

Planning OHV EIR (FINAL)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # _____

APP # 700561

A. Statement of Planning Objectives

Kern County is requesting funds to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and related studies to evaluate the viability of the development of an OHV facility on surplus County owned property. CEQA requires that the County, as the lead agency, prepare an EIR. The purpose of an EIR is to provide full disclosure of the potentially significant environmental effects of a project to the public and the decisionmakers and to identify ways to avoid or minimize such impacts. The preparation of an EIR is a public process that is intended to provide meaningful opportunities for public input with regard to environmental effects.

Currently, the County is considering one of four sites of at least 20 acres each in size for an OHV area. The sites are all located on surplus County property in close proximity to the metropolitan Bakersfield area. By the time of the final grant application, the County will have decided on one location to be the site of a conditional use permit for an OHV facility to be analyzed in the EIR.

If the Grant is approved, the County will select a private party through County bid procedures, to apply for land use approval (a conditional use permit) an OHV facility on County property. The County will then start the EIR process. This private party will also construct and operate the facility as the concessionaire.

Potential activity that may be included as part of the conditional use permit application are as follows:

Motocross - Artificially-made dirt track consisting of steep jumps and obstacles. Maximum track length is 2 miles.

Supercross Track –Supercross tracks generally have tighter turns, larger jumps, and are more technical than a Motocross track.

Arenacross Track- is conducted within an arena-type facility on a specially conducted dirt track. Track design is similar to Supercross but much shorter in length.

Peewee or 50 Track – Smaller track to accommodate a 50cc or mini bike (also known as a pit bike). Generally this size bikes are operated by children under 10 however, many tracks do support pit bike races (adults on mini bikes). The obstacles are smaller as well as a shorter track.

Quad Track – Similar to a motocross track however, obstacles and turns vary to accommodate a quad. Class range from 0-499cc to Super-Modified.

B. Relation of Proposed Project to OHV Recreation

For Land use approval of an OHV recreational facility, a CEQA document must be prepared, with agency and public input and presented to the decision makers along with the conditional use permit application. Preparation of the EIR will help defray costs for the regulatory process of land use approval so the facility can be developed. This facility will add to the OHV recreational opportunities as currently, OHV areas in Kern County are located either in the desert or the mountain regions with no opportunities in the valley portion of the County near the population centers. A facility so close to the metropolitan Bakersfield area will provide a legal OHV opportunity for the local riders.

C. Statement of Activities

The County will be the Lead Agency for the EIR and will send out a request for proposal to private environmental consultants to prepare an EIR for an OHV facility. The County will review consultants proposals, choose one, and contract with them a to prepare the EIR. The public process of an EIR begins with a Notice of Preparation of an EIR and includes a public Scoping Meeting. Any comments received during this process are used when preparing a draft EIR. The consultant will also be contracted to prepare a number of studies which will also be used in the preparation of a draft EIR and will be included in a technical appendices. An administrative draft EIR, with mitigation measure to reduce any environmental impacts, is then given to the County for review prior to release for public review. During the public review

of the draft EIR, any comments received will necessitate the preparation and mailout of a Response to Comments to all who commented on the document. These sections together constitute a final EIR that is ready for a hearing body to review and certify for an OHV facility. This document is taken with the application for the conditional use permit to the hearing body for certification of the EIR and requested approval of the project.

D. List of Reports

In order to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), the following studies will need to be prepared.

Cultural, historical and paleontological resources

Hydrology

Soil

Traffic and traffic safety

Air

Green House Gas (Global Climate Change)

Noise

Health Risk Assessment

Biological including Dept of Fish and Game protocol surveys for presence of species

Aesthetics

Notice of Preparataion

A draft EIR

A final EIR

Mitigation Measure Monitoring Program

Findings of Fact Section 15091 and

Statement of Overriding Considerations (Section 15093)

Planning Department Staff Report to the Board of Supervisors

Additional Documentation

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1. Timeline for Completion

Attachments:

[Schedule for OHV Grant EIR](#)

2. Optional Project-Specific Application Documents

3. Optional Project-specific Maps

Project Cost Estimate

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APPLICANT NAME :	Kern County Planning Department						
PROJECT TITLE :	Planning OHV EIR (FINAL)	PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :	G09-03-53-P01				
PROJECT TYPE :	<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						
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	<p>Kern County is requesting funds to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and related studies to evaluate the viability of the development of an OHV facility on surplus County owned property. CEQA requires that the County, as the lead agency, prepare an EIR. The purpose of an EIR is to provide full disclosure of the potentially significant environmental effects of a project to the public and the decisionmakers and to identify ways to avoid or minimize such impacts. The preparation of an EIR is a public process that is intended to provide meaningful opportunities for public input with regard to environmental effects.</p> <p>Currently, the County is considering one of four sites of at least 20 acres each in size for an OHV area. The sites are all, located on surplus County property in close proximity to the metropolitan Bakersfield area. By the time of the final grant application, the County will have decided on one location to be the site of a conditional use permit for an OHV facility to be analyzed in the EIR.</p> <p>If the Grant is approved, the County will select a private party through County bid procedures, to apply for land use approval (a conditional use permit) an OHV facility on County property. The County will then start the EIR process. This private party will also construct and operate the facility as the concessionaire.</p> <p>Potential activity that may be included as part of the conditional use permit application are as follows:</p> <p>Motocross - Artificially-made dirt track consisting of steep jumps and obstacles. Maximum track length is 2 miles. Supercross Track –Supercross tracks generally have tighter turns, larger jumps, and are more technical than a Motocross track. Arenacross Track- is conducted within an arena-type facility on a specially conducted dirt track. Track design is similar to Supercross but much shorter in length. Peewee or 50 Track – Smaller track to accommodate a 50cc or mini bike (also known as a pit bike). Generally this size bikes are operated by children under 10 however, many tracks do support pit bike races (adults on mini bikes). The obstacles are smaller as well as a shorter track. Quad Track – Similar to a motocross track however, obstacles and turns vary to accommodate a quad. Class range from 0-499cc to Super-Modified.</p>						
	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES							
Program Expenses							
1	Staff						

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
 Agency: Kern County Planning Department
 Application: Planning OHV EIR (FINAL)

3/1/2010

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Management and Admin Staff Notes : Management and supervisor staff: Lorelei Oviatt - Planning Chief Cheryl Casdorff - Supervising Planner	448.000	100.000	HRS	0.00	44,800.00	44,800.00
	Other-Planners Notes : staff planners (2) Jaymie Brauer - Planner II John George - Planner II	892.000	100.000	HRS	0.00	89,200.00	89,200.00
	Total for Staff				0.00	134,000.00	134,000.00
2	Contracts						
	Other-private environmental consulting f Notes : Estimated EIR costs including technical studies contract with private environmental consulting firm	1.000	400000.000	EA	400,000.00	0.00	400,000.00
3	Materials / Supplies						
4	Equipment Use Expenses						
5	Equipment Purchases						
6	Others						
7	Indirect Costs						
	Total Program Expenses				400,000.00	134,000.00	534,000.00
	TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES				400,000.00	134,000.00	534,000.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES				400,000.00	134,000.00	534,000.00

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
 Agency: Kern County Planning Department
 Application: Planning OHV EIR (FINAL)

3/1/2010

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	0.00	134,000.00	134,000.00	Estimate 18 months to complete and certify EIR
2	Contracts	400,000.00	0.00	400,000.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00	
6	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	
7	Indirect Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Program Expenses		400,000.00	134,000.00	534,000.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		400,000.00	134,000.00	534,000.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		400,000.00	134,000.00	534,000.00	

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

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 0

(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

Special status species habitat: both habitat and existence of species will be evaluated in the EIR through a biological impact report.

Cultural Resources: Cultural, historical and paleontological resources shall be evaluated in the EIR through a study of the site.

Soil conditions: the soils on site shall be identified and impacts from the project will be evaluated in the EIR

Water quality: Water usage and impacts to groundwater from the project will be evaluated in the EIR

Other recreational uses: Impacts to other recreational uses is a section environmental checklist and shall be evaluated.

Impacts on adjacent lands: Impacts from this project other adjacent lands and local residents will be evaluated for noise, traffic, air pollution, dust, etc and further analyzed in the EIR.

Hazardous materials from the project and on the project from existing conditions on site will be evaluated in the EIR.

The impact of the project on surrounding traffic patterns, other uses, etc will be further evaluated in the EI

(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

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each, up to a maximum of 6 points (Please select applicable values)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camping | <input type="checkbox"/> Birding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking | <input type="checkbox"/> Equestrian trails |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Rock Climbing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) | |

4. Public Input - Q 4.

4. The Project proposal was developed with public input employing the following 1

(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

The review of the EIR will be available on our website, (EIR placed on Planning Website), interested parties will have been notified that the County is pursuing a grant and they will continue to be on the mailing list for the NOP, EIR, and hearings before the Board of Supervisors to certify the EIR, and adopt the Mitigation Measure Monitoring Program and adopt the findings. Any person can call the Planning Department and talk to any of the planners involved in this project or can come in in-person to meet with Staff.

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

List of OHV organizations shall be on the notification list for this project from the grant to the Board of Supervisors hearing. The public is invited to participate in the review of the EIR and notification is sent and put into local newspaper regarding the Board of Supervisors hearing. The Planning Director will make a Press Release to the newspaper, radio and television. A stakeholder list was prepared from the 2006 OHV EIR prepared by the County for the State OHV Park that never went forward. Some addresses may not be current, but we will use that list as a base of all interested parties, whether for, or against the project.

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 0

(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)

7. Sustain OHV Opportunity - Q 7.

7. The Planning Project sustains OHV Opportunity in the following manner 3

(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

This project will provide a certified Environmental Impact Report for land use approval and implementation of an OHV facility.

The County has located surplus County property near the urban metropolitan Bakersfield and will evaluate the potential of each one to decide the merits of best location for the County as property owner, the local residents as people that may be impacted by the project, and the best property to develop an OHV facility opportunity.

Currently, all OHV areas in Kern County are located either in eastern Kern in the mountains or deserts, or in southern Kern in the mountains. No legal facilities currently exist in the metropolitan Bakersfield area.

8. Identification of Funding Sources - Q 8.

8. Funds for implementing the completed plan have been identified 0

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

- No (No points) Yes (5 points)

Explain 'Yes' response

Reference Document

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 EIR will analyze all impacts to the environment based on the proposed Mitigation measures would be proposed in the EIR to reduce impacts to less than significant if possible and a Mitigation Measure Monitoring Program would be presented to the Board of Supervisors for adoption. When an applicant comes forward with the land use application for a conditional use permit for an OHV facility, these mitigations will become conditions of approval for the permit and is implemented through the Planning Department or other agency with jurisdiction.