



OHMVR COMMISSION MEETING
Susanville, CA 96130

April 28, 2017

STAFF REPORT: General Plans Update
STAFF: Katie Metraux, OHMVR Planning Section
SUBJECT: Status of General Plans for State Vehicular Recreation Areas

Summary

Several of the State Vehicular Recreation Areas (SVRAs) are in the process of updating their park general plans. A general plan directs the long-range development and management of a park unit by providing broad policy and program guidance. This guidance is essential to the SVRA managers and staff, and is of value to those organizations and individuals who have an interest in the SVRA.

Discussion

Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5002.2, California State Parks is generally required to prepare general plans for units of the State Park System (e.g., SVRAs) prior to the development of new facilities that require a permanent commitment of resources. A table identifying the status of the SVRA general plans is provided as an attachment to this report (see Attachment 1).

Following is a brief summary of recent SVRA general plan developments.

Ocotillo Wells SVRA:

The Ocotillo Wells SVRA General Plan team, in collaboration with Bureau of Land Management El Centro Field Office staff, is currently preparing the Preliminary Ocotillo Wells SVRA Plan (General Plan/Recreation Area Management Plan/Land Use Plan Amendment). In fact, the Ocotillo Wells SVRA Plan will actually be three plans in one. This planning approach is necessitated by the substantial federal land ownership component at Ocotillo Wells SVRA. To ensure compliance with both state and federal land management policies, the long-term land management plan for Ocotillo Wells SVRA will be comprised of:

- a California State Park unit General Plan,
- a Bureau of Land Management Recreation Area Management Plan, and
- a California Desert Conservation Area Land Use Plan Amendment.

An Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement is being prepared to address potential environmental impacts of the Ocotillo Wells SVRA Plan, proposed alternatives, and potential mitigation measures.

Hungry Valley SVRA:

The Hungry Valley SVRA General Plan team created a project website at www.PlanHungryValley.com to facilitate public involvement in the planning process. Interested parties should visit the project website and register to receive email notifications regarding project progress.

The first public meetings were held in Ventura and Newhall on February 15 and 16, and in Frazier Park and Bakersfield on February 22 and 23. The planning team received feedback from members of 4x4 and motorcycle clubs, Los Angeles County Park and Recreation, Angeles National Forest, an OHMVR Commissioner, Friends of Jawbone, and interested OHV recreationists. The next opportunity to provide input will be for the discussion of draft guiding statements and draft planning concepts.

Commission Action

For information only.

Attachments

Attachment 1: SVRA General Plans Update – April 2017

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS

OHMVR DIVISION

State Vehicular Recreation Area General Plans Update
April 2017

Park Unit	Adopted	Amended	General Plan (GP) Status & Updates in Progress
Prairie City SVRA	1991	2016	Approved by the OHMVR Commission September 2016
Carnegie SVRA	1981	2016	Approved by the OHMVR Commission October 2016
Clay Pit SVRA	2012	-	Approved by the OHMVR Commission June 2012.
Heber Dunes SVRA	2011	-	Approved by the OHMVR Commission December 2011.
Hollister Hills SVRA	1978	2003	-
Oceano Dunes SVRA	1975	1991	-
Hungry Valley SVRA	1981	-	GP update in progress. Visitor Surveys and Stakeholder Meeting conducted in 2016. First public meetings held Feb 2017.
Ocotillo Wells SVRA	1981	-	GP update in progress including newly acquired properties. GP update includes federal component in partnership with the Bureau of Land Management.
Eastern Kern County, Onyx Ranch SVRA	-	-	GP pending funding.