

STAFF REPORT

AGENDA ITEM: The Draft Over Snow Vehicle (OSV) Program Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

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DATE: October 28, 2010

Discussion: The Division will present an overview of the OSV DEIR

Background: The OHMVR Division proposes a 10-year funding commitment (2010 -2020) of the OSV Program for the ongoing operation, maintenance, and grooming of winter recreation trails and trailheads in mountainous regions throughout California.

In total, the Project involves plowing 97 miles of access roads, plowing parking areas and/or maintaining restroom service at 34 trailheads, and grooming 1,761 miles of trail.

These project activities (snow removal, trail grooming, and facility maintenance) facilitate the Program's primary purpose of supporting motorized over snow vehicle recreation on national forest trails and also support and benefit non-motorized recreation, such as cross-country skiing and snowshoeing, by providing motorized access for those activities.

The DEIR identifies three categories of potentially significant impacts associated with the proposed project (land use, biology, and recreation) all of which can be reduced to less than significant through mitigation measures. No significant unavoidable impacts are expected with regard to this project.

Status: The OHMVR Division has prepared a DEIR for the project identified above and is requesting comments on the content of this DEIR. The DEIR is available for public review and comment for 45 days beginning October 7, 2010 and ending November 21, 2010. A public hearing was held at the OHMVR Division October 27, 2010 to receive comments and provide information on the DEIR.

Commission action: The Commission will discuss and consider comments on the DEIR.