

Date: May 8, 2013

**Bureau of Land Management  
California State Office  
Report to the California State OHV Commission**

**2012 Draft Business Plan Update for California's Imperial Sand  
Dunes Recreation Area (ISDRA).**

The ISDRA Business Plan and Fee Proposal are being carefully revised in response to public comments. We released the draft business plan for public comment in October 2012. We received over 200 comment letters containing over 400 thoughtful comments that we sorted into 10 themes summarizes these and briefly explain how we are responding.

1. **Opportunity for More Public Involvement:** In the interest of meaningful public participation, we are adding a second opportunity for public review and comment before the RRAC meeting tentatively scheduled for July. The final business plan will be available for public review and comment on May 31, 2013.
2. **Fiscal Accountability:** The final business plan will include additional fiscal detail about what it costs the BLM to manage the ISDRA. These details will give the reader a better understanding of how we developed the revised fee proposal.
3. **Financial Figures and Data:** We are carefully reviewing our financial data and are making corrections as appropriate. The final business plan will include refined calculations and improved explanations of the data and assumptions we used to prepare the plan and revised fee proposal.
4. **Program of Work and Service Levels:** We are including detailed description and explanation of the program of work and level of service we provide to ISDRA visitors across five business lines; administration and management, EMS and visitor services, law enforcement, maintenance and operations, and resource protection and monitoring. The plan will discuss each type of service, what is needed to provide the service and how it was developed.
5. **Amount of Proposed Fee:** The final business plan will propose lower fees than those proposed in the draft plan. Input from the public resulted in revised budget projections and calculations as well as including a second vehicle permit option and evaluating the option for a Seasonal Pass.
6. **Examination of Alternative Fee Structures / Implementation Methods:** The final business plan will propose lower fees than those proposed in the draft plan. Input from the public resulted in

revised budget projections and calculations as well as including a second vehicle permit option and the use of a Seasonal Pass.

7. **Revenue Sources:** In response to public comments, we recalculated revenue projections derived from OHV grants and federal funding and are incorporating them into the final business plan.
8. **Impacts to Recreation Visitation / Socio-Economics:** Upon careful consideration of public comment and a reassessment of the financial data, we will propose fees in the final business plan that are lower than what was proposed in the draft business plan. The final business plan will include an option for a discounted second vehicle permit. The final business plan will also provide a longer “No fee” period in the summer and more fee free days during the winter.
9. **Legal Authority and Process:** The final business plan will include a discussion of the BLM’s legal authority for charging fees in the ISDRA and the process we are required to follow when we propose to change fees.
10. **Format and Content:** We are reformatting the final business plan to make it easier to read and understand.

As we complete our work on the final business plan, we remain strongly committed to:

- maintaining visitor and employee safety;
- maintaining high levels of compliance;
- protecting the recreational, cultural and natural resources in the ISDRA;
- properly maintaining roads, camping pads, and other infrastructure;
- reducing the cost of fee collection;
- continuing to aggressively seek additional sources of funding; and
- staying within the budget allocated to the ECFO.

Further updates will be provided at the May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013 meeting.

<http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/elcentro/recreation/ohvs/isdra/dunesinfo/docs/isdrabp.html>

### **West Mojave (WEMO) Plan Amendment**

On May 2, 2013 the BLM initiated public scoping on the clarified scope of the WEMO route network plan; comments must be submitted within 30 days of the Federal Registration notice. The BLM will provide additional opportunities for public participation as appropriate. The public may submit comments on the modified scope of the analysis and related issues, by any of the following methods:

- **Email:** cawemopa@blm.gov
- **Web Site:** [http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/cdd/west\\_mojave\\_\\_wemo.html](http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/cdd/west_mojave__wemo.html)
- **Fax:** 951-697-5299
- **Mail:** BLM California District Office  
22835 Calle San Jaun de Los Lagos,  
ATTN: West Mojave Route Network Project,  
Moreno Valley, CA 92553-9046

The planning area covers 9.3 million acres in the western portion of the Mojave Desert in southern California covering parts of San Bernardino, Los Angeles, Kern, and Inyo Counties. This interagency habitat conservation plan is being prepared by the BLM in collaboration with the region's cities, counties, state and federal agencies. The plan would apply to the 3.2 million acres of public lands and 2.9 million acres of private lands within the planning area, and would be consistent with both the resource management plans adopted by each of the region's five military bases and with the desert tortoise recovery plan.

In September of 2009, the Court issued a summary judgment remanding the route designations made in the West Mojave Plan, but keeping other parts of the plan, primarily related to the conservation of species, in place. A remedy order based on this judgment was issued in January, 2011, and identified the West Mojave route network, with few changes, would be in place until the remedy order is satisfied.

To satisfy the remedy order, new route designations must be completed, consistent with the court's order, by March 31, 2014. This is the basis for the supplemental West Mojave EIS and specific travel management plans now under development.

**United States Department of Navy (DoN), Marine Corps/Johnson Valley Update – No update to provide at this time, updates will be submitted at the meeting.**

### California BLM All 2013 Grants Submissions

Field Office	Number of Request	Grant Request	Match	Total Project
Arcata	2	\$100,130	\$41,750	\$141,880
Bakersfield	2	\$297,238	\$ 303,981	\$601,219
Barstow	6	\$979,925	\$670,664	\$1,650,589
Bishop	6	\$265,330	\$113,211	\$378,541
Eagle Lake	4	\$357,004	\$120,413	\$477,417
El Centro	5	\$920,386	\$789,066	\$1,709,452
Needles	4	\$692,143	\$297,060	\$989,203
Palm Springs	4	\$630,731	\$227,595	\$ 858,326
Redding	2	\$313,400	\$112,690	\$426,090
Ridgecrest	4	\$1,552,475	\$582,864	\$2,135,339
Ukiah	4	\$770,807	\$348,178	\$1,118,985
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>\$6,879,569</b>	<b>\$3,607,472</b>	<b>\$10,487,041</b>

### California BLM Law Enforcement

Field Office	Grant Request	Match	Total Project
Arcata	\$40,420	\$14,550	\$54,970
Bakersfield	\$80,298	\$76,539	\$156,837
Barstow	\$538,000	\$179,345	\$717,345
Bishop	\$43,910	\$14,830	\$58,740
Eagle Lake	\$44,444	\$ 15,033	\$59,477
El Centro	\$600,000	\$200,000	\$800,000
Needles	\$222,222	\$79,778	\$302,000
Palm Springs	\$355,556	\$ 127,105	\$482,661
Redding	\$88,800	\$ 33,300	\$122,100
Ridgecrest	\$450,000	\$156,100	\$606,100
Ukiah	\$133,250	\$51,051	\$184,301
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,596,900</b>	<b>\$ 947,631</b>	<b>\$ 3,544,531</b>



## South Cow Mountain Off Highway Vehicle Area

The Westside Staging Area is the west entrance to the South Cow Mountain OHV Area. The Staging Area is open for day use only, however the OHV Area is open 24 hours a day. This camera shows the entrance gate and the parking area.

By viewing this image, you can determine not only if the OHV area is open or closed by checking the gate, you can also see how many vehicles are currently parked at the Staging Area.

After most winter storms, South Cow Mountain OHV Area is closed to vehicles until the soil dries out. [View the South Cow Mountain Wet Weather Closure Policy.](#) Please check the date and time stamp on the image to ensure the information is current.



Cow Mountain Off Highway Vehicle Area is named for the longhorn cattle that once roamed wild, the 52,000-acre Cow Mountain Recreation Area offers a variety of recreational opportunities. The terrain is rugged, consisting mostly of steep, chaparral-covered slopes with scattered stands of fir, pine and oak. Elevations range from 800 to 4,000 feet. The area offers beautiful views of Ukiah and Clear Lake, over 31 miles of stream, 13 wildlife reservoirs, and habitat for blacktail deer, bear, wild turkey, and other upland species

## Fort Sage Off Highway Vehicle Area



- [Photoset - Permalink](#)

Sunny skies and buffeting winds greeted 170 off-road motorcycle racers who competed in the Diamond 100 Hare Scrambles Saturday and Sunday, April 6-7, at the Bureau of Land Management's Fort Sage Off Highway Vehicle Area south of Susanville, California.

The races, which featured classes for competitors as young as 6, were hosted by the Lassen Motorcycle Club of Susanville and the Motorcycle Racing Association of Northern Nevada, under a special recreation use permit granted by the BLM's Eagle Lake Field Office.

The Fort Sage OHV area offers 90 miles of trails on 22,000 acres of high desert midway between Susanville and Reno. The area offers challenges for riders of all abilities, attracting dirt bike riders, four-wheel-drive enthusiasts, all-terrain vehicle riders, mountain bikers and hikers. Visitors are rewarded with panoramic views of the Sierra Nevada Mountains to the west and the Great Basin to the east.