



California Four Wheel Drive Association, Inc.

Over 55 years advocating for recreation

California Department of Parks and Recreation
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

E-mail: ohvinfo@parks.ca.gov

Cc: Clovis Independent Four Wheelers
Mike McGarity, President, Chief Executive Officer emailmcgarity@gmail.com
Jeff Becker, Project Coordinator jbecker@picfresno.com

March 15, 2015

Re: Clovis Independent Four Wheelers Grant Application

Federal ID: 27-5454486 Reference # G14-04-83-G01

Dear Grant Committee:

These comments are submitted on behalf of the California Four Wheel Drive Association, Inc. (C4WDA) (previously the California Association of 4 Wheel Drive Clubs, Inc. CA4WDC) and its membership. C4WDA represents clubs and individuals within the State of California that are part of the community of four-wheel drive enthusiasts. Many of our members and supporters live in and/or recreate in the area covered by the *Clovis Independent 4 Wheelers Grant Application #G14-04-83-G01*. This document shall not supplant the rights of other C4WDA member clubs, contractors or individual members from submitting their own comments and the agency should consider and appropriately respond to all comments received to this proposed grant.

While the main focus of CA4WDA is to protect, promote, and provide for motorized recreation opportunities on public and private lands, many of our members participate in multiple forms of recreation; including but not limited to hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, horseback riding, bicycle riding, and gem and mineral collection.

We recognize the positive health and social benefits that can be achieved through outdoor activities. We also recognize that motorized recreation provides the small business owners in the local communities a significant financial stimulus. And, our members are directly affected by management decisions concerning public land use.

Our members subscribe to the concepts of: 1) public access to public lands for their children and grandchildren; 2) condition and safety of the environment; and 3) sharing our natural heritage. The general public desires access to public lands now and for future generations.

This Project is focused entirely on improving the public's OHV recreational experience on the Sierra NF. Project funding will allow Clovis Independent 4 Wheels volunteers to maintain, support and enhance OHV routes and facilities. Adverse natural and cultural resource impacts will be prevented and minimized, provision for public health and safety will be enhanced, and

the capacity of Clovis Independent 4 Wheels volunteers to undertake ground operations projects to provide tools, supplies, safety gear and equipment to support their volunteer efforts and increase their labor and work efficiency. The activities included in this project are necessary to sustain the long-term use of the Sierra NF by OHV enthusiasts.

C4WDA supports the Clovis Independent 4 Wheelers efforts to complete road and trail maintenance work to insure OHV trails and forest roads legal for OHV use are kept open to the public and to reduce potential adverse recourse conditions including;

- removing road and trail side brush
- minor tread maintenance
- blocking unauthorized routes to focus OHV use on designated trails
- removing downed trees and boulders from roadways and trails
- maintaining drainage structures such as culverts, dips, and lead off ditches
- armoring stream crossings
- placement of rock riprap
- repairing and installing road and trail directional signs and road markers
- performing road and trail condition surveys
- reporting unsafe road and trail conditions or heavy maintenance needs
- placement of retaining barriers and support structures for tread repair and stream approaches
- removal of trash

C4WDA further supports the Clovis Independent 4 Wheelers efforts to maintain and improve Forest Service system roads and trails that provide popular OHV riding opportunities and are critical for connecting OHV riding areas and trails. Many of these roads and trails provide access to and from developed campgrounds, dispersed camping areas, and recreational destination points. Their work activity will be focused on roads and trails that provide a variety of motorized uses including; motorcycles, atvs, utvs, 4WDs, and pickups. Trails provide varied levels of difficulty from easy, to difficult, to more difficult. This project will improve motorized access, water quality, signage, and enhance the overall OHV riding experience within the Sierra National Forest.

For these reasons C4WDA would like to ask that this grant be funded to enhance the recreational experience in this popular area.

C4WDA appreciates the opportunity to comment on this grant request made by the Clovis Independent 4 Wheelers. C4WDA is eager to assist land managers and we hope these comments have been helpful in the importance of this grant to our members and member clubs. If addition information is required please do not hesitate to contact Steve Egbert at (559) 936-3030.

Thank you,



Steve Egbert
President,
California Four Wheel Drive Association, Inc.