

## STAFF REPORT

**AGENDA ITEM:** Public Safety Report – Rubicon Trail

**STAFF:** Brian Robertson, OHMVR Division

**DATE:** August 6, 2011

---

**Issue:** July marked the beginning of the second year the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division has provided law enforcement support on the Rubicon Trail.

**Background:** In 2010, in response to a request from the off-highway vehicle community and El Dorado County, the OHMVR Division provided Rangers to patrol the Rubicon Trail. Increased patrols by officers from El Dorado County, Eldorado National Forest, and the Division proved to be very successful. To address concerns about the lack of law enforcement in the heart of the trail, the Division developed a base camp that served as a staging area which allowed Rangers to patrol at various times during the day and night. By eliminating the long trip required to reach the central portions of the trail, more time could be committed to patrolling and making public contacts.

**Discussion:** As well as providing public safety on the trail, California State Park Rangers are also a vital part of El Dorado Counties' outreach campaign to raise awareness of the issues identified in the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board's Cleanup and Abatement Order. The distribution of individual waste disposal kits (Wag Bags) and spill kits to absorb oil and fuel spills from damaged vehicles, along with increased law enforcement, has made a considerable difference in the attitudes and practices of Rubicon Trail enthusiasts.

After reviewing the results and successes of the 2010 deployment, the OHMVR Division felt that continuation of the Rubicon Trail deployment for another season was warranted.

The deployment was somewhat delayed this season due to lingering snow along the Trail. The base camp has now been established, and Rangers will be patrolling the area through the end of the season.

**Commission Action:** For Information only. No action is required.