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To: OHMVR Division: Daphne Greene, Director; Phil Jenkins, Division Chief; & Grant Review Staff
USFS Region 5: Marlene Finley, Director; Keaton Norquist, Project Coordinator;
USFS Eldorado NF: Ramiro Villalvazo, Forest Supervisor; Lester Lubetkin, Forest Recreation Officer;
USFS Inyo NF: Jim Upchurch, Forest Supervisor; Jeff Marsolais, Forest Recreation Officer;
USFS Plumas NF: Alice B. Carlton, Forest Supervisor; Susan Barron, Grants Program Manager;
USFS Sequoia NF: Tina Terrell, Forest Supervisor; Carol Hallacy, Recreation Supervisor;
USFS Stanislaus NF: Susan Skalski, Forest Supervisor; Chuck James, OHV Specialist; Sue Warren, Forest Recreation Officer
USFS Tahoe NF: Tom Quinn, Forest Supervisor; David Michael, Grants Program Manager.

From: Kyra, CORVA Northern Grants Director

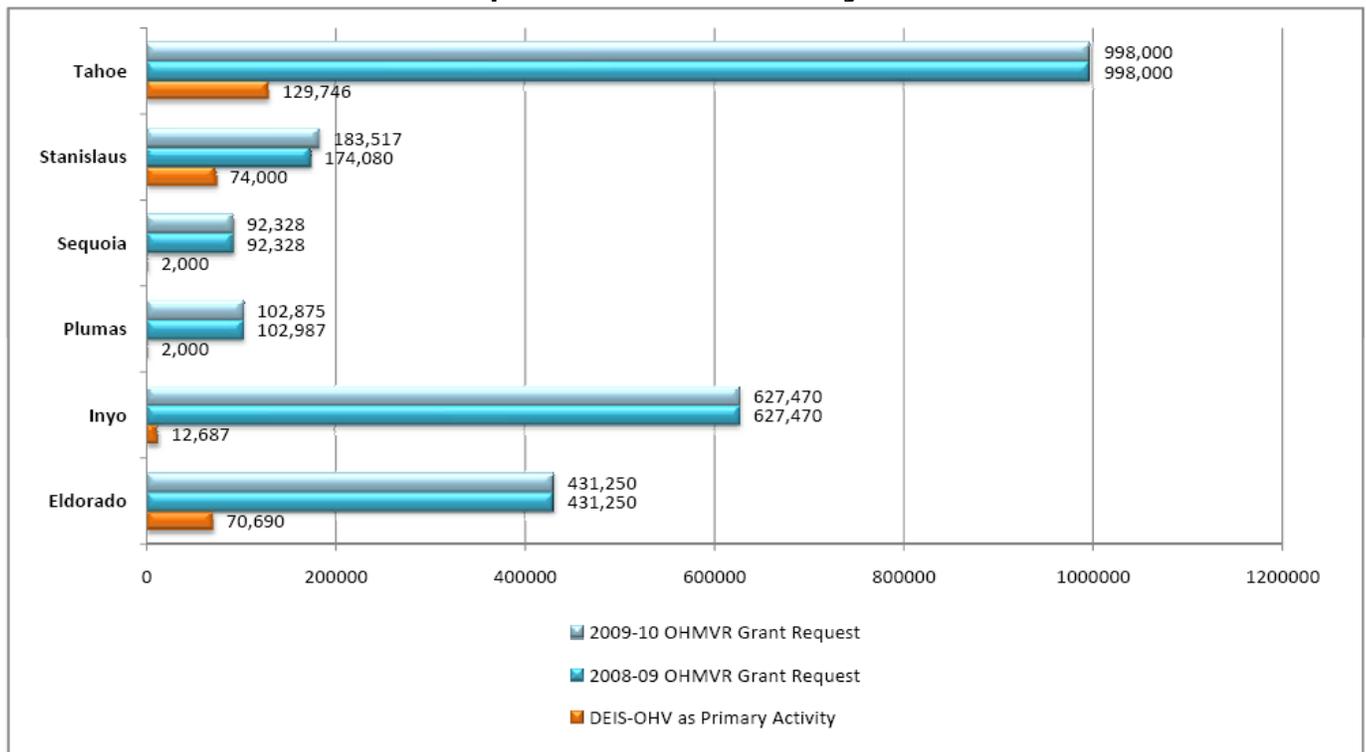
Date: April 4, 2010

Re: 2009/2010 OHMVR Grant: USFS 'General Applications' Statistical Discrepancies

Please repair the inconsistencies in the US Forest Service agencies' reported Visitor User Day (VUD) numbers between the 2009/2010 OHV Grant requests and the Travel Management Planning documents.

The previous and current grant request show a dramatically different amount of OHV visitors as compared to the Travel Management DEIS's recently released. The difference range from a 135% increase to over 5000% increase in reported visitors. Such a large discrepancy is alarming and leads to a lack of confidence in the data presented.

Reported Visitor User Days



"Dedicated to protecting our lands for the people, not from the people."

Extraordinary low numbers are presented in the Travel Management Environmental Impact Statements when attempting to analyze and manage public off-road motorized use of the forests, supporting claims that a small portion of the public will be affected by the dramatic reductions in opportunity & route closure. Furthermore when funding is being requested from the CA OHV Trust fund via grants then inflated numbers of visitors are presented.

This concern was first reported at the March 2009 OHVMR Commission Meeting where Division staff and USFS Region 5 staff were present. In March of 2009 the same issue of conflicting reports on visitor user numbers were reported to Tahoe Forest Supervisor, Tom Quinn, and later in comments to the Inyo National Forest on their Travel Management Plan.

Regardless of the true visitor count, the public cannot continue to have faith in the quality of the Forest Service data when it had a chance to repair the data and chose not to.

Considering these discrepancies continue, without explanation, we request that the USFS provide an audit on the reported visitor user numbers comparing all the R5 Forest level Travel Management DEIS/SDEIS/FEIS's to the associated Forest level grant requests and explain any discrepancies. Due to time constraints we are unable to perform the full audit this year but have enclosed the partial results from our spot checks where it can be seen that the reported visitor numbers for the current grant cycle haven't changed substantially. While it is an unusual request, we would like to be sure that the Federal Government is not attempting to further defraud the OHV public and governing state agencies either in attempts to gain OHV Trust moneys or in managing Federal lands located in California.

Please resolve these issues in either the grant requests or the Forest Planning documents. Please review other reported statistics to ensure accuracy and consistency and repair or explain where substantial differences exist.

Thank you,

Kyra