

## Planning - OHV Use Areas (FINAL)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

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

APP # 700546

### A. Statement of Planning Objectives

Funding for this project would establish an extensive detailed GIS analysis database to manage OHV related developed campgrounds and OHV concentrated use areas. An estimated 30 -40 areas varying in size from 1 acre to 120 acres, e.g. rock crawling areas, dispersed camping, staging areas, and developed campgrounds will be analyzed and their relationship to natural resources such as soils(erosion, asbestos), streams, meadows, cultural resources, sensitive plant and off site impacts relative to the Project Area (e.g., sound, fugitive dust, runoff.) The data will be assessed by Resource Specialists to identify recommendations for needed mitigation or rehabilitation to develop a series of documents: NEPA , Action Plans, Implementation Plans to be incorporated in an OHV Recreation Use Area Management Strategy for sustained long term OHV use.

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

The purpose of the OHV program is to provide a safe and fun recreation experience while protecting natural, cultural and historical resources, educating the public on Tread Lightly and Light on the Land principles and techniques, and maintain trail integrity with routine maintenance on a regular basis. Through a series of grant proposals Bass Lake RD has identified projects on the designated trails and facilities to protect natural resources by routine maintenance to protect rare plant species, soils (erosion, asbestos), cultural/historical resource areas, stream banks, and meadows to eliminate cumulative effects to watersheds, species habitat and off site impacts relative to the Project Area (e.g., sound, fugitive dust, runoff.) . The "care and policing" of facility and use area and frequent public contacts by Forest Service employees and /or Forest Service volunteers for safety and information sharing and education on Tread Lightly and Light on the Land principles and techniques would ensure long term sustained OHV use.

The Bass Lake Ranger District OHV recreation program covers approximately 350,000 acres and provides a rich and diverse experience for the OHV visitor as well as other recreation uses such as rock climbing, birding, camping, hiking, fishing, hunting, mountain bicycles, equestrian and photography. These opportunities are available on an estimated 1570 miles of level 2 (green sticker) roads open to all vehicles and includes 18 miles of routes with associated developed campgrounds, staging, and concentrated use areas i.e rock crawling.

Funding for this project would establish an extensive detailed GIS analysis database to manage OHV related developed campgrounds and OHV related concentrated use areas. This information is necessary to develop a series of documents for NEPA, Action Plans, and Implementation Plans to be incorporated in an OHV Recreation Use Area Management Strategy for sustained long term OHV use on the Bass Lake RD

### C. Statement of Activities

This grant proposal establishes an extensive detailed GIS analysis database to manage OHV related developed campgrounds and OHV related concentrated use areas. An estimated 30 -40 areas varying in size from 1 acre to 120 acres, e.g. rock crawling areas, dispersed camping, staging areas, and developed campgrounds. Each will be analyzed as to their relationship to soils (erosion, asbestos), streams, meadows, cultural resources, sensitive plants, species habitat, and offsite impacts relative to the Project Area (e.g., sound, fugitive dust, runoff). The data will be assessed by Resource Specialists to identify recommendations for needed mitigation, monitoring and/or rehabilitation.

### D. List of Reports

The establishment of an extensive detailed GIS analysis database is necessary to develop a series of documents for NEPA, Action Plans, and Implementation Plans to be incorporated in an OHV Recreation Use Area Management Strategy for sustained long term OHV use on the Bass Lake District.

## Additional Documentation

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**1. Timeline for Completion**

Attachments:

[timeOHVUseareasplan2009\\_2010](#)

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

**3. Optional Project-specific Maps**

**Project Cost Estimate**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
<b>APPLICANT NAME :</b>	USFS - Sierra National Forest		
<b>PROJECT TITLE :</b>	Planning - OHV Use Areas (FINAL)	<b>PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :</b>	G09-02-17-P07
<b>PROJECT TYPE :</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration		
<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION :</b>	Funding for this project would establish an extensive detailed GIS analysis database to manage OHV related developed campgrounds and OHV concentrated use areas. An estimated 30 -40 areas varying in size from 1 acre to 120 acres, e.g. rock crawling areas, dispersed camping, staging areas, and developed campgrounds will be analyzed and their relationship to natural resources such as soils(erosion, asbestos), streams, meadows, cultural resources, sensitive plant and off site impacts relative to the Project Area (e.g., sound, fugitive dust, runoff.) The data will be assessed by Resource Specialists to identify recommendations for needed mitigation or rehabilitation to develop a series of documents: NEPA , Action Plans, Implementation Plans to be incorporated in an OHV Recreation Use Area Management Strategy for sustained long term OHV use.		

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>							
<b>Program Expenses</b>							
<b>1</b>	<b>Staff</b>						
	Other-Dist Ranger	6.000	510.000	DAY	0.00	3,060.00	3,060.00
	Other-Dist Recreation Staff person	6.000	357.510	DAY	0.00	2,145.00	2,145.00
	Other-OHV Rec Spec Notes : Duties would include: Overall project strategy, coordination, facilitation of groups, ID team leader, resouce specilist liaison, supervise field data gathering leade/crew, document(s) writer/editor	90.000	291.520	DAY	8,945.60	17,291.40	26,237.00
	Other-Rec Tech Lead Notes : Supervises rec tech crew coordinates, assists GPS specialist in converting field data to data base, data gathering, monitoring, surveys	120.000	162.460	DAY	14,621.40	4,873.80	19,495.20

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010  
 Agency: USFS - Sierra National Forest  
 Application: Planning - OHV Use Areas (FINAL)

3/1/2010

Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
Other-Rec Tech Crew Notes : GPS, data gathering, monitoring, surveys	120.000	127.080	DAY	11,437.20	3,812.80	15,250.00
Other-GIS Specialist Notes : GIS data base set up, input data, facilitate data storage strategy, coordinatin with resource specialists data gathering	90.000	296.210	DAY	19,994.18	6,664.73	26,658.91
Other-Res Specialist - Botany Notes : ID team member	25.000	365.970	DAY	7,297.94	1,851.06	9,149.00
Other-Res Specialist - Archeology Notes : ID team member	25.000	296.210	DAY	5,553.94	1,851.06	7,405.00
Other-Res Specialist - Hydrology Notes : ID team member	90.000	365.970	DAY	24,702.97	8,234.03	32,937.00
Other-Res Specialist - Wildlife Notes : ID team member	25.000	296.210	DAY	5,553.94	1,851.06	7,405.00
Other-Res Specialist - Silviculture Notes : ID team member	90.000	365.970	DAY	24,702.97	8,234.03	32,937.00
Other-Res Specialist - Landscape Arch Notes : ID team member	25.000	296.210	DAY	5,553.94	1,851.06	7,405.00
Other-Res Specialist - Aquatics/Fisherie Notes : ID team member	90.000	365.970	DAY	24,702.97	8,234.03	32,937.00
<b>Total for Staff</b>				153,067.05	69,954.06	223,021.11
<b>2</b>	<b>Contracts</b>					
<b>3</b>	<b>Materials / Supplies</b>					
<b>4</b>	<b>Equipment Use Expenses</b>					
Other-Vehicle Support Notes : Vehicle support includes: fuel, maintenance, mileage and repair.	3.000	10338.000	YR	0.00	31,014.00	31,014.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010  
 Agency: USFS - Sierra National Forest  
 Application: Planning - OHV Use Areas (FINAL)

3/1/2010

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
5	<b>Equipment Purchases</b>						
6	<b>Others</b>						
7	<b>Indirect Costs</b>						
	Indirect Costs-Indirect Costs Notes : Forest overhead costs are currently 8%	1.000	12610.000	MISC	12,610.00	0.00	12,610.00
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>					165,677.05	100,968.06	266,645.11
<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>					165,677.05	100,968.06	266,645.11
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>					<b>165,677.05</b>	<b>100,968.06</b>	<b>266,645.11</b>

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010  
 Agency: USFS - Sierra National Forest  
 Application: Planning - OHV Use Areas (FINAL)

3/1/2010

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>					
<b>Program Expenses</b>					
1	Staff	153,067.05	69,954.06	223,021.11	
2	Contracts	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	0.00	31,014.00	31,014.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00	
6	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	
7	Indirect Costs	12,610.00	0.00	12,610.00	
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>		<b>165,677.05</b>	<b>100,968.06</b>	<b>266,645.11</b>	
<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>		<b>165,677.05</b>	<b>100,968.06</b>	<b>266,645.11</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>165,677.05</b>	<b>100,968.06</b>	<b>266,645.11</b>	

## 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

The project is limited to planning activities, and will not result in direct or indirect change to the physical environment.

### 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**

## Planning Project Criteria

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

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the Project costs covered by the Applicant is 3

(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. Planning Project - Q 2.

#### A Planning Project - Page 1

2. The Planning Project would address the following 4

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

- Potential effects of OHV Recreation on special-status species habitats  
 Potential effects of OHV Recreation on cultural resources  
 Potential effects of OHV Recreation on soil conditions  
 Potential effects of OHV Recreation on water quality  
 Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses  
 Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands.  
 Potential impact to relationships between OHV Recreation and local residents  
 Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project Area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation  
 Trail issues such as traffic patterns, trails closures, appropriate uses, etc.

#### B. Planning Project - Page 2

Explain each statement that was checked

Grant funding for this project would assist in establishing an extensive detailed GIS analysis database to manage OHV related developed campgrounds and OHV concentrated use areas. An estimated 30 -40 areas varying in size from 1 acre to 120 acres, e.g. rock crawling areas, dispersed camping, staging areas, and developed campgrounds will be analyzed and their relationship to natural resources such as soils(erosion, asbestos), streams, meadows, cultural resources, sensitive plants, species habitat and offsite impacts relative to the Project Area (e.g., sound, fugitive dust, runoff.) The data will be assessed by Resource Specialists to identify recommendations for needed mitigation or rehabilitation to develop a series of documents: NEPA , Action Plans, Implementation plans to be incorporated in an OHV Recreation Use Area Management Strategy for sustained long term OHV use.

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

- 6 or more items checked (4 points)                       4 to 5 items checked (3 points)  
 2 to 3 items checked (2 points)                               1 or no items checked (No points)

### 3. Motorized Access - Q 3.

3. The Project would lead to improved facilities that provide motorized access to the following nonmotorized 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 type="checkbox"/> Hiking  | <input type="checkbox"/> Equestrian trails  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fishing                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Rock Climbing      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) [photography, hunting] |   |

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

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

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 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

OHV use areas were discussed as part of the USFS Travel Management workshops for the Sierra National Forest Draft Environmental Impact Statement in May and June of 2009. Earlier the Forest met with 25 individuals representing different types of recreating opportunities, including businesses who rely on motorized recreation visitors as customers. Outside of those planned workshops by the Forest, a workshop was set up in Yosemite National Park for those concerned about park boundaries. Another meeting was held in Madera at the request of Madera County Board of Supervisors. Throughout the summer, recreation employees in the field, continued to make contact with OHV visitors encouraging them to stay involved with the Travel Management Process and answering their questions related to this process. Meetings and contacts included many of our OHV supporters and volunteers such as: "The Pack 4x4 Club", Sierra National Forest Stewards, 4x4HIM, Sierra Scenic Byway Association, Fresno 4x4 and California Quad Riders

**5. Stakeholder Input - Q 5.**

5. If the Project were approved, the planning process would incorporate substantial stakeholder input: 5

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

- No (No points)  Yes (5 points)

If 'Yes', explain, specifically, how it would be 'substantial'. Identify stakeholders

Forest Service recreation staff and OHV managers are available for one-on-one or attending club meetings to discuss and gather public input as the planning process progresses. Through out the process a series of workshops and scoping meetings would occur as needed to ensure the success of the projects to gather public input, and ensure transparency and clear communication is honored. Those groups currently: "The Pack 4x4 Club", Los Osos, CA; Sierra Stewards, Oakhurst, CA,; 4x4HIM, Fresno, CA; Sierra Scenic Byway Committee, Oakhurst, CA, Madera County Board of Supervisors, Yosemite National Park, California Quad Riders, Rotary, CampFire Boys and Girls, CA off-road Assoc.,

**6. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 6.**

6. 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)

Currently: "The Pack 4x4 Club", Los Osos, CA; Sierra Stewards, Oakhurst, CA.; 4x4HIM, Fresno, CA; Sierra Scenic Byway Committee, Oakhurst, CA, Madera County Board of Supervisors, Yosemite National Park, California Quad Riders, Rotary, CampFire Boys and Girls, CA off-road Assoc. OHV use areas were discussed as part of the USFS Travel Management workshops for the Sierra National Forest Draft Environmental Impact Statement in May and June of 2009 and involved many groups including those above. Throughout the summer, recreation employees in the field, would continued to make contact with OHV visitors encouraging them to stay involved with the Planning Process and answering their questions related to this project.

**7. Sustain OHV Opportunity - Q 7.**

7. The Planning Project sustains OHV Opportunity in the following manner 12

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

- Project will develop management plans for existing OHV Opportunity (4 points)
- Project will complete environmental review for an OHV Development Project (3 points)
- Project supports development of OHV Opportunities adjacent to population centers (3 points)
- Project supports development of OHV Opportunities in areas that lack legal OHV Opportunity (2 points)
- Project will develop a system of designated OHV routes for an existing OHV Opportunity (2 points)

Explain each statement that was checked

The data will be assessed by Resource Specialists to identify recommendations for needed mitigation and/or rehabilitation of natural resources as related to existing OHV opportunities, including those for offsite impacts relative to the Project Area (e.g., sound, fugitive dust, runoff.) This information is necessary to develop a series of documents for NEPA, Action Plans, and Implementation Plans to be incorporated in an OHV Recreation Use Area Management Strategy for future grant requests for ground operations and development projects. The intent is to continue sustained long term OHV use on the Bass Lake RD in support of OHV visitors from adjacent communities in Eastern Madera County, Mariposa County, and most of the Central San Joaquin Valley.

**8. Identification of Funding Sources - Q 8.**

8. Funds for implementing the completed plan have been identified 5

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

- No (No points)  Yes (5 points)

Explain 'Yes' response

The Bass Lake Ranger District OHV recreation program is an important integral part of the Forest Service mission "Caring for the Land, Serving People" guided by the principle of an ecological approach to the multiple-use management of public lands. Forest service primary operational costs for recreation will continue to be funded as allocated by Congress. Once a series of documents for NEPA, Action Plans, and Implementation Plans have been completed and incorporated in an OHV Recreation Use Area Management Strategy, future grant requests would be requested for ground operations, development and restoration projects.

Reference Document

Appropriated funding is through the US Forest Service budget information in the Interior section of the National budget.

**9. Offsite Impacts - Q 9.**

9. The Planning Project would address offsite impacts relative to the Project Area (e.g., sound, fugitive dust, runoff): 5

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

- No (No points)  Yes (5 points)

Explain 'Yes' response

The data will be assessed by Resource Specialists to identify recommendations for needed mitigation and/or rehabilitation of natural resources as related to existing OHV opportunities, including those for offsite impacts relative to the Project Area (e.g., sound, fugitive dust, runoff.) This information is necessary to develop a series of documents for NEPA, Action Plans, and Implementation Plans to be incorporated in an OHV Recreation Use Area Management Strategy.