

## Ground Operations - Routes & Maintenance (FINAL)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # \_\_\_\_\_

APP # 700511

### 1. Project Description

#### A. Statement of GO Activity

The Needles Field Office (NFO) lies within one of the fastest growing areas of the nation. Residents within 3 states rely on the 3.2 million acres administered by staff striving to meet increase visitor usage demands by taking a proactive approach to resource protection and recreation use.

Recreationists use 3,200 miles of Backcountry routes, which are mostly accessible by four-wheel drive vehicles, and are adjacent to 18 designated wilderness areas. Areas of high volume Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) use present special challenges to staff primarily responsible for protection of natural and cultural resources, and public health and safety.

The Needles Field Office proposes four categories of activities within the Ground Operations (GO) project.

1. General Maintenance provides cleaning, painting, and maintenance of several dispersed OHV camping and picnic sites, vault toilets, kiosk structures and panels, and gateway signs. Global Positioning System (GPS) units and small stationary cameras are used to monitor designated routes and recreation sites for effectiveness of prior GO activities, collect data regarding soils, visitation, signing, maintenance, and use diversity. Route maintenance issues would be identified, location coordinates recorded, then analyzed and evaluated through a site-specific National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document.

Additionally funds would purchase a power dump trailer and an enclosed utility trailer. The dump trailer is needed for cleanup operations (e.g., haul trash, appliances, and tires) on public lands along designated routes, and to assist with maintenance and other OHV related work. The enclosed utility trailer would provide secure storage of hand tools, small power tools, and generators, while in the field or yard, and used to transport these tools to work crews and work sites throughout the NFO.

2. Communication & Training are important issues for any organization, but are an essential element and unique challenges for agencies dedicated to dispersed and remote fieldwork. Due to the office's remote nature, personnel and vehicles face tough situations. Training is required before personnel can operate equipment and tools on project sites. Staff, volunteers, and seasonal employees require yearly training on defensive driving, OHV, equipment and tool operations, GPS, and ArcMap in order use these items in the field. Due to the remoteness and lack of facilities, staff must travel in order to attend this required training. Funding allows participation in conferences, conventions, workshops, and trade shows related to GO and OHV activities. Networking, education, and learning new procedures, trends, and developments, keeps BLM personnel current with on the ground products and techniques.

Additional funding would support the purchase of communication equipment and supplies for GO project vehicles. The closest help can be hours away and communication reliability varies dramatically depending on terrain. Satellite beacons and phones ensure communication between dispatch, the office, and staff, and public assistance help in emergencies. SPOT locator beacons provide management instant status reports; allows personnel to pin point locations for assistance for themselves and the public. Terrain features often block radio communications in remote areas providing ineffective communication, satellite communication works everywhere. Funds would provide one-year of service for spot units, and one-year of service for the Satellite phones used for GO and OHV monitoring only.

3. Signing & Interpretation work continues to implement the CDD Route Signing Strategy and Plan (attached). Full-time staff, two seasonal park rangers, and short term contracted conservation crews, and volunteers continue installing route numbers, regulatory, and gateway signs throughout the area and conduct the soils protocol by collecting route and soil data on primary routes. Funds also provide stickers, decals, fiberglass, and metal signpost, and hardware required for signage. This year's GO goal is to complete signing of at least 1/3rd of the NFO area.

4. Seasonal & Contract Labor assistance is requested for labor cost for two seasonal (1039) park rangers (non-LE), and contracting costs for one short-term contracted work crew. The seasonal workers and the contracted crew will work on route signing, monitoring, and maintenance. The grant also requests funds to assist with contracting a nonprofit group to

produce the public route use maps. The California Trails Coalition is a non-profit group experienced in mapping designs, route and site data collection. Funds would also help support volunteer costs associated with multiple GO and OHV projects to assist with the vast signing projects.

Not funding this grant will result in continued OHV intrusion into wilderness, critical species habitat, and increase visual degradation of the landscape due to inability to clean dumpsites.

### **B. Relation of Proposed Project to OHV Recreation**

Focused on dispersed recreational activities and a wide-ranging spectrum of recreationists who rely on dispersed backcountry routes of travel in the pursuit of various recreational experiences, the Needles Field Office (NFO) goes far beyond a traditional Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) program. Experiences are dependent upon Backcountry routes to access wilderness areas, opportunities for hunting, rock hounding, wildlife viewing, sightseeing, primitive camping, and exploration of our western heritage. The OHV Environmental Education and Outreach and the Take It Outside (TIO) programs taught to schools and community groups augment the Ground Operations (GO).

Numerous areas receive a high volume of OHV use. Typically, these areas are located adjacent to rural communities, major highways, or open areas managed by neighboring field offices. High OHV use areas are the Sacramento Mountains, Chemehuevi Wash, the Dead Mountains and the Whipple Mountains. Each location presents unique challenges to staff whose primary responsibilities, while managing OHV activity in these areas, includes the protection of natural and cultural resources, as well as public assistance.

Completion of the route designation and travel management plan finalized route designation throughout the CDD and gives regulatory authority to sign its designated route network. Land Use Plans, seasonal staffing, and support from the California State Parks, Off Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division (OHMVRD) Grant program have placed the NFO in a significantly stronger position to resolve problems than it has been in past.

The 3200 miles of dispersed Backcountry route system serves as the cornerstone for the NFO recreation program. This route system provides the blueprint and direction needed to design and plan a comprehensive recreational program identifying and addressing present and future OHV and non-OHV recreational needs.

The GO grant relates to OHV recreation by providing route identification sign needs included in this proposal to help to resolve the lack of signing problem and provides maintenance to routes, landscapes, and facilities. Landscapes and route sites identified would be individually analyzed and evaluated through a site-specific NEPA document, before any ground disturbing work took place. Accelerant compounds like Permeon would only be used when needed to help return the natural patina appearance to landscapes.

Additionally, the grant would provide seasonal staffing and/or short-term conservation crews to install the signs, assist with maintenance and provide a higher level of BLM presence to the visitors. To assist with public requests, funds would offset cost of data collection, design, and production of a public access map covering a third of the NFO. The 2010 GO grant will focus on Eastern portion of the resource area to include recreation sites, wilderness areas, and primary routes from Water Road and the Mojave National Preserve, east to the Colorado River and from the Nevada State Line on the north to the southern boundary at California State Highway 62. Well-known routes are the Needles to Parker Wagon Road, Chemehuevi Wash, Turtle Mountain Road, MWD Powerline Road, Eagle Pass, Crestview Trail, Monumental Pass and historic Mojave Road. Popular recreation sites are Chemehuevi Wash, Turtle Mountains, Cupcake Trail, Whipple Mountains, and the Whipple Wash trail. The grant request would provide support and coordination of OHV Recreation projects, ensuring that they remain an integral priority with the NFO.

The Environmental Education and Outreach Program supports ground operations by developing and updating on-the-ground interpretive panels addressing OHV regulations, desert safety, and environmentally responsible OHV use to educate the visiting public.

### **C. Describe the size of the specific Project Area(s) in acres and/or miles**

The NFO recreation branch has segmented the resource area (3.2 million acres) in to six sectors and two geographical areas divided along Interstate 40 identified as Needles North (NN) or Needles South (NS). Focusing on a small portion of

the field office at a time allows staff to maximize use of time and materials. Management prioritized the sectors by visitor usage and the number of OHV incursions occurring on a regular basis and identified the Needles South as the first focus area. An estimated two-thirds of the 3200 miles of routes are contained in the NS designation and provides several major points of interest, like Amboy Crater, Bonanza Springs, and Historical Route 66, Chemehuevi Wash, and the Whipple Mountains Wilderness.

Priority for signage is the area follows the US Highway 95 corridor from the south boundary along California Highway 62 to the Nevada State Line on the north covering the eastern third of the Resource Area.

The target area covers the Whipple Mountains, Turtle Mountains, Stepladder Mountains, and Dead Mountains Wilderness, the eastern half of Ward Valley, Sacramento Mountains, Chemehuevi Wash, and the Piute Valley areas. This corridor receives increased visitor numbers during the winter mainly from people seeking a warmer climate for the season. The project would sign designated routes in the above listed areas and provide maintenance to facilities, and sites throughout the NFO.

Routes and facilities located in this eastern section include kiosks, dispersed camping and picnic sites, and trailheads. Activities would continue to install gateway signs and would continue to clean, repair, and remove graffiti from the kiosks and facilities throughout the 3.2 million acres of the NFO.

#### **D. Location and description of OHV opportunities**

The Needles Field Office is located in the far eastern corner of southern California, in the tri-state area, bordered on the north by the Nevada State line, on the East by the Arizona State line along the Colorado River, south by California Highway 62 and on the west by the Barstow Field Office.

The Resource Area encompasses over 3.2 million acres of public lands in southeastern California, which surrounds the Mojave National Preserve. The California Desert Protection Act of 1994 designated 18 Wilderness Areas (approximately 1.4 million acres). Most designated backcountry routes are only accessible by high-clearance four-wheel drive vehicles, ATV, UTV, or motorcycles equipped for riding on unimproved roads and numerous designated routes cherry stem into, or parallel Wilderness boundaries.

Needles is earning a reputation as the destination for dispersed OHV touring with over 3,200 miles of designated open routes of travel. Public OHV Guide Books identify several historic OHV touring routes, including the Eagle Mountain Pass, Monument Pass, Kingston Wash Trail, the Mojave Road, and the Needles to Parker Wagon Road. Due to our vast landscape, not seeing another vehicle in the Needles backcountry is common for the dispersed OHV touring and camping public.

Popular sites while backcountry touring includes, Amboy Crater (a National Natural Landmark) is located on Historic Route 66 and is a popular destination for visitors driving Off Highway or street vehicles. Amboy provides the public hiking trails, interpretive information, picnic areas, and a vault toilet.

Horse Thief Springs Camp, located just off Excelsior Mine Road, two miles south of the Tecopa Pass in the Kingston Mountains. This site offers campsites with picnic tables and fire rings, a mule shoe pit, and vault toilet. The Horse Thief area provides an unmatched panoramic view with a night sky full of diamonds you can reach out and touch.

Chemehuevi Valley, located 22 miles south of Needles stretches south past the boundary line at California Hwy 62, and hosts several hiking trailheads and is a primary destination for OHV enthusiasts visiting or vacationing along the Colorado River. Mountain Wilderness borders the valley on three sides, north lays the Chemehuevi Mountain Wilderness, east lays the Whipple Mountain Wilderness, and on the west are the Stepladder and Turtle Mountains Wildernesses. This valley is adjacent to several vacation home communities. Chemehuevi Landing, and Havasu Palms are tribal communities, and Black Meadow Landing, Parker Dam, and the communities along the western shore of the Colorado River are on Bureau of Reclamation Lands, but managed by BLM's Lake Havasu Field Office in Arizona (LHFO).

Ivanpah Dry Lake is the premier destination for wind powered land sailing crafts in the United States. The lakebed is closed to vehicles to protect the nature of the lakebed; and a permit is required by wind enthusiast to access the staging sites along the edge of the playa where wind recreationist launch their Land Sailing Crafts and Kite Buggies and Boards.

Needles offers extensive recreation opportunities to the public and almost every activity the public wants to do requires a high clearance 4X4 OHV access. Recreate in Needles and feel the beat of "THE HEART OF THE MOJAVE!"

## 2. Rerouting Requirements

### Rerouting

- (a) Does your project involve rerouting of any roads and trails?  Yes  No

If response to question (a) is 'Yes', a Project timeline, conceptual drawings and site plans are required (See 'Attachments' tab at the top of the screen)

If response to question (a) is 'No', skip details related to rerouting

## Additional Documentation

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1. **Project Timeline (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**
2. **Conceptual Drawings and Site Plans (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**

3 **Project-Specific Maps**

Attachments:

[NFO Resource Area Map](#)  
[Needles South Route Map](#)

4. **Optional Project-Specific Application Documents**

Attachments:

[CDD Sign Policy](#)  
[NFO Staffing Matrix FY2010](#)

**Project Cost Estimate**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
<b>APPLICANT NAME :</b>	BLM - Needles Field Office		
<b>PROJECT TITLE :</b>	Ground Operations - Routes & Maintenance (FINAL)	<b>PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :</b>	G09-01-12-G01
<b>PROJECT TYPE :</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration		
<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION :</b>	<p>The Needles Field Office (NFO) lies within one of the fastest growing areas of the nation. Residents within 3 states rely on the 3.2 million acres administered by staff striving to meet increase visitor usage demands by taking a proactive approach to resource protection and recreation use. Recreationists use 3,200 miles of Backcountry routes, which are mostly accessible by four-wheel drive vehicles, and are adjacent to 18 designated wilderness areas. Areas of high volume Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) use present special challenges to staff primarily responsible for protection of natural and cultural resources, and public health and safety.</p> <p>The Needles Field Office proposes four categories of activates within the Ground Operations (GO) project.</p> <p>1. General Maintenance provides cleaning, painting, and maintenance of several dispersed OHV camping and picnic sites, vault toilets, kiosk structures and panels, and gateway signs. Global Positioning System (GPS) units and small stationary cameras are used to monitor designated routes and recreation sites for effectiveness of prior GO activities, collect data regarding soils, visitation, signing, maintenance, and use diversity. Route maintenance issues would be identified, location coordinates recorded, then analyzed and evaluated through a site-specific National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document.</p> <p>Additionally funds would purchase a power dump trailer and an enclosed utility trailer. The dump trailer is needed for cleanup operations (e.g., haul trash, appliances, and tires) on public lands along designated routes, and to assist with maintenance and other OHV related work. The enclosed utility trailer would provide secure storage of hand tools, small power tools, and generators, while in the field or yard, and used to transport these tools to work crews and work sites throughout the NFO.</p> <p>2. Communication &amp; Training are important issues for any organization, but are an essential element and unique challenges for agencies dedicated to dispersed and remote fieldwork. Due to the office's remote nature, personnel and vehicles face tough situations. Training is required before personnel can operate equipment and tools on project sites. Staff, volunteers, and seasonal employees require yearly training on defensive driving, OHV, equipment and tool operations, GPS, and ArcMap in order use these items in the field. Due to the remoteness and lack of facilities, staff must travel in order to attend this required training. Funding allows participation in conferences, conventions, workshops, and trade shows related to GO and OHV activities. Networking, education, and learning new procedures, trends, and developments, keeps BLM personnel current with on the ground products and techniques.</p> <p>Additional funding would support the purchase of communication equipment and supplies for GO project vehicles. The closest help can be hours away and communication reliability varies dramatically depending on terrain. Satellite beacons and phones ensure communication between dispatch, the office, and staff, and public assistance help in emergencies. SPOT locater beacons provide management instant status reports; allows personnel to pin point locations for assistance for themselves and the public. Terrain features often block radio communications in remote areas providing ineffective communication, satellite communication works everywhere. Funds would provide one-year of service for spot units, and one-year of service for the Satellite phones used for GO and OHV monitoring only.</p> <p>3. Signing &amp; Interpretation work continues to implement the CDD Route Signing Strategy and Plan (attached). Full-time staff, two seasonal park rangers, and short term contracted conservation crews, and volunteers continue installing route numbers, regulatory, and gateway signs throughout the area and conduct the soils protocol by collecting route and soil data on primary routes. Funds also provide stickers, decals, fiberglass, and metal signpost, and hardware required for signage. This year's GO goal is to complete signing of at least 1/3rd of the NFO area.</p> <p>4. Seasonal &amp; Contract Labor assistance is requested for labor cost for two seasonal (1039) park rangers (non-LE), and contracting costs for one short-</p>		

term contracted work crew. The seasonal workers and the contracted crew will work on route signing, monitoring, and maintenance. The grant also requests funds to assist with contracting a nonprofit group to produce the public route use maps. The California Trails Coalition is a non-profit group experienced in mapping designs, route and site data collection. Funds would also help support volunteer costs associated with multiple GO and OHV projects to assist with the vast signing projects. Not funding this grant will result in continued OHV intrusion into wilderness, critical species habitat, and increase visual degradation of the landscape due to inability to clean dumpsites.

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>							
<b>Program Expenses</b>							
<b>1</b>	<b>Staff</b>						
	Maintenance Worker Notes : Staff - This is the estimated hours 2 Full Time Maintenance Staff spend per year to support OHV Ground Operations program related activities. Activities are primarily labor to complete route signing, facilities maintenance, and monitoring. Also includes reviewing projects proposals, tracking labor, and project cost, installing kiosks & panels. Hours show overall GO program labor cost as required by grant directives. Requested funding covers only 30% of the program labor cost. See attached Needles Field Office OHV Staffing Matrix for percentage breakdown.	3328.000	29.000	HRS	28,953.60	67,558.40	96,512.00
	Other-Seasonal Park Ranger Notes : Staff - This is the estimated hours 2 PartTime (1039) Staff spend per year to support OHV Ground Operations program related activities. Activities are primarily labor to complete route signing, monitoring, and facilities maintenance. Also includes reviewing projects proposals, tracking labor, and project cost, restocking interpretive material, and installing kiosks & panels. Hours show overall GO program labor cost as required by grant directives. Requested funding covers 100% of the program labor cost. See attached Needles Field Office OHV Staffing Matrix for percentage breakdown.	2080.000	19.000	HRS	39,520.00	0.00	39,520.00
	Other-Volunteer Time	800.000	20.250	HRS	0.00	16,200.00	16,200.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010

2/26/2010

Agency: BLM - Needles Field Office

Application: Ground Operations - Routes & Maintenance (FINAL)

Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
Notes : Hours show overall GO program labor cost as required by grant directives. Volunteer labor is listed as matching funds only, no grant funding is requested.						
Other-Management / Nepa Staff Notes : Management / NEPA - This is the estimated hours 2 Full Time Senior Managers spends per year to support OHV Ground Operations program related activities. Activities include reviewing projects proposals, tracking labor, project cost, contacts, documents and interpretive material for brochures and kiosk panels. Hours show overall GO program labor cost as required by grant directives. Management labor is listed as matching funds only, no grant funding requested. See attached Needles Field Office OHV Staffing Matrix for the overall percentage breakdown.	400.000	55.000	HRS	0.00	22,000.00	22,000.00
Other-Administrative Branch Chief Notes : Branch Chief - This is the estimated hours this position spends per year to support OHV Ground Operations program related activities. Activities include reviewing projects proposals, tracking labor, project cost, contacts, documents and interpretive material for brochures and kiosk panels. Hours show overall GO program labor cost as required by grant directives. Management labor is listed as matching funds only, no grant funding requested. See attached Needles Field Office OHV Staffing Matrix for percentage breakdown.	52.000	31.000	HRS	0.00	1,612.00	1,612.00
Other-Administrative Staff Notes : Staff - This is the estimated hours 3 Full Time Administrative Staff spend per year to support OHV Ground Operations program related activities. Activities include reviewing projects proposals, tracking labor, project cost, contacts, documents and interpretive material for brochures and kiosk panels. Hours show overall GO program labor cost as required by grant directives. Requested funding is listed as matching funds	603.000	29.000	HRS	0.00	17,487.00	17,487.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010

2/26/2010

Agency: BLM - Needles Field Office

Application: Ground Operations - Routes & Maintenance (FINAL)

Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
only, no grant funding requested. See attached Needles Field Office OHV Staffing Matrix for percentage breakdown.						
Other-Resource Staff Notes : Staff - This is the estimated hours 4 Full Time and 1 Student Temp Staff spend per year to support OHV Ground Operations program related activities. Activities include reviewing projects proposals, tracking labor, project cost, contacts, documents and interpretive material for brochures and kiosk panels. Hours show overall GO program labor cost as required by grant directives. Requested funding covers only 50% of the program labor cost. See attached Needles Field Office OHV Staffing Matrix for percentage breakdown.	738.000	48.000	HRS	14,169.60	21,254.40	35,424.00
Other-Resource Branch Chief Notes : Branch Chief - This is the estimated hours this position spends per year to support OHV Ground Operations program related activities. Activities include reviewing projects proposals, tracking labor, project cost, contacts, documents and interpretive material for brochures and kiosk panels. Hours show overall GO program labor cost as required by grant directives. Management labor is listed as matching funds only, no grant funding requested. See attached Needles Field Office OHV Staffing Matrix for the overall percentage breakdown.	281.000	51.000	HRS	0.00	14,331.00	14,331.00
Other-Recreation Staff Notes : Staff - This is the estimated hours 3 full time Recreation Staff spend per year to support OHV Ground Operations program related activities. Activities include reviewing projects proposals, tracking labor, project cost, contacts, documents and interpretive material for brochures and kiosk panels. Hours show overall GO program labor cost as required by grant directives. Requested funding covers only 40% of the program labor cost. See attached Needles Field Office OHV Staffing Matrix for percentage	3848.000	48.000	HRS	73,881.40	110,822.60	184,704.00

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2/26/2010

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Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
breakdown.						
Other-Recreation Branch Chief Notes : Branch Chief - This is the estimated hours this position spends per year to support OHV Ground Operations program related activities. Activities include reviewing projects proposals, tracking labor, project cost, contacts, documents and interpretive material for brochures and kiosk panels. Hours show overall GO program labor cost as required by grant directives. Management labor is listed as matching funds only, no grant funding requested. See attached Needles Field Office OHV Staffing Matrix for percentage breakdown.	702.000	51.000	HRS	0.00	35,802.00	35,802.00
Other-Law Enforcement Staff Notes : LE Staff - This is the estimated hours 5 Full Time Law Enforcement Staff spend per year on non-enforcement activities to support OHV Ground Operations program related activities. Activities include cleanups, signing, reviewing projects proposals, tracking labor, project cost, contacts, documents and interpretive material for brochures and kiosk panels. Hours show overall GO program labor cost as required by grant directives. Law Enforcement labor is listed as matching funds only, no grant funding requested. See attached Needles Field Office OHV Staffing Matrix for the overall percentage breakdown. Estimated averaged thought-out the year is about 45 minuets per week.	166.000	48.000	HRS	0.00	7,968.00	7,968.00
<b>Total for Staff</b>				156,524.60	315,035.40	471,560.00
<b>2 Contracts</b>						
Other-Contracted Conservation Crew Notes : Contracted work crews are a proven, efficient, economic, and timely resource to accomplish a verity of task, including monitoring of plants, animals, water sources, soil inventories, and other projects requiring labor intensive needs.	1.000	20000.000	EA	20,000.00	0.00	20,000.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010  
 Agency: BLM - Needles Field Office  
 Application: Ground Operations - Routes & Maintenance (FINAL)

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Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
Other-California Trail Users Coalition Notes : NFO would contract the mapping designs, route and site data collection, correlation of GPS data and labor to a non profit groupe to provide and produce informational maps of the Needles area for handout to the public.	1.000	15000.000	EA	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00
<b>Total for Contracts</b>				35,000.00	0.00	35,000.00
<b>3 Materials / Supplies</b>						
Other-Fiberglass Sign Posts	1500.000	20.000	EA	30,000.00	0.00	30,000.00
Other-Metal "U" Channel Sign Post (varie	300.000	20.000	EA	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00
Other-Agency Logos	3000.000	1.000	EA	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
Other-3"X 4" Number Decals Page	3000.000	6.000	EA	18,000.00	0.00	18,000.00
Other-1.5"x 2" Letter Decals Page	900.000	6.000	EA	5,400.00	0.00	5,400.00
Other-Miscellaneous Stickers & Deals	1.000	5000.000	EA	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
Other-Miscellaneous Hardware Notes : Miscellaneous Stickers and Decals would cover the cost of unique items needed in small amounts. Items include stickers or decals for routes known by specific or historical name not by a number and individual letter decal pages other then N or S. Regulatory, informational, caution, or warning signs needed for non-specific incidents and other unforeseen sticker, decal, and signing items needed to complete GO projects.	1.000	500.000	EA	500.00	0.00	500.00
Other-Stationary Trail/Wild Monitoring C Notes : Small, self-contained, infrared, concealable camera provide a efficient, economical, versatile, and mobile resource to accomplish a verity of observational tasks, including monitoring of routes, soil inventories, dispersed facilities, interpretive displays, plant and animal habitat, water sources, and other projects requiring observation intensive monitoring in remote areas.	10.000	275.000	EA	2,750.00	0.00	2,750.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010

2/26/2010

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Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
<p>Other-GPS Vehicle Mounts &amp; Accessories</p> <p>Notes : Using GPS, ensures accurate location, route, soil, and metadata is collected and recorded. Vehicles operating on 4 X 4 routes require addition aftermarket equipment that allowed hands free operation and protection of the GPS units while in rough terrain. Accessories include pelican storage containers to keep GPS units safe, organized, and together.</p>	7.000	225.000	EA	1,575.00	0.00	1,575.00
<p>Other-GPS Software</p> <p>Notes : Using GPS, ensures accurate location, route, soil, and metadata is collected and recorded. These units require software to operate and to collect data in the field and to communicate with host computers New guidelines are moving to GPSCorrect and ARCPad software for smother data collection and compatibility Bureau wide.</p>	7.000	1000.000	EA	7,000.00	0.00	7,000.00
<p>Other-GPS Units</p> <p>Notes : As explained in past grants, BLM is in the process of consolidating GPS data collection systems Bureau wide. Needles is one of the few offices that is not authorized a GIS specialist, so GIS tasks must be done by individuals in each specialty. These units will replace and update the old non-approved Garmin units and allow the NFO staff to use the new skills learned from the GIS training contracted with last year's grant funding. The Juno GPS is one of the lowest cost units approved last year by the CASO GIS Branch, is the unit adopted by the BLM Weeds Program, and the same unit used in the Training. Using the Juno GPS with the new software will ensure that accurate location, route, soil, and Spatial Data is collected and recorded.</p>	7.000	850.000	EA	5,950.00	0.00	5,950.00
<p>Other-Miscellaneous Supplies</p> <p>Notes : Miscellaneous Supplies refers to items not foreseen, but needed to complete the GO projects. This funding would cover unexpected repairs or replacement to broken or worn-out tools,</p>	1.000	500.000	EA	500.00	0.00	500.00

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 Application: Ground Operations - Routes & Maintenance (FINAL)

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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	items needed like batteries, adaptor plugs, extension cords, replacement of welding supplies, paint and paint removers, rags, brushes, brooms, trash cans and liners, etc...						
	Other-Emergency Beacon Service	6.000	100.000	EA	450.00	150.00	600.00
	Other-Replacement Tires Notes : All of the NFO vehicles, trailers, ATVs, UTVs, and equipment are used in the backcountry, travel on rough 4 X 4 routes, over sharp rocks, and operate in harsh weather conditions legendary for being extremely dry with temperatures exceeding 110 degrees for extended periods. These situations are cause for elevated levels of wear and damage on the tires. This request is to help defray replace cost for tires when damage occurs while working on GO activities.	2.000	800.000	SET	800.00	800.00	1,600.00
	<b>Total for Materials / Supplies</b>				86,925.00	950.00	87,875.00
<b>4</b>	<b>Equipment Use Expenses</b>						
	Other-Ford 150 PU 1/2T 4X4 Crew	10500.00 0	0.490	MI	0.00	5,145.00	5,145.00
	Other-Ford Expedition 1/2T 4X4 SUV	1750.000	0.560	MI	0.00	980.00	980.00
	Other-Chevy Malibu	500.000	0.220	MI	0.00	110.00	110.00
	Other-Ford 550 FB2.5T 4X4 DSL	13500.00 0	1.030	MI	0.00	13,905.00	13,905.00
	Other-Chevy 2500 PU 3/4T EX 4X4	9000.000	0.630	MI	0.00	5,670.00	5,670.00
	Other-Bobcat Tractor Maintenance	1.000	1500.000	YR	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
	Other-Trailer Maintenance	4.000	400.000	YR	1,600.00	0.00	1,600.00
	<b>Total for Equipment Use Expenses</b>				3,100.00	25,810.00	28,910.00
<b>5</b>	<b>Equipment Purchases</b>						

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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Other-Enclosed Utility Trailer & Accesso Notes : Enclosed trailer would be used to provide secure storage of handtools, small power tools, and generators and allow these tools transportation to work sites with crews throughtout the NFO.	1.000	6000.000	EA	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00
	Other-Electric Power Dump Trailer	1.000	8000.000	EA	8,000.00	0.00	8,000.00
	<b>Total for Equipment Purchases</b>				14,000.00	0.00	14,000.00
<b>6</b>	<b>Others</b>						
	Other-Travel & Training Notes : Regulations require staff, seasonal workers, and volunteers to take defensive driving, OHV and equipment operator training and review and updated operator training for power tools, drills, grinders, and saws, and other industrial machines used for maintenance and operation of facilities. Resource staff requires specialized training in order to support, analyze, and evaluate aspects pertaining to bats, or tortoise as related to GO projects. Travel is required to attend training. Requested funding assist with GO activity training cost.	1.000	4000.000	YR	3,000.00	1,000.00	4,000.00
<b>7</b>	<b>Indirect Costs</b>						
	Indirect Costs-Administrative Cost	1.000	28500.000	EA	28,500.00	0.00	28,500.00
	<b>Total Program Expenses</b>				327,049.60	342,795.40	669,845.00
	<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>				327,049.60	342,795.40	669,845.00
	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>				<b>327,049.60</b>	<b>342,795.40</b>	<b>669,845.00</b>

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010  
 Agency: BLM - Needles Field Office  
 Application: Ground Operations - Routes & Maintenance (FINAL)

2/26/2010

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>					
<b>Program Expenses</b>					
1	Staff	156,524.60	315,035.40	471,560.00	
2	Contracts	35,000.00	0.00	35,000.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	86,925.00	950.00	87,875.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	3,100.00	25,810.00	28,910.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	14,000.00	0.00	14,000.00	
6	Others	3,000.00	1,000.00	4,000.00	
7	Indirect Costs	28,500.00	0.00	28,500.00	
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>		<b>327,049.60</b>	<b>342,795.40</b>	<b>669,845.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>		<b>327,049.60</b>	<b>342,795.40</b>	<b>669,845.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>327,049.60</b>	<b>342,795.40</b>	<b>669,845.00</b>	

## Environmental Review Data Sheet (ERDS)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:      Version # _____      APP # 700511
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### ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

#### ITEM 1

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project?  Yes  No  
(Please select Yes or No)

#### ITEM 2

- b. Does the proposed Project include a request for funding for CEQA and/or NEPA document preparation prior to implementing the remaining Project Deliverables (i.e., is it a two-phased Project pursuant to Section 4970.06.1(b)) (Please select Yes or No)  Yes  No

### ITEM 3 - Project under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378

- c. ITEM 3 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378?  Yes  No  
(Please select Yes or No)
- d. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No)  Yes  No
- e. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 4 – 10

The NFO Ground Operation (GO) project activities are covered in the attached California Conservation District Sign Policy and the Departmental Categorical Exclusion. Additionally, completion of the Route Designation and Travel Management Plan amendments finalize route designation throughout the CDD and gives regulatory authority to sign the open route network. The NFO is requesting assistance with labor, supplies, and equipment in order to complete these activities and to provide general maintenance to facilities. Physical impact not covered will be analyzed in a site-specific document.

### ITEM 4 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

### ITEM 5 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

### ITEM 6 - Soil Impacts

### ITEM 7 - Damage to Scenic Resources

### ITEM 8 - Hazardous Materials

- Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No)  Yes  No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

### ITEM 9 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

- Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No)  Yes  No

Discuss the potential for the proposed Project to have any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources.

**ITEM 10 - Indirect Significant Impacts**

**CEQA/NEPA Attachment**

Attachments:

[2009/10 Ground Operations Grant Departmental Categorical Exclusion](#)

## Evaluation Criteria

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Version # \_\_\_\_\_ APP # 700511

### 1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the cost of the Project covered by the Applicant is 5

(Note: This field will auto-populate once the Cost Estimate and Evaluation Criteria are Validated.) (Please select one from list)

- 76% or more (10 points)  
 51% - 75% (5 points)  
 26% - 50% (3 points)  
 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

### 2. Failure to Complete - Q 2.

2. Failure to complete the Project would result in: 8

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 8 points (Please select applicable values)

- Loss of OHV Opportunity (6 points)  
 Negative impact to cultural sites (2 points)  
 Damage to special-status species or other sensitive habitat (2 points)  
 Potential trespass (2 points)  
 Additional damage to Facilities (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

Failure would result in continued OHV intrusion into wilderness, impact to cultural sites, damage to special-status species & other sensitive habitat, & leads to potential trespass, specifically in the 18 designated Wildernesses, activities lead to closure of routes resulting in loss of OHV opportunities. Barriers, signage, & education are all proven methods, helping the public understand the importance of the land & helping protect Cultural sites, species habitat, & private lands. Interpretation also helps the public feel a sense of stewardship with the land. Unmarked routes & deteriorating barriers encourage irresponsible OHV use & lend to the concept that there are no rules, and no consequence for misbehavior. No rules, no punishment is behavior that leads to destruction of property, graffiti, & "Willfully Ignorant" attitudes. Maintenance, monitoring, signing, & responsible OHV messaging helps stem improper OHV behaviors, provides guidance & direction, & helps educate recreationist to California OHV I

### 3. Sustain OHV Opportunity - Q 3.

3. The Project would sustain OHV Opportunity by 10

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- Maintaining trail or road tread (5 points)  
 Installing or repairing erosion control features (3 points)  
 Providing traffic control and/or educational signage (3 points)  
 Maintaining multi use (ATV, Dirt Bikes, 4x4, etc) (1 point)  
 Providing varied levels of riding difficulty (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

The project would sustain OHV opportunities by maintaining trail or road tread by providing route, road tread, & soil monitoring, thus enabling quick repair of minor problems, not major issues.

The primary project goal is to provide traffic control & educational signing. Project will install route, & regulatory signing, informational kiosks.

The project would maintain multi use (ATV, UTV, Motorcycle, 4x4, etc) by signing designated route network, identifying types of trail use, & providing OHV trail brochures & maps.

The project would provide difficulty level logos on route signs & on reprinted public OHV trail brochures & maps.

**4. Public Input - Q 4.**

4. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- Publicly noticed meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)
- Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)
- Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

This Ground Operations grant is a continuation of the 7-year plan developed in conjunction with the public to address travel management needs, conform to policies, & provide a safer & more informative OHV experience to visitors. In 2006, the NFO held a public meeting at the Needles community center, & met with several interest groups to discuss the 7-year plan & to seek advice from recreationist on how to improve OHV & non-OHV desert experiences.

Public involvement efforts continued this year by sending out letters, published links & information on BLM State & Field Office websites, placing notices in newspapers & through phone calls with interested individuals, organizations, & groups. Interested parties & groups, outside of the local area or unable to attend public meetings were sent letters, or called asking them to review proposals and submit commits.

**5. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 5.**

5. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- 4 or more (4 points)
- 2 to 3 (2 points)
- 1 (1 point)
- None (No points)

List partner organization(s):

Partners associated with the Needles Field Office are, Friends of Ivanpah, The Wilderness Society , Mojave National Preserve , Parker Dam School, Needles, Kingman, and Bull Head School Districts, Bull Head, and Havasu 4 wheeler club, and the Needles, Bull Head, California Trail Users Coalition, and Havasu Gem and Minerals Clubs. The Rotary International Needles Chapter also provides support to the volunteer program through sponsorships and fellowships.

**6. Impact to Natural and Cultural Resources - Q 6.**

6. The Project will avoid and/or minimize impact to natural and cultural resources by 4

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 7 points (Please select applicable values)

- Maintaining physical barriers to control OHV use (1 point)
- Protecting water quality (1 point)
- Providing bridges instead of wet crossings where appropriate (1 point)
- Protecting special-status species (1 point)
- Re-routing trails to divert away from riparian/wetlands areas (1 point)

- Providing sanitary facilities (1 point)
- Protecting cultural site(s) (1 point)
- Site design precludes the need for the above measures (7 points)

Explain each statement that was checked

Several barriers are currently, monitored for effectiveness, maintained, & new locations identified for future projects through monitoring and suggestions from partner groups.

Current & new barriers, route signing & kiosks protect special-status species by educating the public on the potential problems, identify the proper routes, which protect natural resources and cultural sites.

Sanitary facilities are provided at the Desert Information Center located in the Field Office, at Amboy Crater, and at Horse Thief Spring Camp. This project assists with maintenance, cleaning, & identification of potential new locations. Future planning identified four other vault toilet sites to be developed and facilities installed over the next several years.

Project directs OHV use to the proper routes educates visitor on ethical practices & provides an enhanced desert experience, all are proven to help protect cultural sites & give the public a sense of stewardship for the land.

#### 7. Recycled Materials - Q 7.

7. The Project incorporates recycled materials by utilizing 4

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- Barrier materials which include recycled content or materials obtained onsite (1 point)
- Signs, sign posts or education kiosks which use products with recycled content (1 point)
- Erosion control features which use materials with recycled content (1 point)
- Paper used for trail maps which includes recycled content (1 point)
- Other products with recycled content (Specify) (1 point) [Office Supplies, Participation Water Bottles, Pencils, Sign Products]

#### 8. Sustainable Technologies - Q 8.

8. The Project makes substantial use of sustainable technologies such as 4

- Alternative fuel vehicles and equipment
- Renewable energy sources (e.g., solar, wind)
- Low volatile organic compound emission materials (e.g., paint, sealants, carpet)
- Low flow plumbing fixtures
- Water efficient landscaping

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- No (No points)  Yes (4 points)

Explain 'Yes' response

The Project makes substantial use of sustainable technologies by seeking to use on site material for vertical mulching on tracks behind barriers. BLM is required to use recycled materials when possible for projects.

BLM Instructional Memorandums (IM) directs that any signs, signposts, kiosk panels or other items be made with recycled material when possible. National BLM National sign only provides items made from recycled material.

This requirement is also in force to cover printed materials like brochures, maps, workbooks, etc?

The NFO makes every effort to insure recycled products are used whenever available, especially when ordering Office Supplies, Participation Water Bottles, Pencils, or Signing Products. When available the NFO will always use low volatile organic compound emission paint, sealants, and biodegradable chemicals.

#### 9. Motorized Access - Q 9.

9. The Project improves and/or maintains facilities that provide motorized access to the following non-motorized recreation opportunities 6

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each, up to a maximum of 6 points (Please select applicable values)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Camping   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Birding           |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hiking  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equestrian trails |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fishing   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rock Climbing     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) [Hunting, Rock Collecting, Landscape Photography, Land Sailing] |   |