congress had the program
20 funded.

21 Remnants of the rocket engine development can
22 still be seen in the park. This bunker adjacent to the
23 Twin Cities District Office was built so the scientists
24 could observe the testing of the M-1 rocket engine.
25 This unique building is currently closed per the fire

1 marshal due to asbestos and other hazards such as mold.

2 In 1972, Roy and Mary McGill leased 435 acres of
3 the present park site from Aerojet, who still owned it,
4 and created a motorcycle riding and competition park
5 privately owned called "McGills Cycle Park."

6 In 1975 Sacramento County purchased some of
7 the -- some of the existing park, some of the acreage
8 with the assistance of the State Off-Highway Vehicle
9 Grants Program. An additional 401 acres was purchased
10 in 1976, also with State Off-Highway -- State
11 Off-Highway Vehicle Funds, bringing the total acreage at
12 that time to 836 acres. California State Parks OHV
13 Division began the purchase process or at least got
14 authority -- legislative authority to purchase it in
15 1988. And by 1990, the State Parks had occupied it and
16 was beginning to ramp up operations out there.

17 Today Prairie City is a diverse OHV park that
18 provides riding opportunities for everyone from
19 beginners and children to expert competitive riders and
20 drivers. It has a variety of facilities providing --
21 which -- including on the top here is the kart track and
22 on the bottom is the quarter midget. Go-karts can be
23 operated by both adults and children, but some versions
24 of those karts go very fast, that's the adult racing, up
25 to 80 miles an hour. The quarter midgets that you see

1 on the bottom, those are strictly for kids, and those
2 don't go faster than 30 miles per hour and run on a very
3 small track.

4 Prairie City's flat track is known as the flat
5 track, the TG track, the oval. It's kind of a versatile
6 facility that hosts a lot of different events from
7 competitive motorcycle training courses to super cross,
8 ATV racing, even lawn mower races. Yeah, I laughed the
9 first time, too. So...

10 The Prairie City Motocross track for competitive
11 and advanced riders is operated by a concessionaire.
12 Riders pay a premium fee for an expertly groomed track
13 with advanced jumps.

14 Prairie City has two kids' practice tracks with
15 a shared staging area for watchful parents. That
16 includes rest rooms and shade ramadas. This is
17 typically very busy on a weekend. You drive by and see
18 lots of families doing, you know, the family thing.
19 It's really -- everybody really enjoys seeing that. And
20 very small kids, kids riding vehicles with training
21 wheels, very much a family environment.

22 We also have practice tracks. Prairie City's
23 motocross and ATV practice tracks allow experienced
24 riders to hone their skills. The tracks are one-way,
25 counter-clockwise to allow riders to push their speeds

1 without concern, generally, for encountering a rider
2 going the opposite direction.

3 The maintenance staff is currently --
4 continually working to improve the park for sustainable
5 riding opportunities, which results in high visitor
6 satisfaction. Under construction here on this slide is
7 our now completed four-by-four obstacle course. It was
8 completed in 2012. Visitors really enjoy the new
9 challenges, and the improvements actually help control
10 erosion. So it has that dual benefit. And it was
11 constructed with lots of input from our stakeholders.
12 We didn't create that in a vacuum.

13 Here's another feature on the four-by-four
14 obstacle course after completion.

15 Was there a slide before that that we missed?
16 Okay. Huh, interesting. Okay.

17 So this is -- this is the pyramid, also an
18 obstacle course. And this is a four-way thing that each
19 side has a different level of difficulty so that drivers
20 can take on what they're -- they feel like their driving
21 ability and their trucks are ready for.

22 And the mini --

23 Next slide.

24 And the mini Rubicon Trail gives four-by-four
25 enthusiasts the feel of driving on a rocky trail like

1 they might encounter in National Forests. The rock
2 features enjoyed by many visitors also do help protect
3 the drainage from erosion resulting in a win/win
4 situation for users and for the resources.

5 And the four-by-four area -- that's a
6 four-by-four track -- it consists of a dirt track and
7 related infrastructure, such as a staging area, shade
8 ramadas, rest rooms and a scoring tower and bleachers.
9 It is dual purpose. It serves as a recreational for --
10 area for four-by-four enthusiasts, which is not what's
11 pictured here, and with some specialized preparations as
12 a track for four-by-four competitions. So this was a
13 competition. After they leave, we have them knock
14 things down to make it more appropriate for day-to-day
15 recreational use. And then the promoter, when they come
16 in for the next event, they build it up to their liking
17 for their event.

18 Prairie City is the home to the Mud Mart
19 concession store, which serves the visitor with parts,
20 supplies, and food items, and offers maintenance and
21 repairs of ATVs and motorcycles. Their -- one of their
22 goals is to be able to help people get -- let's say you
23 drop your bike and you break a -- a lever or something,
24 they're going to have those -- those kinds of things on
25 hand and get you back out on the trail right away. And

1 he does also offer a repair shop that's doing fairly
2 well.

3 The Environmental Training Center is a facility
4 designed specifically for OHV education and training.
5 It consists of a building with a classroom and two
6 enclosed training ranges, an equipment room, storage
7 areas for OHVs, and then it also has a trail system that
8 was planted -- a very small educational trail system was
9 planted with vegetation representing five different
10 ecosystems found in California: Riparian, conifer
11 forest, desert, chaparral and oak woodland to increase
12 rider awareness of the natural environment that they are
13 riding in. And here we have pictured some eager
14 students at one of our ATV safety training courses.
15 This is in -- in one of the training ranges. And in the
16 background you'll see the palm trees are part of the
17 desert bio region.

18 Recreational off-highway vehicles are currently
19 rising in popularity in the world of off-highway vehicle
20 recreation. And I don't think I just said anything that
21 anybody doesn't already know. And they come in a
22 variety of designs from sporty to utilitarian, and they
23 can be driven by people who might not be physically able
24 to ride a motorcycle or even an ATV. Like other OHV
25 types, they are safe if equipped and operated according

1 to the manufacturer's recommendations. Master
2 instructor Greg Schumaker is pictured here teaching an
3 ROV safety course at Prairie City's Environmental
4 Training Center.

5 The Environmental Training Center ranges give
6 new riders a controlled environment to develop their
7 basic riding skills through a series of patterned
8 exercises under the watchful eye of a trained
9 instructor. Typically if they're successful in this,
10 then they go ahead and go out and do a little trail ride
11 if -- once they get those basic skills.

12 Prairie City is home to as many as 200 special
13 events per year. The largest event is the Annual
14 Hangtown Motocross Classic pictured here, a nationally
15 televised Motocross race that attracts professional
16 riders from all over the world and up to 25,000
17 spectators.

18 The Hangtown Motocross Classic kicks off the
19 12-race Lucas Oil Pro Motocross Series. This exciting
20 motocross race is the oldest and one of the most notable
21 trophies on the 12-race Lucas Oil AMA Pro Motocross
22 Championship Series, and has been dubbed as the crown
23 jewel of the series.

24 The Hangtown Motocross Classic is the only event
25 on the Lucas Oil AMA Motocross series that is still run

1 by a motorcycle club and is also held on public lands,
2 which illustrates the successful partnership between a
3 club and OHV -- OHMVR.

4 Rock racing is a MotoSport that is growing
5 significantly in popularity since it first appeared at
6 Prairie City about ten years ago. And with action like
7 this, it's a real crowd pleaser. Some of the rock
8 racing drivers are former motocross competitors.

9 Prairie City is also the -- a host to trials
10 bike competitions once or twice a year. This is a
11 competition that focuses on precision and control over
12 obstacles.

13 Prairie City has a 10-week mountain bike
14 competition series with races held every Wednesday, the
15 one day of the week that the park is closed. This kind
16 of dual use increases awareness -- increases the park
17 visitation by crossing over to other demographics which
18 increases our user base and creates advocates for OHV
19 parks. Some of our mountain bikes competitors -- or
20 some of our mountain bike competitors are MotoSports
21 enthusiasts as well.

22 And the various promoters holding special events
23 at Prairie City during the '14/'15 fiscal year collected
24 a total of approximately \$1.6 million in revenue. Ten
25 percent of that figure is paid to the OHV Trust Fund as

1 rent for the events and goes back into supporting the
2 OHV Program. Spectator attendance ranges from dozens to
3 thousands of persons per event who stimulate the local
4 economy with purchases of food, fuel, lodging and other
5 goods and services from local businesses.

6 The goal of the Interpretation Team at Prairie
7 City and OHV Division is to preserve sustainable
8 off-highway vehicle recreation opportunities by
9 educating the public on environmental responsibility an
10 safe riding practices. In addition to providing riding
11 and driving instruction, the interpreters also do
12 outreach programs at various events in the park and
13 surrounding communities. The team typically -- at just
14 Prairie City, not speaking for Division -- typically
15 educates over 10,000 visitors per year.

16 The park offers traditional interpretive
17 programs as well. This picture was taken during our
18 annual vernal pool tour hosted by the Prairie City
19 environmental scientists. The Vernal Pool Management
20 Area is part of a small network of buffer lands at
21 Prairie City SVRA that are not open to OHV riding, yet
22 indirectly serve and support the OHV community. Buffer
23 lands serve as critical purposes such as providing
24 habitat that can compensate for habitat loss due to
25 riding impacts, buffering noise and dust between OHV

1 recreation areas and neighboring residential areas,
2 providing OHV riders or their companions with alternate
3 things to do while they are visiting the park and
4 increasing support for OHV parks from local residents
5 who are not OHV enthusiasts themselves. This is going
6 to become more important at Prairie City as we have our
7 urban encroachment marching our way.

8 One of the most important tasks for staff at
9 Prairie City SVRA is the management of water during
10 storm events. Dust management practices such as
11 increasing vegetative cover, maintenance of sediment
12 basins, installation of infrastructure to slow, direct
13 and control water flows are all deployed at Prairie City
14 to keep the park in compliance with laws and regulations
15 such as the Clean Water Act.

16 One of the most successful environmental
17 management programs at -- practices at Prairie City is
18 the Rotational Hill Climb Rehabilitation Program. This
19 hill that you see is actually divided into sections.
20 When a section has been denuded of vegetation and active
21 erosion begins to occur, that section is temporarily
22 closed and the rehabilitation process begins.

23 Soil collected from the sediment basins within
24 the park is contoured to fill the rows and gullies.
25 Straw waddles are placed on the hill to break up the

1 vertical slope and slow water from creating more
2 erosion. Then a mix of water, seeds, compost and
3 tackifier is sprayed on the hill, a process called
4 hydroseeding. And the result is the hillside is
5 restored and it will be open again to riding while
6 another section is closed off and rehabilitated just
7 like this one was. This is one good -- just one good
8 example of how staff at Prairie City SVRA achieved a
9 balance between providing OHV recreation and being good
10 stewards of the land. And you're going to see some of
11 this tomorrow on -- on tours.

12 The presence of mammals such as deer, coyote,
13 bobcat and rabbits at Prairie City SVRA are the result
14 of management efforts to maintain wildlife habitat as
15 well an ability by these species to adapt to some degree
16 to the impacts of off-highway vehicle use.

17 Prairie City SVRA is also the home to a variety
18 of birds. Prairie City environmental staff conduct bird
19 surveys four times a year in the park. These are
20 valuable indicators of the overall environmental health
21 of the park, and the results are important for
22 management decisions and strategies.

23 In conclusion, Prairie City SVRA is a unique
24 off-highway vehicle park characterized by its facilities
25 and motor sports events all within 30 minutes of the

1 State's capital. And successful management of Prairie
2 City means that OHV enthusiasts have and will continue
3 to have quality riding opportunities in a mixed
4 neighborhood from agricultural to light industrial to
5 residential.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.

8 **AGENDA ITEM IX(B) - JOINT MEETING WITH INOHVAA -**
9 **PRESENTATION ON THE PRAIRIE CITY SVRA GENERAL PLAN**

10 JEANNE SISSON: With that, I would like to turn
11 it over now to Dan Canfield, and he will talk about
12 General plan.

13 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.

14 Dan.

15 DAN CANFIELD: Thank you, JEANNE.

16 (Applause.)

17 DAN CANFIELD: Hello, Commissioners, and special
18 guests and members of the public. I'm Dan Canfield,
19 OHMVR Planning Manager presenting on the Prairie City
20 SVRA Preliminary General Plan Project.

21 This was a recreational land use planning effort
22 that started back in 2013 and just recently reached a
23 major milestone. And I've been reporting on it over
24 these last couple of years before the Commission, so you
25 guys probably remember me talking about it.

1 As you're aware, the Commission has the
2 authority to approve General Plans for the SVRAs, but
3 that's not the step we're at today with Prairie City.
4 It is a release of a draft document. We're looking for
5 input from the public and from agencies.

6 But as the Commission was asked in the past, you
7 guys like to be more involved during the process not
8 just at the end of the -- at the end of the process
9 asking for approval. So that's part of the reason why
10 I'm talking to you today about this document. And for
11 our special guests, I mentioned I work with -- for the
12 OHMVR Division, the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation
13 Division. Here in California, we are part of California
14 State Parks, but a division with a unique mission. That
15 mission is to provide ecologically balanced and
16 interesting OHV recreation to the people of and visitors
17 to the great State of California.

18 I've prepared an outline to help me -- to help
19 keep me on track and also to provide a little context
20 for our visitors who might not be as familiar with
21 California's statewide OHV program.

22 I'll be talking a little bit about the statewide
23 OHV system, our state vehicular recreation areas and how
24 they fit into that system. I'm going to talk about why
25 we plan for the SVRAs, how we plan for the SVRAs, and

1 then finally we'll talk about our Prairie City
2 Preliminary General Plan that's recently been published.

3 So what do I mean by a statewide OHV system.
4 The OHMVR Division of California State Parks is tasked
5 with facilitating a system of public OHV recreation
6 facilities. This is accomplished through a number of
7 programs, but the -- the main two programs are the first
8 one being our State Vehicular Recreation Areas, which
9 are managed directly by California State Parks, OHMVR
10 Division, and then our field-level staff who -- let's
11 face it, the field-level staff do all the real work.

12 Thank you, Jeanne, again.

13 And then also -- so we have our own SVRAs, and
14 then we also have a program in which grant funding is
15 awarded to our allied agencies, like the United States
16 Forest Service and the BLM, as well as cities and
17 counties. So you take all these facilities together,
18 you come up with the statewide OHV system. And it is
19 depicted in our Adventure Map, which includes a map and
20 an index showing the location of all of those public
21 recreation facilities that are either directly managed
22 by or receive grant funding through the OHV Program. I
23 put several of these maps on the sign-in table, so if
24 anyone wants to grab one, please do. And I'm sure there
25 will be some more out at Prairie City if you're part of

1 that tour.

2 The great thing about these maps is it shows the
3 general location in the State of the various facilities.
4 And then the Index will tell you what type of OHV
5 vehicles are accommodated. Is it just motorcycles and
6 ATVs or is it four-wheel drives, snowmobiles. And it
7 also provides the -- it also provides a phone number and
8 an email -- excuse me, a web site address so that you
9 can get the actual more specific information about trail
10 maps, camping, that type of information.

11 So the State OHV system is depicted on this map
12 and it's roughly about 170 facilities that's on this
13 map. Some of those are a few hundred acres, and some of
14 those are ten thousands of acres.

15 Now, the State system includes federal lands,
16 State lands and as well as city and county lands. So
17 the State land contribution to that is what we call our
18 State Vehicular Recreation Areas or SVRAs. There's
19 eight of those on this map. We've actually added a
20 ninth one since this map was printed. So the SVRAs.

21 The next slide will show the State of California
22 and the general location of the SVRAs.

23 Thank you, Deb.

24 Ranging -- so the nine SVRAs are spread
25 throughout California from Ocotillo Wells and Heber

1 Dunes down in Southern California, almost to Mexico, all
2 the way up to Clay Pit SVRA near the community of
3 Oroville. And Clay Pit is aptly named as it is the pit
4 that was the formed when clay was dug out to build the
5 dam for Lake Oroville. So they didn't -- they weren't
6 real creative in that name, but Clay Pit SVRA.

7 Also on the map you'll -- you'll -- you'll see
8 Prairie City SVRA, which is our Sacramento County
9 facility, which I'm going to be talking about in more
10 detail.

11 So these SVRAs, these are the lands that
12 California has dedicated to ecologically sustainable and
13 interesting OHV recreation. This is where recreation
14 should be maximized while meeting soil and habitat
15 standards. Statistically speaking, the SVRAs represent
16 about 10 percent of California State park lands and less
17 than 1/10th of 1 percent of all the land in California,
18 but they're incredibly important because this is -- as I
19 mentioned, this is the land the State has dedicated to
20 OHV recreation, the SVRAs.

21 So why do we plan for the future of the SVRAs?
22 Why do we plan for the future of the SVRAs. Thank you.
23 Well, we plan because it's the law. State law directs
24 the Department to develop a General Plan, which is a
25 programmatic level planning guiding document. These

1 have to be developed before we can build facilities or
2 hire staff or build a trail system. Anything that
3 requires the permanent commitment of resources. The
4 State government wants us to have a plan in place, which
5 is probably a good idea, before we start doing those
6 projects.

7 Right, Kathryn, that's a really good idea. We
8 should have a plan in place before we just start
9 building stuff.

10 Also, these -- the SVRA General Plans are a
11 great tool in helping us determine the appropriate
12 balance of recreation and resource conservation. We're
13 trying to find that sweet spot. Now, beyond the law,
14 the -- the General Plans are of a great value because
15 thoughtful planning can be very important to directing a
16 park unit for many decades. They're developed with
17 substantial public input as well as resource studies.
18 So a General Plan is a great opportunity for a park
19 unit -- not just an SVRA, but any park unit in
20 California to learn about what resources they have,
21 learn about what the public is interested in doing when
22 they come visit their parks, and then help through a
23 public process develop a road map to how we can get to
24 our desired condition. That's kind of why we plan.

25 How do we plan, you might ask? Well, luckily I

1 work for the State of California, and they gave me a
2 handbook. It's a very thoroughly written document.
3 This is the play book for creating California State
4 Parks General Plans. Oh, good, it's already up.

5 This document describes the chapter structure of
6 General Plans, the required components, such as a
7 purpose and a vision that gets developed. Also it
8 identifies the process of establishing goals and
9 guidelines that are all about getting from where the
10 park is today to where we want it to be in the future.
11 What's our desired condition? Is it more trails, more
12 tracks, better parking? That's -- that's all kind of
13 how -- that's how we plan for these SVRAS.

14 The General Plan process here in California has
15 a -- involves a public component. Throughout the
16 process we're doing workshops, online exercises, visitor
17 surveys. I'm appearing before the Commission talking
18 about it, spreading the word, getting folks to provide
19 input. We do Facebook postings, that types of thing.

20 The General Plans also involve -- here in
21 California at least, they involve a California
22 Environmental Quality Act compliant analysis. That's
23 what we call CEQA here in California. Some of our
24 visitors might be more familiar with the National
25 Environmental Policy Act or NEPA. CEQA is California's

1 version of NEPA, basically. So when we do a General
2 Plan, we also do an analysis after the potential
3 environmental impacts arising from implementing that
4 plan.

5 Well, that's enough about that. Let's talk
6 about Prairie City since we're here in Sacramento
7 County. As I mentioned earlier, the project has just
8 reached a major milestone. The -- the plan began back
9 in 2013, and just last Monday, so two days ago, we did
10 publish our Preliminary General Plan and Draft
11 Environmental Impact Report. And I believe the
12 Commissioners have copies of those in front of them.
13 Good. They look a lot alike. Just the relationship
14 again, the Preliminary General Plan is the road map --
15 the draft road map for the future. The Environmental
16 Impact Report is the analysis of potential --
17 potentially significant environmental impacts arising
18 from implementing the plan. That's how they work
19 together. The EIR is bigger. Good way to keep track of
20 it.

21 There's the documents there. Great. Thank you.

22 Now, for the folks in the audience and members
23 of the public, the documents can be reviewed and
24 downloaded from -- reviewed and downloaded from the
25 project web site. That is prairiecitygeneralplan.com.

1 That's a picture of what it looks like on the screen
2 there. Also in this web site you can learn about the
3 entire planning process. You can see what people -- the
4 members of the public that came to our workshop a year
5 and a half ago, you can see what materials they looked
6 at and you can see what kind of comments they provided.
7 So you can look at the whole process that got us to
8 these documents.

9 Let's dive into the document a little bit, the
10 Preliminary General Plan, and talk about the chapter
11 structure. And as I mentioned, the structure is set
12 forth in a handbook, State of California State Parks
13 provided. The basic chapter structure is Chapter 1 is
14 the Introduction. In the Introduction, you can learn
15 about the history of Prairie City SVRA. Jeanne covered
16 a lot of it, but there's more of it in the Preliminary
17 General Plan. The Introduction chapter will also tell
18 you about the public process we went through to develop
19 these documents, as well as some of the issues -- as
20 well as some of the -- the history of the Prairie City
21 and the process we went through. Sorry. I'm jumping
22 ahead of myself.

23 Chapter 2 is the largest chapter. It's the
24 existing conditions. It describes what are the current
25 facilities, programs, and what are some of the outside

1 influences that are affecting Prairie City SVRA, namely,
2 there's a large discussion of the expansion of two local
3 communities: The City of Folsom and the City of Rancho
4 Cordova, both of which have planning efforts underway to
5 expand their boundaries with residential and commercial
6 development getting very, very close to Prairie City
7 SVRA. So you could learn about that in Chapter 2, The
8 Existing Conditions.

9 And then in Chapter 3, which is the shortest
10 chapter, there's a very important component. Chapter 3
11 describes what issues are currently affecting the
12 facility. So in chapter -- in -- that it would drive us
13 in the direction of our new plan. So what issues are
14 affecting the operation at the facility, and that's
15 going to drive how we develop our plan. So in Chapter 3
16 you'll learn about stormwater issues, you'll learn about
17 the urban encroachment and how that is problematic for
18 operating an OHV park. So that's Chapter 3 is the -- is
19 the issues that are driving the need for change.

20 Leads you to Chapter 4, which is the plan.
21 Those -- so Chapter 4 is the road map for the future,
22 telling us how to get from Chapter 2, The Existing
23 Conditions, how do we get into the future dealing with
24 the issues that are in Chapter 3. So that's kind of the
25 big picture of how the document works at a chapter

1 level.

2 Let's take a closer look at Chapter 4. I will
3 turn to it in the book. Okay. A State Park General
4 Plan has several required components. The first one I
5 want to talk about is the Purpose Statement -- excuse
6 me, Declaration of Purpose. And I'm just going to read
7 it. It's on page 4-1. "The purpose of Prairie City
8 SVRA is to offer high-quality OHV and other recreational
9 opportunities and to provide OHV and special-event
10 venues while protecting and interpreting on-site natural
11 resources." Pretty -- pretty straightforward. And so
12 that -- that purpose was developed and publicly vetted
13 through this process, and it's still being -- it's not
14 final. This a preliminary document. So we're still
15 looking for input from stakeholders and interested
16 members of the public on does this Declaration of
17 Purpose get to what they think the purpose of Prairie
18 City SVRA is. If it doesn't, we'd welcome input on
19 that.

20 Chapter 4 also includes a vision.

21 Thank you, Deb.

22 It's a little bit longer, but I think it's
23 important, so I'm going to go ahead and read it.

24 "Prairie City SVRA will" -- this is the vision.

25 "Prairie City SVRA will provide high-quality OHV

1 recreation and other recreational opportunities while
2 protecting natural and cultural resources. Prairie City
3 SVRA will develop and maintain a family-oriented model
4 of an urban OHV recreation area that is flexible,
5 responsive, and provides a high level of quality
6 customer service. Opportunities will be provided for
7 family and community outreach through environmental
8 awareness, environmental stewardship, and safety
9 training programs at this multi-use OHV recreation
10 area." Just like the purpose, the Vision Statement is a
11 work in progress. We'd love input on is this vision
12 lacking something, is it needing more of this -- we'll
13 be looking for input from the public on how to make that
14 vision better, or if it's great, let us know it's great.

15 The General Plan also provides a Use Area Map.
16 It's a fold-out. This map describes the potential
17 future facilities and describes the potential future
18 allowed recreational uses. One of the very popular
19 features that we've heard from the public on is the
20 proposal to add overnight camping at Prairie City SVRA.
21 Currently the SVRA does not have overnight camping
22 except in some cases as part of a special event. But
23 the proposal in the General Plan is to have overnight
24 camping available to the general public. And that's
25 been met with a lot of good comments from the public.

1 The map also describes this concept of use
2 areas. Now, Prairie City SVRA, as Jeanne talked about,
3 first it was a gold-dredge tailing pile, but then it was
4 a rocket-testing facility, then it was a private
5 motorcycle park, and then it was a county motorcycle
6 park, and then it was a State motorcycle park. So you
7 can imagine over that time the -- the -- through use,
8 roads and trails have been developed, tracks have been
9 built, facilities have been put into place.

10 Historically, the recreation that visitors would
11 experience was that they had the tracks, and outside of
12 the tracks, it was an open riding facility, that there
13 wasn't a thought put forth to a design trail system.
14 The -- the roads and trails that were created by use
15 were adopted by the SVRA management and managed as they
16 went forward.

17 In this new General Plan, we have a little bit
18 of a diversion from that proposed, and that is this
19 concept of distributed -- distributed recreation versus
20 road and trails recreation. And on the map, distributed
21 recreation is identified in gray, and the brown area is
22 the road and trails area. And I want to describe kind
23 of how we came up with this approach. During the
24 planning process, as we were working out the various
25 concepts, we talked to a lot of people that visited the

1 SVRA. We went out and talked to the OHV dealers in the
2 area because we wanted to find out what people thought
3 of the SVRA and what they would like to see in the
4 future. That's what we're all about. And what we heard
5 was that people liked the tracks, and they wanted them
6 made better. They liked the special events that
7 happened at Prairie City. They wanted better facilities
8 when they were at special events and they want easier
9 access in and out of the facility. Beyond that, they
10 didn't think much of the open recreation area. It was
11 boring. It was -- you could -- we heard a lot of -- it
12 was -- you couldn't ride for more than one or two hours;
13 you'd be bored. So it wasn't very interesting. And
14 from -- at the same time, during our consultation of
15 the -- through the General Plan process, we reached out
16 to the Central California Regional Water Quality Board,
17 and they came and they took a look at our facility. And
18 what they reported to us was that in storm events -- one
19 of Jeanne's slides showed the aftermath of a storm
20 event. In a big storm event, the Prairie City SVRA, the
21 eastern portion of it is a drainage, and it goes right
22 by Prairie City's pro motocross track. And in these
23 storm -- in these big storm events that we get here in
24 Sacramento, hopefully, the -- there was potential for
25 sediment to be delivered from our facility into the

1 Coyote Creek drainage. And why that's important is
2 Coyote Creek drains into the Cosumnes River which drains
3 into the San Joaquin Delta. And so that put it on the
4 radar screen of the Water Board coming to us and saying,
5 "Hey, we know you're doing this planning effort. FYI,
6 your facility has the potential to deliver sediment into
7 our waterways, and that would -- that threatens the
8 sustainability of our OHV Park because that would be
9 problematic with our soil conservation standard. So at
10 the same time we're hearing from folks that they -- it's
11 boring to go to Prairie City if you're not on a track,
12 and then we're hearing from the Water Board that we have
13 a stormwater issue in the eastern portion of our SVRA.
14 Hence, through the planning process, we came up with
15 this concept that if the General Plan is adopted, in the
16 future, the traditional open riding or distributed
17 riding will continue to occur in the western portion,
18 which is primarily the gold-mining dredge tailing piles.
19 So what folks have been used to experiencing at Prairie
20 City SVRA, outside of the tracks, will continued to be
21 offered in the gray area.

22 In the brown area, in our drainage, we'll move
23 towards a road and trail-based system, which will allow
24 us a couple of different things. First of all, it
25 allows us to thoughtfully plan and engineer an

1 interesting trail system. And secondly, it will allow
2 us to increase the vegetation cover in that portion of
3 the SVRA which helps with -- helps us with stormwater.
4 So that -- that's kind of the story behind the use
5 areas. And I -- I recognize that is a -- for our
6 stakeholders and for our visitors to SVRAs, that's a big
7 deal because it's a change. And -- but that was -- that
8 was kind of the genesis of this concept of distributed
9 recreation, which is the traditional experience, and
10 then the trails area and the drainage.

11 It also points out that we are proposing to
12 improve the existing tracks, which people enjoy so much,
13 and also having a development of a new multi-use special
14 events area that would be a brand-new facility.

15 These documents are not final. We need more
16 review and more feedback on them to make them stronger.
17 Comments on these documents are appreciated and they're
18 most valuable by December 9th. Now, how you can
19 provide -- how you can provide comments is through that
20 project web site, prairiecitygeneralplan.com. Not only
21 can you download the documents, you can provide
22 comments. You can also find out the email address and
23 the physical address to mail comments, if you prefer to
24 provide comments that way. And I would encourage
25 everyone to go take a look at that,

1 prairiecitygeneralplan.com.

2 As was mentioned earlier, this -- the Prairie
3 City General Plan was not agendized as a hearing item,
4 so the -- the discussion here today won't serve as
5 formal public comments. So for folks that hear
6 something or you want to make sure you provide a
7 comment, definitely do it through the web site, and
8 that's much appreciated.

9 That ends my report.

10 CHAIR CABRAL: Well, thank you, Dan. That was
11 wonderful.

12 Chris, do you have some stuff you'd like to add?

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah.

14 Given that -- again, this is a document that we
15 will have official public comment on. What I'd
16 recommend we do is through sort of a question-and-answer
17 period, you know, our -- our normal standard public
18 comment -- I mean it will still be recorded in the
19 record, but just for clarification so that somebody
20 doesn't get the -- the idea that if they stand up and
21 make a public comment here that that's automatically
22 incorporated into the comments on the -- on the draft.

23 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. So is everyone clear with
24 that as far as our local California advocates, that we
25 do it -- the proper way to make public comment is going

1 to be through the web site on this.

2 So I also -- before Dan steps aside here maybe,
3 I was going to ask the Commission if they have any
4 questions for Dan Canfield.

5 I know -- I -- I have one quick thing, is that I
6 know we spoke off the record on this, but I -- I just --
7 I've been a little bit of a champion of trying to come
8 up with what I call habitat trails. And you have some
9 of these areas that are listed in here that have -- you
10 know, where you're going to do -- whether it's the
11 vernal pools or if it's the stormwater management, but I
12 think this is an opportunity to be able to create
13 amphibian habitat and do amphibian trails, you know, the
14 undercrossings in certain areas. Also, I know we
15 just -- we've -- we've had the presentation on
16 stormwater and also with groundwater issues and that new
17 law that we have to follow. I can see the possibility
18 of doing a groundwater re-charge project that's -- also
19 be able to store the -- the silt during the winter
20 season and then that could be amended and then maybe put
21 back on to trails in different areas. So I can see a
22 management system that would benefit -- you know, we
23 could actually create amphibian habitat and still have
24 the OHV component there during the proper time of the
25 year. I mean you don't want to -- when it's flooded

1 like that one picture was showing, you obviously
2 wouldn't use it. But it could be something that could
3 be used during the summer or the spring or, you know,
4 whatever have you. So with that, it would give us the
5 opportunity, too, if we went down that road to be able
6 to collect data on how the -- the interface between OHV
7 use and, you know, other wildlife such as amphibians.
8 Because, you know, I -- I want to base this on a -- on
9 something that I've -- if -- I've -- we've all heard,
10 you drive down the road in your car after a nice warm
11 little rain, you've got the window down and you can hear
12 the frogs in the ditch, you know. They're sitting there
13 making noise. I mean they're there. So -- and then a
14 lot of times we'll hear when there's an amphibian
15 habitat that, oh, you've got to completely close that
16 area. And I think to be able to provide data that says,
17 Hey, look it, you can have an OHV component and have a
18 thriving amphibian habitat would be something that would
19 be beneficial.

20 So I know planning-wise, that's kind of like a
21 big picture down the road type of thing and stuff, but
22 it would be neat if we can just at one of these SVRAs do
23 that as a test-type thing and maybe make it a component
24 of a groundwater re-charge and silt trap type of a
25 situation. So just wanted to throw that out there and

1 the public on their thoughts and maybe stimulate some
2 thinking with the crowd that just showed up here because
3 I know these are -- they -- they're going to be, you
4 know, managing properties all over the state -- I mean
5 all over the United States and even parts of Canada and
6 what have you, and it would be nice to see that type of
7 a program get up. So...

8 DAN CANFIELD: Okay. Thank you.

9 CHAIR CABRAL: Uh-huh.

10 Yes, Commissioner Murphy.

11 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: If I would --

12 Dan, before you go, I just went through
13 Hollister and -- and they have all that beautiful new
14 infrastructure including shower facilities and that sort
15 of thing. Yeah, it's on. Sorry. Anyway, what I was
16 speaking to is that one of our other parks was remodeled
17 recently and -- and the plan included these brand-new
18 shower facilities that are -- that are beautiful and --
19 and very much needed considering people are going out in
20 the dirt all day and come back and want to camp and
21 would like to sleep relatively clean. Does this plan
22 include any of those same type of shower facilities and
23 infrastructure improvements?

24 DAN CANFIELD: Keep in mind that the General Plan is a
25 programmatic level planning document. It -- it lays the

1 groundwork for the future vision, and, for example, it
2 provides the proposal of adding overnight camping to
3 Prairie City SVRA. It doesn't then say it should be six
4 RV hook-ups with two showers. It basically kind of left
5 that for the future managers to -- to -- they can be
6 flexible based on what the current conditions are. So
7 the General Plan document, we usually don't dive down to
8 that -- that project level. There are some exceptions.
9 If there's a particular project in mind, a lot of times
10 that will be looped into a General Plan. And -- and in
11 this -- in this --

12 MARK HADA: Can you speak up a little bit?

13 DAN CANFIELD: Sure.

14 In -- in this particular plan, it -- it proposes
15 overnight camping, but it doesn't dive down to how many
16 spots, you know. That's something left up to the -- to
17 the project level development, which, for example, at
18 Prairie City they would have the -- they have a group
19 that meets once a month. So when they get ready, Hey,
20 we're -- we're ready to move on that overnight camping,
21 they let the Prairie City Improvement group say, Oh,
22 well, definitely you've got to do that. You've got to
23 make sure they're 30 feet long, enough room for me to
24 turn around my -- my trailer and all that kind of good
25 stuff will happen at that -- at that level.

1 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: I see.

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Just another quick
3 comment.

4 So what tends to -- what should happen is a
5 programmatic General Plan gets written. And then
6 what -- what we'll do is we'll go to our A&D --
7 Acquisition and Development Division, who are -- they're
8 our engineers within the Parks Department, and we'll
9 develop what's called a Master Plan. And -- and that's
10 something that actually OHV Division apparently has been
11 doing for quite a while, sort of -- it's now being
12 adopted a little bit more by the Parks, but we'll do
13 like a five-year or longer Master Plan, and that's where
14 those ideas come in, the capital improvement projects
15 that -- that are going to come on line. Because, again,
16 they're -- they're funded -- you know, you have to get
17 them onto the budget proposals and all that sort of
18 stuff.

19 Now, the -- the interesting thing about what you
20 see built out at Hollister was that was approved,
21 obviously, a few years ago. Got put into the budget,
22 and then they're allowed to build. I'm not sure we
23 could do the same thing right now because of the
24 drought. So in some circumstances, this may be the kind
25 of thing where a facility like that, we may actually

1 decide to wait a little bit because in a drought year, I
2 don't think we're going to get approval to put in a
3 shower facility. But I -- I absolutely concur that
4 putting in stuff like that, I mean that's -- not only --
5 for those of you that are unfamiliar with it, they put
6 out bathroom facilities, beautiful. I mean they're --
7 they're done in concrete, but they made it look like
8 wood. So it looks rustic. They have shower -- big huge
9 shower areas in it. They've got restroom facilities.
10 They've got Wi-Fi cable. They've got the fiber optic
11 cable links and Wi-Fi. They've got solar power that
12 goes into it. They're -- they're great. I mean they're
13 sort of the industry standard if you wanted to set up
14 something like that for a camp. And it -- and what it's
15 going to do is it's going to increase the families down
16 there. So...

17 Thanks.

18 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. At this point --

19 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: I got --

20 CHAIR CABRAL: Commissioner Slavik.

21 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: I think Eric had one.

22 CHAIR CABRAL: Eric.

23 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Dan, just a couple quick
24 questions, and maybe I missed it in your presentation.
25 But what is the projected public comment time period?

1 DAN CANFIELD: Good question. That's all right.
2 I think I sped through that part.

3 Published on Monday for 45 days, runs through
4 December 9th. That -- so comments would be most
5 preferred by December 9th.

6 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Okay. And then second
7 question, since there's massive, large-scale development
8 proposed surrounding the whole park, in addition to the
9 public agencies, you know, City of Folsom, City of
10 Rancho Cordova, are you noticing all the property owners
11 in the area as well?

12 DAN CANFIELD: Sure. Our public notification
13 included all contiguous landowners. We also did Sac
14 County, City of Folsom, City of Rancho Cordova, Sac
15 County Planning Department.

16 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Okay.

17 DAN CANFIELD: Did newspaper ads, Facebook
18 posts, email blasts, and then the website.

19 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Sure.

20 DAN CANFIELD: But -- but we did -- there's
21 five -- we have five neighbors --

22 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Okay.

23 DAN CANFIELD: -- which is great. At Ocotillo
24 Wells we have a thousand neighbors.

25 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Right.

1 DAN CANFIELD: Because I just -- yeah.

2 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: My concern is is that
3 developers that own the property will make any excuse in
4 the future, Oh, we didn't get our notice, and so we're
5 going to challenge this.

6 DAN CANFIELD: Sure.

7 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: So that's my concern.
8 Because obviously they have millions of dollars at
9 stake.

10 DAN CANFIELD: Yeah. Yeah, we did a real good
11 thorough job on the -- the noticing. Where the CEQA
12 requirement is you either do a mailing or a newspaper
13 ad, so we did -- we did both.

14 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Good.

15 DAN CANFIELD: And I -- I will point out one
16 good item is that the -- the land to the south of
17 Prairie City SVRA area are largely restricted by a
18 conservation easement. So it -- but it -- there are
19 three other sides are -- are open to residential,
20 commercial development.

21 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Right. Okay. Thank you.

22 DAN CANFIELD: Sure.

23 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: Yeah. The question I had
24 was along those same lines. I mean it -- it seems to me
25 we're going to at some point end up with, you know, the

1 airport syndrome, you know. These developments are
2 going to encroach on -- on the park, and people are
3 going to hear noise, and, you know, something's to going
4 to happen. And I don't know where we can go with this
5 as far as -- as -- you know, solidifying the actual
6 ownership of the land. Okay. So Kathryn has a response
7 to that. Thank you.

8 LEGAL COUNSEL TOBIAS: That is something that we
9 consider. And I think that -- that several of the
10 parks, that's why we have buffer areas that we're
11 putting in or arranging for them. I think Dan could
12 talk about some of the property that's been purchased at
13 Prairie City to actually provide those kinds of buffers.
14 As he pointed out, the land to the north is all in the
15 City of Folsom's -- now within their city limits. It
16 used to be in their sphere of influence, which is their
17 LAFCO requirement, but now it's all been annexed. So
18 the residential areas are supposed to come right down
19 to -- is it White Rock Road?

20 DAN CANFIELD: Correct.

21 LEGAL COUNSEL TOBIAS: So I think at all the
22 parks we're kind of looking at that. Some of the areas
23 aren't going to be impacted by that. They're just too
24 far out. And so, you know, hopefully we won't have
25 those problems. Onyx, Ocotillo Wells, probably not

1 going to have a lot of urban development up close. But
2 for Carnegie, for Prairie City, those are ones that we
3 are watching, and -- and it is something that we
4 considering, the -- the buffer areas. And those buffer
5 areas may, for example, end up with some other kind of
6 use in them, such as bicycles, something like that. Or
7 the other thing we have at -- at Prairie City is that
8 some of the buffer areas are vernal pools. And so we've
9 kind of planned as we've gone along to look at buffering
10 these parks because it is a problem. Kind of hoping
11 that maybe with more electric vehicles that will be less
12 of a problem in the future, at least in certain places
13 and times. So -- but it's definitely something that we
14 consider as we plan these parks.

15 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: No, I -- I appreciate the
16 fact that -- you know, I think we've been talking about
17 this for a long time. And I'm -- I'm just hoping that
18 we can explore something -- something -- some more
19 intense ways -- and that's not -- that's not a good
20 word -- whether it's conventions that something -- maybe
21 Eric could come with with the developers where -- you
22 know, when somebody buys a house, they know that it's
23 there, and they -- and they relinquish any right to --
24 to challenge that.

25 LEGAL COUNSEL TOBIAS: We --

1 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: You know -- just let me
2 say, when they -- when they have a Hangtown event there
3 and they hear the roar of those bikes taking off,
4 there's going to be people that -- it's -- it's going to
5 be like Oceano; it's going to raise the hackles on the
6 back of their neck, you know. And -- and we're going to
7 be done.

8 LEGAL COUNSEL TOBIAS: Well, it is -- it's --
9 it's really unfortunate. We've asked at a lot of not
10 only OHV parks, but other parks from developers and/or
11 the cities that have allowed that kind of development,
12 and we really don't get very far with it because, of
13 course, they want us to set up the buffer areas. They
14 don't want to put the buffers on their property because
15 they'd rather sell that -- that land for homes.

16 So I think the -- the most important things at
17 this point are being very aware that we will need buffer
18 areas, making sure that we're as good a neighbor as we
19 can be. I've worked in Land Use in Sacramento County
20 for a pretty long time, and, you know, the development
21 does tend to drive things out. This whole area down
22 here used to be, you know, pretty rural. There was an
23 (autua) or a -- what's a better word for that -- you
24 know, a place where you take your animals to be disposed
25 of -- that's had to move because people who are moving

1 in to the Mather area didn't like the smell, didn't like
2 the connotations of having that particular use there.

3 So I have to say the Board of Supervisors is not
4 always very sympathetic to existing uses. You know, I
5 don't think we tend to donate a lot of money to the
6 Board of Supervisors. So I think, you know, that's one
7 thing to be aware of, to make sure that we have a good
8 relationship with the Board of Supervisors. They know
9 how important this area is. So I think we're -- I can
10 say we're aware of it, and it's something that we do pay
11 attention to.

12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: You know, I think the
13 other thing that -- that we have to understand, too, is
14 even -- you know, like a situation like Oceano, so
15 people move in, they may even have something -- you
16 know, a disclosure in their -- in their purchase that
17 says there's going to be dust, but then when you have
18 something like a decision that the dust is now
19 carcinogenic or is causing some kind of a health risk,
20 that's a new revelation. That's not something we
21 anticipated or they did. I mean if I was -- if I was
22 running In-N-Out Burger right now, I'd be in a panic
23 because -- did you see the latest? They're going to
24 declare that beef is carcinogenic. Right? Okay. So I
25 mean who would have guessed that 20 years ago? But now

1 suddenly beef is -- is the worst thing you can eat. You
2 know, all of us are sitting here, we were raised on
3 beef. But that -- that's the kind of thing that you
4 can't necessarily anticipate. At the same time, though,
5 I think -- and -- and we've done a good job of this, we
6 also have to be agile enough that when those things come
7 up, you know, we do some shifts, we do some shifts in
8 what we're doing. And -- and I think in some cases, you
9 know, that's why zero-emission bikes or changing how we
10 do trails so that we're getting less dust and all of
11 those kind of things become important at that point
12 because you're going to get those revelations suddenly
13 that -- that turns something that everybody accepted is
14 okay to suddenly being determined to be a nuisance or,
15 even worse, a health risk, and -- and we just have to
16 adapt to that. I mean that's why we went with the
17 quieter bikes. That's why we went with a lot of -- you
18 know, the changing of the trails so that people weren't
19 hearing the noise. That's why we went with dust
20 mitigation at a lot of our parks. So I think we just
21 have to be understanding of that as we go on.

22 CHAIR CABRAL: Yes. And I -- I think what
23 you're -- we're looking at, I mean this is -- to speak
24 to the group really is, is what we're looking at at what
25 the challenges with urban parks. And this is what --

1 you know, I want to even relate this to the community
2 that I come from, which is Petaluma, California. And
3 they have a park they built based on around a discharge
4 of the dredgings from the Petaluma River basin --
5 churning basin down there. And with that, they built --
6 the idea was to build a park, and they stuck it in an
7 industrial area. So it was like, Okay, we can put it
8 here. Well, the park became so popular that they wanted
9 to close down all the industrial use around it because
10 the park -- and it's just -- I mean that's the type of
11 things that can possibly happen. I mean there's
12 unintended consequences. Now, with this, I mean myself
13 personally, I think we should put an OHV undercrossing
14 to the development. Heck, I might even move up there
15 and buy a home, you know. So that's just my --

16 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Yeah, I agree with you. I
17 mean we get a giggle, but I think that's a great idea.
18 So the people that move in there have direct buy-in onto
19 what happens there. That's -- that's --

20 CHAIR CABRAL: Well, I mean to go -- to think
21 outside the box, I mean there's people that go to
22 golfing communities specifically because they want to
23 golf. So if maybe, you know, we approach Folsom and
24 said, Look it, we take this one little corner and we can
25 do a corridor to us, that might be something that would

1 make those homes worth more money to the right
2 clientele. So it's just a wild thought, but ---

3 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: One more thing to add on
4 the other end of the scale is that I think we should
5 start planting trees right now. The biggest, thickest,
6 bushiest trees to try to block that noise, stop that
7 noise, stop the visual -- just -- just put a wall of
8 trees up. If that's the best defense we can do, that's
9 about all we can do, I think.

10 CHAIR CABRAL: I hear Dave Pickett in the back
11 going, "Amen." But anyway...

12 COMMISSIONER HAFKENSCHIEL: Yeah, that's just
13 one other story I wanted to add is, professionally we
14 work with the freight railroads on the West Coast, and
15 they -- they were an existing condition in Southern
16 California, been around for 150 years, and schools and
17 communities were built around them, and they are
18 completely held responsible for the -- you know,
19 whatever pollution risks are being impacted on the -- on
20 the local community. So it's definitely something that
21 unfortunately you can't just put a disclosure out there
22 and say, you know, Do you know what you're -- do you
23 know what you're moving next to? So I think the -- the
24 more proactive that we can be to address it, the -- the
25 better off we'll be.

1 CHAIR CABRAL: Great.

2 Well, we had some good discussion there, but now
3 I'd like to have our guests possibly have a -- a -- can
4 we have a remote mike maybe handed out and see if they
5 would like to make -- have any questions for Dan or --
6 or for the Deputy Director or any of us Commissioners?

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: An open -- that's our
8 public as well. So guests and the public.

9 CHAIR CABRAL: Yes. Anyone have any questions?
10 Yes, we have a -- we have a hand going up.

11 JOHN STEWART: John Stewart, California 4-Wheel
12 Drive Association.

13 Dan, you mentioned that comments are only
14 through the web site? I would like to make sure that --
15 exactly how people can submit comments because
16 oftentimes their -- even in this age of connectivity,
17 there are still some places where getting access through
18 a web site with the proper equipment and some of the
19 newer technologies is a challenge. And to be able to
20 send them in to an email -- or to a mail address or an
21 email address would also be helpful.

22 DAN CANFIELD: Sorry if I misspoke. The -- the
23 website is one way to submit comments. Also, there's an
24 email set up and a physical address to submit comments,
25 which are provided in the -- the Notice of Availability.

1 And I can get that -- if anyone needs that information,
2 I can get that for them.

3 MARK HADA: (Unintelligible.)

4 DAN CANFIELD: Sorry if I misspoke. The project
5 website, prairiecitygeneralplan.com, is just one way to
6 submit comments. You can also submit comments via email
7 or written mail, and that information is on the notice.
8 It's -- it's up also on the project website. And I can
9 give that information personally to anyone who needs it.

10 CHAIR CABRAL: Any other comment or questions
11 from the audience?

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, I just have a
13 simple question, and I may have missed it in the
14 presentation. How many acres is the park?

15 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: Name, please.

16 DAN CANFIELD: Good question. It's basically
17 about a thousand acres.

18 JEANNE SISSON: It's about 1,200 acres with --
19 about 1,200 acres, a little over 1,200 acres. With
20 recent acquisitions and riding areas is -- I think I
21 heard my environmentalists say that we're about at 675.

22 DAN CANFIELD: Huge park.

23 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. Another one. Could you
24 also state your name, too, please.

25 DREW STOLL: Drew Stoll, Great Outdoors.

1 Ted, you and I have talked about Prairie City in
2 the past, and I've visited there. And, you know, one --
3 one -- one reflection I have on that property after
4 visiting several of them in California is that, you
5 know, this is really a showcase opportunity for the
6 State of California. It's a huge metropolitan area, a
7 site that has easy access. I think there's some great
8 things that have happened there: The beginner trail,
9 the habitats. I think it's a really great example I
10 show nationally the pictures I took there. But I think,
11 you know, Prairie City could really be a gateway to --
12 again, to SVRAS and being able to, I don't know, somehow
13 improve the quality of the rival experience, the
14 facilities in general. Somebody mentioned planting
15 trees, you know, that -- that whole quality of -- of
16 space. Because, of course, there's a lot of intensive
17 things that happen there, and that has a visual impact
18 and a -- and an experience impact. And so perhaps
19 thinking about, you know, long term, when you get into
20 the master planning part of it is how to really -- you
21 know, really think about improving that natural
22 environment. And, of course, the architecture. I mean
23 there's a lot of good things out there, but to keep
24 building on those really quality pieces to kind of bring
25 that whole quality experience out of the facilities and

1 the natural landscape. So...

2 CHAIR CABRAL: Those are very good points. I
3 think, you know, the taking the land, you know, what
4 is -- like an architectural landscape, architect type of
5 view of it would be something that could be beneficial
6 on those types of parks, especially when you're going to
7 have it in such an urban area with those, you know,
8 tract homes right next to it. So...

9 Vicki's getting her exercise.

10 SECRETARY VICKI PEREZ: My steps.

11 CHRIS JOHNSON: Chris Johnson, New Mexico,
12 Department of Game & Fish.

13 You mentioned the other SVRAs and that some of
14 them are experiencing urban encroachment. And I was
15 wondering if the other SVRAs are further along in
16 dealing with urban encroachment issues, and how you've
17 been handling them.

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: So a really good
19 question. Thanks for -- for asking.

20 Prairie City is a little bit unique in our -- in
21 our -- for our SVRAs. It is truly an urban park because
22 it's literally right outside of -- of major urban
23 centers, Sacramento and Folsom out here. So the
24 encroachment issue has been a little bit more profound.

25 Hollister had some issues at a couple of points,

1 and they did was they -- they had a really good buffer
2 plan. So they put a -- they -- they bought a bunch of
3 buffer areas, land around it, and then they also did a
4 shift in where the trails were. They moved the trails
5 further into the center of the park, did some
6 re-routing. So now literally the people over -- you
7 know, there's -- there's valleys and draws in between
8 the nearest housing. So they really don't hear much of
9 anything coming from the park.

10 And the other smart thing they did was then they
11 took those buffer areas and just recently they finished
12 a project where they turned those into bike riding,
13 horse trails, hiking trails. And what that did was that
14 sort of mitigated the public sense of all that land,
15 what are you doing with it. And -- and it turned it
16 into a recreation area for -- for non-OHV, which a lot
17 of the OHV folks want to do anyway. I mean they get --
18 you know how you get tired after a while; you want to go
19 out and do something different. So you can -- you can
20 go for that mountain bike ride, you can go for that
21 walk. So that helped out a lot there.

22 Oceano Dunes, we're facing a -- a pretty big
23 encroachment issue. That has to do with they're --
24 they're a naturally forming dunes. So you get a lot of
25 dust off of it. That's what we're referring to. You

1 know, that for years the dust was just purely a
2 nuisance, but EPA has now come out with a PM-10 amount,
3 and it, in California, has actually figured that that --
4 and that's particulate matter. So that's particulate
5 matter, 10 microns or -- or smaller. And the State has
6 actually gone in with an even more severe restriction on
7 PM-10. And there's -- yeah, and there's PM-2.5 that's
8 going to kind of be the next wave. So they determined
9 that that is hazardous, that that -- certain amounts of
10 that. And it was only within probably something -- it
11 was about the last five, ten years that they've really
12 started tracking that heavily coming off the dunes.

13 In the meantime, we're -- we're lucky enough
14 when -- when housing costs were going through the roof
15 in San Francisco and along the coast, a whole bunch of
16 people moved down into that area. They did a lot of
17 building up on what is -- what used to actually be
18 ancient dunes, which is the high ground immediately
19 beyond Oceano Dunes, which is on the -- absolutely in
20 the windward side of the dunes. And now we're sort of
21 fighting a running battle because the people that bought
22 those homes didn't grow up in that. They've really --
23 they've really only been there for about, you know, in
24 some cases eight years. Most of them got there right
25 after the recession, around 2008. They are complaining

1 about the dust. They are complaining that it's PM-10,
2 that it's a health issue. So we're kind of stuck
3 between a rock and a hard place there.

4 What we're doing is trying to do dust
5 mitigation. We're trying to do -- work with the folks.
6 But the challenge is that no matter what we did, if we
7 stopped all riding out there tomorrow, that place would
8 emit dust because that's what it does. I mean it's --
9 it's a huge dune area that was formed from sediment and
10 sand that just keeps getting brought up by the ocean and
11 brought up by -- by very heavy winds out there. That's
12 a work in progress. We're not sure what we're going to
13 do about that.

14 The other SVRAs just -- it so happens the way
15 they're situated, they're not really near any other
16 urban complexes. So we don't necessarily have the
17 encroachment there. A little bit at Ocotillo Wells, but
18 that's geothermal encroachment. And -- and I -- I think
19 we've got a working solution for that.

20 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: Ted.

21 CHAIR CABRAL: Yes.

22 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: A couple comments.

23 One of them, I would suggest to -- to deal with
24 this issue is noise enforcement. I think that's
25 probably your number one key factor to -- to, you know,

1 keep your parks open. And, you know, we kind of
2 addressed this a few years ago in -- in California, and
3 I think it's -- it's provided, you know, immeasurable
4 success stories.

5 The other thing that's kind of interesting,
6 we -- we have an acquisition in Hungry Valley, in one of
7 our SVRAs that's about an hour and a half from
8 Los Angeles, and it's in a mountainous area. But the
9 acquisition actually ended up with a school in the
10 middle of it, if you can imagine that. There's a
11 high school -- a relatively new high school right in the
12 middle of this acquisition. So it is now completely
13 encompassed or encircled by a State Park -- or SVRA.
14 And what we're talking about is partnering with that
15 school and -- and really thinking out of the box of
16 getting those kids involved in -- in -- in management
17 practices on the -- you know, on the park, and then
18 getting involved with, you know, maintenance, with
19 learning to ride, with safety programs. These are real
20 kids that in reality, you know, we all think we're --
21 you know, the world's situation is really wonderful. In
22 reality, those kids don't have a whole lot to do.
23 This -- this park has a potential of really bringing
24 something unique to this school. And I think that --
25 that has an opportunity to grow beyond -- beyond the

1 park itself.

2 COMMISSIONER HAFKENSCHIEL: I just wanted to add
3 one more thing about the Hollister -- Hollister Hills.
4 When I was last out there, they were doing an air
5 quality monitoring in the buffer areas, and the air that
6 was actually coming into the park was dirtier than the
7 air leaving the park. So the park was an air quality
8 filter.

9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Thank you. Appreciate
10 that. No, you're right. Thank you.

11 CHRIS JOHNSON: Follow-up question was
12 specifically for Prairie City and the other SVRAs. What
13 is the sound level enforcement method. Do you check
14 everybody or --

15 JEANNE SISSON: (Unintelligible.)

16 CHRIS JOHNSON: Yeah, but how do you -- do
17 you -- do you test everybody that comes through the park
18 or only noisy offenders or randomly select vehicles?
19 How -- how does that work?

20 JEANNE SISSON: I'll get that, if you don't
21 mind.

22 You know, I don't have a precise -- I don't know
23 how often we're doing sound testing. Tomorrow we're
24 going to have a sound-testing station that shows -- in
25 fact, there will be a gentleman there named Chris Real

1 who can answer some questions about that.

2 As far as -- I know we are not checking every
3 vehicle that enters. We do check for spark arresters
4 due to the fire hazard, but I don't think we're sound
5 testing. We have at least a couple of staff who are
6 trained, but I'm not sure that we have the equipment on
7 a day-to-day basis. So, yeah, we're -- and the peace
8 officers out there are pretty tuned in to where they --
9 especially we have a lot of experience. Some -- in
10 fact, just about everybody I have right now came into --
11 has been in OHV their entire career. And they've kind
12 of developed an ear for it, just like you develop that
13 eye for the 15 mile per hour, you know, within the park.
14 And they'll start looking into, when they do hear, you
15 know, excessively, noisy vehicles. And honestly, we're
16 seeing more compliance than not.

17 CHAIR CABRAL: All 96 db? Is that what it is
18 right now? Yeah, 96 db is our max.

19 CHRIS REAL: Hello. Chris Real, DPS Tactical.
20 I'm kind of the sound guy for the -- for the State as a
21 contractor to provide some guidance on -- on what --
22 what most of the SVRAs do with with -- with noise
23 abatement. There's equipment there that's law
24 enforcement grade, but most of the outreach and
25 educational sound tests are performed with a partnership

1 through the civilian organizations and the -- the
2 special use permit holders like AMA District 36, AMA
3 District 37.

4 To give a little background and stuff, working
5 in the southern part of the State, all of the desert
6 races which have the highest attendance, if you race on
7 an even-numbered day and you have an even number on your
8 motorcycle, you go through a sound test. If you race on
9 an odd-numbered day and have odd numbers on your bike,
10 you go through a sound test. Law enforcement is
11 constantly monitoring the special use. And we have a
12 very high volunteer, you know, success rate. I know
13 personally for District 37 they turn in over 4,000 noise
14 data cards to my office a year showing their mitigation
15 program. As far as what District 36 does up here in --
16 in the Northern, they've got over -- they've got over a
17 hundred trained sound test technical inspectors with
18 approximately a dozen sound meters that are used at the
19 special events. And so they're often -- very often at
20 Prairie City.

21 So happy to spend some time with you tomorrow at
22 the tour. Kind of hard to miss. I'm the -- I'm the guy
23 with the sound meter and a motorcycle and usually some
24 happy people.

25 Thank you.

1 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. You know, our recorder's
2 going to lose her hands here in a moment if we don't
3 stop. So I think what we'll do is, is we do have the
4 opportunity as we have -- we have this wonderful tour
5 that NOHVCC's put together with assistance from our
6 State Park staff. So I think tomorrow there's going to
7 be lots of opportunity to ask questions and get answers
8 on this stuff and experience everything on the ground.
9 So I just want to kind of wrap this up here.

10 And I want to thank the INOHVAA folks, NOHVCC,
11 and State Parks staff and your -- you know, yourself,
12 too, Deputy Director. I think you guys did a great job
13 once again on short time frame and with all the stuff
14 you have going on. It was a -- it's -- was a wonderful
15 meeting today, and I really appreciate it. So...

16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Thank you very much. I
17 appreciate it. It's the staff. And, again, I also
18 appreciate NOHVCC and INOHVAA's support. You guys are
19 terrific. Thank you for being here and thank you for
20 allowing us to do this together.

21 Tomorrow for the Commission tour, 0800 start.
22 Be there. Okay? I think Vicki will talk to the
23 Commissioners about their departure from the hotel,
24 those that are departing from the hotel. But, you know,
25 we need people to be there. And, in fact, the guidance

1 we're given is if you're driving up to Prairie City,
2 you'll probably want to be there about 7:30 just so that
3 you can get in the park, get parked, and then get linked
4 up with a vehicle before we take off. Because at 0800
5 we take off. And if you're not on there, you're
6 walking. And it's a long walk. Okay?

7 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: We don't have
8 transportation from here?

9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Vicki will get with you
10 on that.

11 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: Oh.

12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: She's got transport
13 from here.

14 COMMISSIONER SLAVIK: Okay.

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: You guys are special.

16 CHAIR CABRAL: Well, we at least like to think
17 so.

18 So with that, would anyone like to make a motion
19 to --

20 Yeah. Oh, yes.

21 CHRIS CAMACHO: I have one question.

22 CHAIR CABRAL: Yes.

23 CHRIS CAMACHO: Chris Camacho, Interim Chairman
24 of the Administrator's Group. One state that's always
25 missing from our table from Administrators for OHVs is

1 California. If there's any way you could support and
2 help get staff to our table. You've got probably the
3 largest program, I think, in the country. And hearing
4 from you at our table would be great in the future.

5 Thank you.

6 CHAIR CABRAL: That's a very good comment.
7 Thank you.

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah, we -- we like
9 that comment. Unfortunately because of the budget
10 crisis, there's a moratorium on out-of-state travel
11 unless it's funded. So it's a little bit of a challenge
12 right now, but we hope that the budget's improving, and
13 maybe that will allow us to do it.

14 COMMISSIONER SLAVICK: Be there in the spirit.

15 CHAIR CABRAL: And it doesn't preclude though --
16 I mean I may want to do it just on a personal level. So
17 that might be something that would be interesting for
18 me. So I -- I can at least represent it from the
19 Commission side as an -- as an individual, but at least
20 with the experience I've picked up on that end.

21 So with that --

22 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Motion to adjourn the
23 meeting.

24 CHAIR CABRAL: Ah.

25 COMMISSIONER HAFKENSCHIEL: Seconded.

1 CHAIR CABRAL: Okay. I don't think we have to
2 vote on that, so we are adjourned.

3 Thank you, everybody. I appreciate it.

4 (The hearing was concluded at 4:54 p.m.)

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R E P O R T E R ' S C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) SS.
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO)

I, SANDRA L. HOPPER, a certified shorthand reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing 287 pages comprise a transcription of the proceedings had and the testimony taken at the hearing in the hereinbefore-entitled matter.

Dated this 3rd day of December, 2015, at Sacramento, California.



SANDRA L. HOPPER, CSR No. 7110
Certified Shorthand Reporter
in and for the
County of Sacramento,
State of California