



OHMVR COMMISSION MEETING
Torrance, CA 90501

August 18, 2017

STAFF REPORT: OHMVR Division Training Program

STAFF: Kelly Long

SUBJECT: Training Program Overview

Summary

The Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division has supported the safe and responsible operation of Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) for approximately 45 years. This report provides an overview of the OHV Training Program efforts.

Discussion

California Vehicle Code section 38007 requires the OHMVR Division to adopt courses of instruction in OHV safety, operation and principles of environmental preservation. To that end, the OHMVR Division offers OHV training opportunities at eight State Vehicular Recreation Areas (SVRA) throughout the state. Hands-on training in the safe use and operation of off-highway motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles (ATV) and recreational off-highway vehicles (ROVs) are provided by park employees and contractors. Training that meets the standards of the Motorcycle Safety Foundation, ATV Safety Institute and Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association is available to members of the public, staff and agency partners.

Additionally, the Division pays the tuition for any youth under 18 years who enrolls in a certified ATV safety training program taught anywhere in the state.

The OHMVR Division also sponsored the Off-Road PALs program. This program pairs at-risk youth participating in the California Police Activity League with instructors and equipment (ATVs, motorcycles and snowmobiles). The program uses the appeal of OHV recreation as a “gateway activity” to welcome young people into a learning environment that promotes environmentally responsible and safe recreation. While building an understanding and appreciation of the outdoors, the program also instills confidence, develops team-building skills, and fosters positive relationships with law enforcement. The Off-Road PALs program has reached as many as 650 youths per year.

Currently, the OHMVR Division is developing a Memorandum of Agreement with the National Youth Project Using Minibikes (NYPUM). This partnership will provide a

remarkable opportunity to offer OHV recreation and training to underserved communities throughout California.

Through these education and training programs the Division continues to emphasize safe and responsible OHV operation; the importance of observing rules and regulations; the importance of preserving, protecting, and respecting the environment; respect for private property and closed areas; and, the commitment to staying on and sharing trails.

Commission Action

For information only.