



**OHMVR COMMISSION MEETING
Livermore, CA**

February 25, 2012

STAFF REPORT: General Plans Update
STAFF: Dan Canfield, Planning Manager
SUBJECT: Status of General Plans for State Vehicular Recreation Areas

Summary

Several of the State Vehicular Recreation Areas (SVRAs) are in the process of drafting or updating their park general plans. A general plan directs the long-range development and management of a park by providing broad policy and program guidance. This guidance is essential to SVRA managers and staff, and is of value to those organizations and individuals who have an interest in the SVRA. SVRAs must have an approved general plan before any major park facilities can be developed.

Discussion

Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5002.2, California State Parks is required to prepare general plans for units of the State Park System (e.g., SVRAs) prior to the development of any new facilities. In 2007, the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division performed a review of existing general plans for the SVRAs and determined six parks needed to initiate or update their general plans. A contractor was secured to prepare some of those general plans. A table identifying the status of the SVRA general plans was included in the OHMVR Commission 2011 Program Report. That table has been updated to reflect progress since the 2011 Program Report was published (see Attachment 1).

Following is a brief summary of recent SVRA general plan developments:

- **Heber Dunes SVRA:** General plan adopted December 2011
- **Clay Pit SVRA:** Proposed General Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report are being circulated for public review and comment for a 45-day period beginning February 8, 2012, and ending March 24, 2012 (See Attachment 2)
- **Ocotillo Wells SVRA:** As part of the Ocotillo Wells SVRA General Plan update, public workshops were held on February 18 and 19, 2012. The purpose of these workshops is to share work that has already been completed for the general plan

update and to collect input on draft goals to be included in the general plan (see Attachment 3).

Commission Action

For information only

Attachments

Attachment 1: SVRA General Plans Update – February 2012

Attachment 2: Clay Pit SVRA General Plan Notice of Availability

Attachment 3: Ocotillo Wells SVRA General Plan workshop flyer

OHMVR DIVISION

**State Vehicular Recreation Area General Plans Update
February 2012**

Park Unit	Adopted	Amended	GP Status & Updates in Progress
Carnegie SVRA	1981	-	GP update underway including Alameda-Tesla properties
Clay Pit SVRA	n/a	-	Proposed General Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report currently available for public review and comment
Heber Dunes SVRA	2011	-	Approved by the OHMVR Commission December 2011
Hollister Hills SVRA	1978	2003	-
Hungry Valley SVRA	1981	-	GP update including new and proposed acquisitions
Oceano Dunes SVRA	1975	1991	-
Ocotillo Wells SVRA	1981	-	GP update underway including newly acquired properties Public workshops are being conducted.
Prairie City SVRA	1991	-	GP update from Sacramento County master plan



**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR
CLAY PIT STATE VEHICULAR RECREATION AREA GENERAL PLAN**

Date: February 8, 2012

To: All interested parties

The Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division of California State Parks has directed the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Clay Pit State Vehicular Recreation Area (SVRA) General Plan, in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and State CEQA Guidelines. The OHMVR Division is the lead agency for the proposed project under CEQA.

PROJECT LOCATION: Clay Pit SVRA, Butte County, southwest of Oroville, CA

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT: The OHMVR Division of California State Parks has developed a proposed General Plan and Draft EIR for Clay Pit SVRA. Clay Pit SVRA is a 220-acre off-highway vehicle (OHV) park located within unincorporated Butte County southwest of the City of Oroville. Clay Pit SVRA is located in a large shallow depression (pit), formed when clay was mined for construction of the Oroville Dam. Clay Pit SVRA provides OHV recreation in a family-friendly atmosphere. A California State Park must have an adopted general plan prior to the development of new facilities that may result in the permanent commitment of resources. The proposed General Plan analyzed in this EIR is the first prepared for Clay Pit SVRA. The proposed General Plan outlines goals and guidelines that apply to the entire SVRA to address existing issues and to provide ongoing guidance for management of the park. The proposed General Plan will be implemented to achieve the long-term vision for Clay Pit SVRA to provide a safe and convenient place for individuals, families, and groups from the local and regional communities in the greater Oroville area to enjoy high-quality outdoor experiences.

In addition to long-range planning provided through the proposed General Plan, the project includes a proposal to construct new headquarters facilities at the SVRA within the next several years. The proposed facilities would provide the improvements necessary for adequate administration, maintenance and operations, and enhanced recreation at Clay Pit SVRA. Proposed headquarters facilities include administrative offices, an entrance kiosk, a maintenance yard, and associated upgrading of utilities and roads.

SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The analysis contained in the EIR found that no significant impacts would result from the adoption and implementation of the proposed General Plan, including the construction and operation of the Headquarters Facilities.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: The EIR is being circulated for public review and comment for a period of 45 days, beginning February 8, 2012.

Your views and comments on this project are welcomed. Written comments should be submitted no later than March 26, 2012, to the following address:

California State Parks
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division
c/o Twin Cities District
13300 White Rock Road
Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

Comments and questions regarding the project can also be directed to Jennifer Buckingham-Garcia by email at Jbuck@parks.ca.gov.

The proposed General Plan and Draft EIR may be viewed online at the following website: http://ohv.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=26300

Copies of the EIR may be reviewed at the following locations during normal business hours:

Prairie City SVRA, Twin Cities District Office
13300 White Rock Road
Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

Oroville Branch Public Library
1820 Mitchell Ave.
Oroville, CA 95966

Chico Branch Public Library
1108 Sherman Ave.
Chico, CA 95926

Northern Buttes District Office
400 Glen Drive
Oroville, CA 95966

California State Parks
OHMVR Division Headquarters
1725 23rd St. Ste. 200
Sacramento, CA 95816

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION: This notice was published in the Chico Enterprise-Record and the Oroville Mercury-Register on February 8, 2012.

Help Plan Ocotillo Wells SVRA!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU PRESIDENT'S DAY WEEKEND

California State Parks will be holding a mobile workshop in 4 locations in Ocotillo Wells SVRA on February 18th and February 19th as part of the General Plan Update. The purpose of these workshops is to share work that has already been completed for the General Plan Update and to collect your input on draft goals to be included in the Ocotillo Wells SVRA General Plan.

Approximate mobile workshop times and locations:

1 Saturday Morning

February 18, 2012, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Ocotillo Wells SVRA Discovery Center

2 Saturday Afternoon

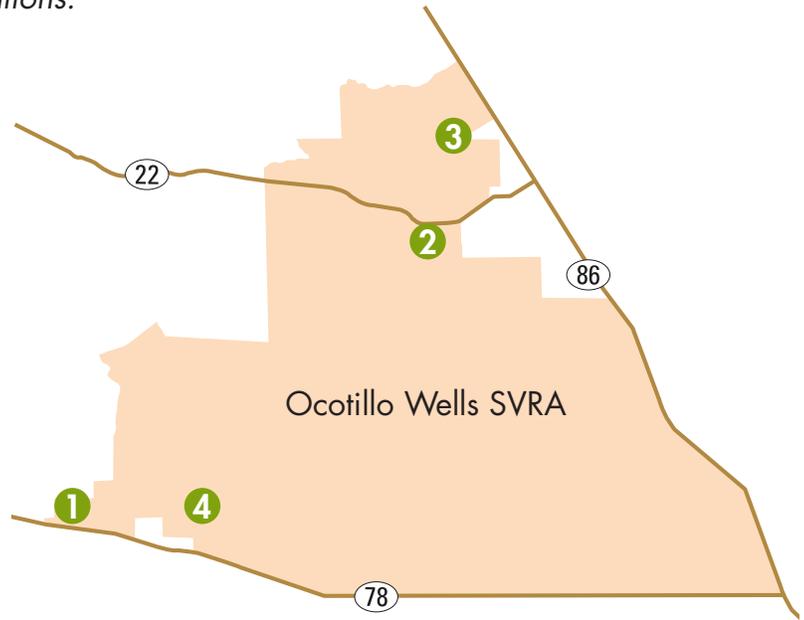
February 18, 2012, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Truckhaven 4x4 Training Area

3 Sunday Morning

February 19, 2012, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
North Marina Drive

4 Sunday Afternoon

February 19, 2012, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Holmes Camp



GO ONLINE TO PROVIDE INPUT

If you are not able to participate in the mobile workshop during President's Day weekend, you can still provide input on the draft goals for the Ocotillo Wells SVRA General Plan Update. Starting on February 22, 2012 visit www.PlanOcotilloWells.com to complete an online exercise that is similar to the in-person mobile workshop. The online exercise will be available for you to provide input until March 21, 2012.



OCOTILLO WELLS
STATE VEHICULAR RECREATION AREA
General Plan

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