

Law Enforcement (FINAL)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # _____

APP # 700316

ITEM 1. Proposed Project

The Plumas County Sheriff's Office began its OHV/OSV (Off-Highway Vehicle/Off-Snow Vehicle) program with the grateful assistance of the OHMVR Department in 1993. Plumas County, located in Northeastern California, covers 2000 square miles and offers over 1.5 million acres of national forest that is open to OHV/OSV use, year round. There are also several thousand acres of private land within Plumas County that are both open and closed to OSV/OHV recreation. Many of these areas are patrolled during routine patrol and areas that are more remote are patrolled during cooperative USFS patrols and scheduled OHV/OSV patrols. Many open riding areas are located within one-half hour of Reno N.V., and within two hours of Redding Ca. Chico Ca. and Sacramento Ca. The natural beauty of Plumas County and large variety of recreational opportunities that it has to offer draws thousands of motorized and non-motorized visitors each year. The USFS estimates that well over 72,000 visitors visit and conduct OSV/OHV related activities each year. In addition to open OSV/OHV riding areas there are 35+ designated USFS campgrounds within the county, countless other areas that are also open, non-designated camping areas, and three major rivers. Hunting, hiking, fishing, mountain biking, horseback riding and bird-watching are also very popular. The Sheriff's Office has also seen an increase in the amount of winter users who come to the area and attempt snow travel on hardened icy roads. These users often become stuck either in their vehicles, or on ATV's when the snow softens, generating increased search and rescue calls. We have also had several instances of snowmobiles falling through the ice or getting stuck in the ice on partially frozen lakes. As a result of the increased search and rescue calls, and type of calls received, the Sheriff's Office requested funding for a UTV last year (2009) that could be utilized as a "Quick Response Vehicle". It was our intent to put tracks (for Winter time use), a winch and first-aid equipment (utilizing in-lieu matching funds). This vehicle when purchased will have enough power to provide a quick response to emergency calls where a response via snowmobile, snow cat or patrol vehicle has been very difficult and time consuming. Due to the funding request adjustment with-in the grants program, the Sheriff's Office was forced to use awarded grant funding for WAGES ONLY this year. Thus, the requested UTV was not purchased. The Sheriff's Office is again asking for funding this year for this much needed UTV and as a result of a manufacturer cost increase of the unit, the Sheriff's Office is asking for additional funds for this item.

Since the program began, the Sheriff's Office has maintained a balanced program with a strong emphasis on public safety, protection of the environment, trespass issues onto private or state property and intrusions into wilderness areas. The Sheriff's Office has also seen a large increase in the amount of OHV related disturbance and trespass calls that it receives in areas close to populated areas. User conflict is closely monitored in an attempt to allow multiple user groups to enjoy their activities safely, while maintaining a positive public view of motorized activities.

The Sheriff's Office believes public education is a very important part of the OSV/OHV program. Deputies on patrol personally contact motorized and non-motorized users to obtain information and to respond to possible user conflict. Deputies often visit with users at trail heads and at local dealerships to pass on information regarding laws and areas that have become a concern. This practice also allows feedback concerning the program and the passing of information which allows the Sheriff's Office to contact potential law violators that have a negative impact on the motorized community. The program manager also attends public meetings, and special interest group meetings, when possible, to pass on valuable information. The program manager has also educated the local youth by attending high school grade driver's education classes and instructing on OHV/OSV related laws and proper trail etiquette. Several hundred contacts are also made each year at the elementary grade level by attending elementary grade classes, doing show and tell programs and by attending the yearly children's fair.

ITEM 2. Project Coverage

Plumas County, located in Northeastern California, covers 2000 square miles and offers over 1.5 million acres of national forest that is open to OHV/OSV use, year round with several thousand acres of private land within Plumas County that are both open and closed to OSV/OHV recreation. Plumas County also has two designated wilderness areas (Bucks Lake Wilderness and Caribou Wilderness) as well as two state parks (Lassen Volcanic National Park and Plumas Eureka State

Park) located within the county. These areas add several thousand acres of non-motorized recreational land that require frequent patrols to prevent intrusion.

ITEM 3. Describe the frequency of the patrols

Six to eight hour patrols are conducted, generally during the daytime hours, on weekends, holidays, and during special events such as Snowmobile poker runs or large group gatherings. Shifts are also conducted at any time to respond to special circumstances such as wilderness intrusions, private property trespass and Search and Rescue operations. The area adjacent to the Bucks Lake wilderness is patrolled five days a week during the summer months to limit intrusions into the wilderness. These patrols are conducted during US Forest Service Cooperative Agreement patrols as well as by Sheriff's Office Boat Patrol Officers who patrol Bucks Lake regularly. Any observed intrusion or reported intrusion into any wilderness area, state park, or area deemed to be closed for any reason by the U.S. Forest Service or land owner is immediately passed on to Patrol Deputies and U.S. Forest Service for immediate response when possible.

This year the Sheriff's Office is again requesting additional funding to allow better coverage on busy weekends and holidays; as well as responding to the increasing amount of OSV/OHV related emergency calls that the Sheriff's Office receives each year. A particular area of interest here is the area known as the High Lakes which is located in the very south west corner of the county. This area has seen a huge increase in the amount of recreational users in the past few years with very little response from Law-Enforcement because of the extended (21/2 hour in most cases) response time needed to get to the remote area. This additional funding would greatly enhance the Sheriff's Office ability to conduct more frequent patrols in this area thus reducing cases of natural resource damage as well as user conflict that is occurring.

As previously indicated, the Sheriff's Office requested approximately \$98,000.00 in the 2009 grant cycle and was awarded \$42,000.00, less than one-half (1/2) of the requested funds. As a result of this decreased amount of funding, the Sheriff's Office has spent approximately \$35,000.00 of our in-lieu funds reserve (= almost 50% match) just to provide what many would consider a minimum amount of enforcement activities as well as OSV/OHV vehicle/equipment maintenance and other related costs. As such there are still several areas within our county that are being neglected because of this lack of funding.

ITEM 4. Deployment of Personnel

The Plumas County Sheriff's Office Law enforcement program is carried out county wide and is conducted by 33 full-time Sheriff Deputies, Sergeants, and 7 Level 1 Reserves who have full peace officer powers. Deputy Sheriff's and Sergeants work overtime shifts in addition to their normal duties, and Reserve Officers work shifts for regular time.

This proposed project includes:

- OHV and OSV enforcement, investigation, compliance, education, and Search and Rescue activities, county wide. Patrols will be conducted during the winter months and summer patrols that will take place in high use areas and in response to public complaints.
- Coordination with local, Government and State agencies.
- Monitoring and patrols of wilderness areas or areas deemed closed to motorized use. Also to include response and patrols of private property trespass.
- Area patrols especially during high use or during designated events.
- Provide information to the public via personnel contact, public forms, the local paper, via the Sheriff's Office Web site or OHV/OSV literature handed out during personnel contact.

LE Certification

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Law Enforcement - Page 1

1. Identify areas with high priority law enforcement needs because of public safety, cultural resources, and sensitive environmental habitats, including wilderness areas and areas of critical environmental concerns:

As previously stated Plumas County covers approximately 2000 square miles and offers approximately 1.5 million acres of national forest that is open to OHV/OSV use as well as several thousand acres of private land that are both open and closed to OHV/OSV use.
2. Describe how the proposed Project relates to OHV Recreation and will sustain OHV Recreation, motorized off-highway access to non-motorized recreation, or OHV Opportunities associated with the Project Area:

This Law Enforcement project is specifically related to OSV/OHV use within Plumas County. It's very nature encompasses OHV/OSV related law enforcement and is designed to enhance public safety as well as public education. As a result, sustained OHV/OSV recreation within the county will remain high as user conflict and sensitive area trespass is reduced or in many cases eliminated.
3. Describe the Applicant's formal or informal cooperation with other law enforcement agencies:

The Sheriff's Office works closely with other agencies within the county such as the U.S. Forest Service (Lassen and Plumas County) the Lassen National Park Service, BLM and the CHP to effectively conduct its OHV/OSV Enforcement Program. This partnership has allowed the department to maximize funding by sharing information that prevents double coverage in areas on weekends while at the same time teaming up to respond to special calls for service. The Sheriff's Office is also dedicated to assisting and responding to calls from private land owners who are having OHV/OSV related issues such as trespassing and vandalism.

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4. Does the Applicant recover a portion of the law enforcement costs directly associated with privately sponsored OHV events where sponsors have obtained a local permit? (Please select Yes or No)

Yes No

Explain
The Plumas County Sheriff's Office supports many OSV/OHV related events within the county and currently provides Patrol and Search and Rescue services for these functions at no cost in an effort to enhance and support such functions.
5. The Applicant agrees to implement a public education program that includes information on safety programs available in the area and how to report OHV violations? (Please select Yes or No)

Yes No
6. Describe the Applicant's OHV law enforcement training program including how the training program educates personnel to address OHV safety and natural and cultural resource protection:

Agency enforcement staff receive specific training on OHV law enforcement: All officers within the department who wish to participate in the OHV/OSV patrol program receive initial instruction regarding applicable OHV/OSV laws and regulations. A major portion of this training is based around Public Safety and the ability to make citizen contacts in regards to such. Officers are trained to recognize violations and are given discretion in how to deal with varying circumstances that might need their attention, either issuing citations or in most cases educating and counseling to eliminate further occurrences. All officers are also issued a California State Parks OHV Law Enforcement information reference book and receive updates by meeting or memorandum as needed. This training also includes how to respond to wilderness intrusions, as well as the documentation, reporting or detaining of violators who are destroying or damaging natural resources or trespassing into sensitive or private lands.

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7. Is the proposed project in accordance with local or federal plans and the OHMVR Division Strategic Plan? (Please select Yes or No) Yes No
8. LOCAL AGENCIES ONLY - Describe the Applicant's policies and/or agreements regarding enforcement on federal land:
- Currently the Plumas County Sheriff's Office has both written and verbal agreements with local federal agencies regarding law enforcement on federal land. The Sheriff's Office enforces all State and County OHV/OSV related laws with emphasis on public safety, protection of natural resources and or private property. When violators are contacted in areas where Federal Laws would be more applicable or would be of a greater nature, our agreement is to immediately detain violators, notify the responsible federal agency (usually USFS or National Park Service) and have them respond to the situation for citation or arrest. In instances where the responsible federal agency can not respond, officers will obtain all of the violators information and in cases where the violation concerns wilderness intrusion escort the violators from the area, then follow-up with the appropriate federal agency so an arrest or citation can be issued.

9. COUNTIES ONLY - Describe how the OHV in-lieu of tax funds are being used and whether the use of these fees complements the Applicant's project:
- The Plumas County Sheriff's Office currently receives one half (approximately \$30,000.00) of the Counties in-lieu of tax funds with the other half of this funding going to the Plumas County Road Department for snow removal and maintenance of the many designated OSV staging areas located within the county. These funds have greatly enhanced the Sheriff's Office OSV/OHV program by allowing the department to purchase needed safety equipment and equipment directly utilized for OSV/OHV patrols. These funds also provide much needed funding for additional shifts that would not be possible after grant funding has been depleted. In year 2009 the Sheriff's Office purchased two OSV Snowmobiles and a trailer utilizing in-lieu tax funds at a cost of approx. \$25,000.00. These snowmobiles have enhanced our winter program dramatically.

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10. APPLICANTS WHO MANAGE OHV RECREATION FACILITIES – Describe how your organization is meeting its operation and maintenance needs:
- N/A
11. The Applicant agrees to enforce the registration of OHVs and the other provision of Division 16.5 commencing with Section 38000 of the vehicle code and to enforce other applicable laws regarding the operation of OHVs? (Please select Yes or No) Yes No

Project Cost Estimate

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
APPLICANT NAME :	Plumas County Sheriff's Office		
PROJECT TITLE :	Law Enforcement (FINAL)	PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :	G09-03-13-L01
PROJECT TYPE :	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	<p>The Plumas County Sheriff's Office began its OHV/OSV (Off-Highway Vehicle/Off-Snow Vehicle) program with the grateful assistance of the OHMVR Department in 1993. Plumas County, located in Northeastern California, covers 2000 square miles and offers over 1.5 million acres of national forest that is open to OHV/OSV use, year round. There are also several thousand acres of private land within Plumas County that are both open and closed to OSV/OHV recreation. Many of these areas are patrolled during routine patrol and areas that are more remote are patrolled during cooperative USFS patrols and scheduled OHV/OSV patrols. Many open riding areas are located within one-half hour of Reno N.V., and within two hours of Redding Ca. Chico Ca. and Sacramento Ca. The natural beauty of Plumas County and large variety of recreational opportunities that it has to offer draws thousands of motorized and non-motorized visitors each year. The USFS estimates that well over 72,000 visitors visit and conduct OSV/OHV related activities each year. In addition to open OSV/OHV riding areas there are 35+ designated USFS campgrounds within the county, countless other areas that are also open, non-designated camping areas, and three major rivers. Hunting, hiking, fishing, mountain biking, horseback riding and bird-watching are also very popular. The Sheriff's Office has also seen an increase in the amount of winter users who come to the area and attempt snow travel on hardened icy roads. These users often become stuck either in their vehicles, or on ATV's when the snow softens, generating increased search and rescue calls. We have also had several instances of snowmobiles falling through the ice or getting stuck in the ice on partially frozen lakes. As a result of the increased search and rescue calls, and type of calls received, the Sheriff's Office requested funding for a UTV last year (2009) that could be utilized as a "Quick Response Vehicle". It was our intent to put tracks (for Winter time use), a winch and first-aid equipment (utilizing in-lieu matching funds). This vehicle when purchased will have enough power to provide a quick response to emergency calls where a response via snowmobile, snow cat or patrol vehicle has been very difficult and time consuming. Due to the funding request adjustment with-in the grants program, the Sheriff's Office was forced to use awarded grant funding for WAGES ONLY this year. Thus, the requested UTV was not purchased. The Sheriff's Office is again asking for funding this year for this much needed UTV and as a result of a manufacturer cost increase of the unit, the Sheriff's Office is asking for additional funds for this item.</p> <p>Since the program began, the Sheriff's Office has maintained a balanced program with a strong emphasis on public safety, protection of the environment, trespass issues onto private or state property and intrusions into wilderness areas. The Sheriff's Office has also seen a large increase in the amount of OHV related disturbance and trespass calls that it receives in areas close to populated areas. User conflict is closely monitored in an attempt to allow multiple user groups to enjoy their activities safely, while maintaining a positive public view of motorized activities.</p> <p>The Sheriff's Office believes public education is a very important part of the OSV/OHV program. Deputies on patrol personally contact motorized and non-motorized users to obtain information and to respond to possible user conflict. Deputies often visit with users at trail heads and at local dealerships to pass on information regarding laws and areas that have become a concern. This practice also allows feedback concerning the program and the passing of information which allows the Sheriff's Office to contact potential law violators that have a negative impact on the motorized community. The program manager also attends public meetings, and special interest group meetings, when possible, to pass on valuable information. The program manager has also educated the local youth by attending high school grade driver's education classes and instructing on OHV/OSV related laws and proper trail etiquette. Several hundred contacts are also made each year at the elementary grade level by attending elementary grade classes, doing show and tell programs and by attending the yearly children's fair.</p>		

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
 Agency: Plumas County Sheriff's Office
 Application: Law Enforcement (FINAL)

2/24/2010

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES							
Program Expenses							
1	Staff						
	Administration Officer	150.000	48.260	HRS	0.00	7,239.00	7,239.00
	Other-Fiscal Officer	80.000	38.340	HRS	0.00	3,067.00	3,067.00
	Law Enforcement Officers	1000.000	61.840	HRS	61,840.00	0.00	61,840.00
	Other-Reserve Officers	400.000	22.540	HRS	9,016.00	0.00	9,016.00
	Total for Staff				70,856.00	10,306.00	81,162.00
2	Contracts						
3	Materials / Supplies						
	Emergency Medical Supplies	1.000	500.000	EA	0.00	500.00	500.00
	Other-OSV/OHV Supplies	6.000	500.000	EA	0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
	Other-Radio Equipment	1.000	900.000	EA	0.00	900.00	900.00
	Total for Materials / Supplies				0.00	4,400.00	4,400.00
4	Equipment Use Expenses						
	Other-OSV/UTV Maintenance	8.000	400.000	EA	0.00	3,200.00	3,200.00
	Other-Tow/Haul ; Vehicla Maintenance	10.000	250.000	EA	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
	Total for Equipment Use Expenses				0.00	5,700.00	5,700.00
5	Equipment Purchases						
	Other-UTV	1.000	13500.000	EA	13,500.00	0.00	13,500.00
	Other-UTV Equipment/accessories	1.000	8000.000	MISC	0.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
	Other-UTV Trailer	1.000	2500.000	EA	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
 Agency: Plumas County Sheriff's Office
 Application: Law Enforcement (FINAL)

2/24/2010

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Total for Equipment Purchases				13,500.00	10,500.00	24,000.00
6	Others						
	Other-Related Fuel Costs	20.000	200.000	EA	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
7	Indirect Costs						
	Total Program Expenses				88,356.00	30,906.00	119,262.00
	TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES				88,356.00	30,906.00	119,262.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES				88,356.00	30,906.00	119,262.00

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
 Agency: Plumas County Sheriff's Office
 Application: Law Enforcement (FINAL)

2/24/2010

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	70,856.00	10,306.00	81,162.00	
2	Contracts	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	0.00	4,400.00	4,400.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	0.00	5,700.00	5,700.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	13,500.00	10,500.00	24,000.00	
6	Others	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	
7	Indirect Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Program Expenses		88,356.00	30,906.00	119,262.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		88,356.00	30,906.00	119,262.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		88,356.00	30,906.00	119,262.00	

Environmental Review Data Sheet (ERDS)

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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

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