



**OHMVR COMMISSION MEETING  
Sacramento, CA 95816**

**August 6, 2020**

**STAFF REPORT:** Legislative Update

**STAFF:** Marivel Barajas, Deputy Director, Legislative Affairs

**SUBJECT:** California Legislation

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**Summary**

This report provides summary excerpts and status of bills that impact the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Program. Information contained in this report is accurate as of June 23, 2020.

**CALIFORNIA LEGISLATION UPDATE**

**Senate Bill 1024 (Jones) Off-highway vehicles.**

**Summary:** This bill would establish a vehicle identification program for competition off-highway vehicles that do not meet the emissions standards established by the California Air Resources Board, as defined.

**Status:** Senate Floor Consent Calendar

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**Senate Bill 1032 (Allen): State parks: Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Commission.**

**Summary:** This bill would expand the areas of expertise and diversify of the appointees to the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Commission within the Department. This bill would also remove the January 1, 2023 sunset date, making this a permanent commission.

**Status:** Author not pursuing the bill this year.

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**Assembly Bill 2316 (Oberholte) Vehicles: off-highway vehicle recreation: City of Needles.**

**Summary:** This bill would authorize the City of Needles (City) to establish a pilot project allowing off-highway vehicles to utilize specified combined-use highways, until January 1, 2026, as defined. This bill would also require the City to develop and submit two reports to the Legislature evaluating the effectiveness of the pilot project by January 1, 2025, one of which would require consultation with the Department, CalTrans, and the California Highway Patrol.

**Status:** Author not pursuing the bill this year.

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**Assembly Bill 2551 (Bauer-Kahan) Off-highway vehicular recreation: Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area: Alameda-Tesla Expansion Area.**

**Summary:** This bill would authorize the Department to divest approximately 3,100 acres of land within Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area for conservation purposes if the Department determines, through a public process, that disposal of the land is in the public interest. Additionally, this bill would exempt this transaction from the state's surplus property process.

**Status:** Author not pursuing the bill this year.

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**Assembly Bill 2761 (Gallagher) Off-highway vehicles: reciprocity.**

**Summary:** This bill would limit California's off-highway vehicle registration reciprocity provision to only those states that recognize California's registration of off-highway vehicles, as defined.

**Status:** Author not pursuing the bill this year.

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**2019 - 2020 116th US CONGRESS FEDERAL LEGISLATION UPDATE**

**S. 1109 (Harris): San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protection Act**

**Summary:** This bill would establish the San Gabriel National Recreation Area as a unit of the National Park System in California. This is a companion bill to H.R. 2215 (Chu).

*The bill's key off-highway vehicle provisions:*

The bill would establish a 22-member Advisory Council to include two members that would represent the interests of outdoor recreation, including off-highway vehicle recreation, within the San Gabriel National Recreation Area.

**Status:** 2/12/2020 Consolidated into H.R. 2546 (DeGette), Protecting America's Wilderness Act.

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**S. 1110 (Harris): Northwest California Wilderness, Recreation, and Working Forests Act**

**Summary:** This bill contains provisions concerning the restoration, economic development, conservation of, and recreational access to, certain public lands in Northern California. This is a companion bill to H.R. 2250 (Huffman).

*The bill's key off-highway vehicle provisions:*

The bill would designate the Elk Camp Ridge Recreation Trail in Del Norte County for off-highway vehicle or mountain bike usage. The bill would additionally require the Secretary of the Interior to annually assess the effects of off-highway vehicle

and mountain bicycle use on the trail, land in close proximity to the trail, as well as plants, wildlife, and wildlife habitat.

**Status:** 2/12/2020 Consolidated into H.R. 2546 (DeGette), Protecting America's Wilderness Act.

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### **S. 1111 (Harris): Central Coast Heritage Protection Act**

**Summary:** This bill would designate specified parcels of land in the Los Padres National Forest and the Bakersfield Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management as wilderness areas. This is a companion bill to H.R. 2199 (Carbajal).

*The bill's key off-highway vehicle provisions:*

The bill would require that not later than six years after the date of enactment of the Act, the Secretary of Agriculture (acting through the Chief of the Forest Service) shall study the feasibility of opening a new trail, for vehicles measuring 50 inches or less, connecting Forest Service Highway 95 to the existing off-highway vehicle trail system, in the Ballinger Canyon off-highway vehicle area.

**Status:** 2/12/2020 Consolidated into H.R. 2546 (DeGette), Protecting America's Wilderness Act.

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### **H.R. 316 (LaMalfa): Guides and Outfitters Act**

**Summary:** This bill would amend the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to allow the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to issue special recreation permits and fees for off-highway vehicle use on certain federal recreational lands, as defined. This bill is the successor to H.R. 289 of the 2017-2018 Session.

**Status:** 2/07/2019 Referred to the House Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry

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### **H.R. 403 (Panetta): Clear Creek National Recreation Area and Conservation Act**

**Summary:** This bill would establish the Clear Creek National Recreation Area in San Benito and Fresno Counties to promote environmentally responsible off-highway vehicle recreation and to support other recreational uses. This bill would direct the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to designate 21,000 acres of land adjacent to Clear Creek as wilderness and would name this area, "Joaquin Rocks Wilderness". The bill would also reopen the 63,000-acre Clear Creek Management Area for public outdoor recreation, including off-road vehicles and hiking. This bill requires BLM to develop a plan including educating visitors about the hazards of asbestos. This bill is a reintroduction of H.R. 1913 from the 2017-2018 Session.

**Status:** 2/05/2019 Referred to the House Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands

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### **H.R. 2199 (Carbajal): Central Coast Heritage Protection Act**

**Summary:** This bill would designate specified parcels of land in the Los Padres National Forest and the Bakersfield Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management as wilderness areas. This is a companion bill to S. 1111 (Harris).

*The bill's key off-highway vehicle provisions:*

The bill would require that not later than six years after the date of enactment of the Act, the Secretary of Agriculture (acting through the Chief of the Forest Service) shall study the feasibility of opening a new trail, for vehicles measuring 50 inches or less, connecting Forest Service Highway 95 to the existing off-highway vehicle trail system, in the Ballinger Canyon off-highway vehicle area.

**Status:** 2/12/2020 Consolidated into H.R. 2546 (DeGette), Protecting America's Wilderness Act.

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### **H.R. 2215 (Chu): San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protection Act**

**Summary:** This bill would establish the San Gabriel National Recreation Area as a unit of the National Park System in California. This is a companion bill to S. 1109 (Harris).

*The bill's key off-highway vehicle provisions:*

The bill would establish a 22-member Advisory Council to include two members that would represent the interests of outdoor recreation, including off-highway vehicle recreation, within the San Gabriel National Recreation Area.

**Status:** 2/12/2020 Consolidated into H.R. 2546 (DeGette), Protecting America's Wilderness Act.

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### **H.R. 2250 (Huffman): Northwest California Wilderness, Recreation, and Working Forests Act**

**Summary:** This bill contains provisions concerning the restoration, economic development, conservation of, and recreational access to, certain public lands in Northern California. This is a companion bill to S. 1110 (Harris).

*The bill's key off-highway vehicle provisions:*

The bill would designate the Elk Camp Ridge Recreation Trail in Del Norte County for off-highway vehicle or mountain bike usage. The bill would additionally require the Secretary of the Interior to annually assess the effects of off-highway vehicle and mountain bicycle use on the trail, land in close proximity to the trail, as well as plants, wildlife, and wildlife habitat.

**Status:** 2/12/2020 Consolidated into H.R. 2546 (DeGette), Protecting America's Wilderness Act.

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## **H.R. 2546 (DeGette) Protecting America's Wilderness Act**

**Summary:** This environmental protection package consolidates S. 1109 (Harris); S. 1110 (Harris); S. 1111 (Harris); H.R. 2199 (Carbajal); H.R. 2215 (Chu); and H.R. 2250 (Huffman). Additionally, this bill would designate 1.37 million acres of federal land in three states as federally-protected wilderness, including over 600,000 acres in 32 areas across Colorado, providing permanent protection to Colorado mid-elevation ecosystems.

**Status:** 02/13/2020 Passed House, Referred to Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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### **Commission Action**

For information only

### **Attachments**

None