Bureau of Land Management, California
Report to the California State OHV Commission

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Thank you to the OHMVRD Staff

Over the past year, the OHMVRD staff and BLM have been working more closely together on OHV education and messaging to increase efficiency and develop unity in our OHV related outreach messaging. Recently, the OHMVRD staff partnered with BLM at events, invited BLM staff to their events, consulted with BLM to share valuable information related to outreach strategies, and interviewed BLM staff on their "Beyond the Blacktop" OHV Podcast to share BLM OHV stories and behind the scenes information.

Thank you for your continued partnership and constant efforts to maintain a sustainable OHV program for generations to come.

BLM's All Americans Outside Initiative

On Sept 25, 2026, the Bureau of Land Management launched All Americans Outside, a nationwide initiative designed to expand access, strengthen communities, and help more Americans, regardless of ability, enjoy their public lands. Through this initiative, the BLM will build on its ongoing work to create more opportunities for people to explore, learn, serve, and work on public lands while partnering with communities and organizations to improve recreation sites and helping the next generation build lasting ties to the outdoors.

"BLM lands offer Americans many ways to connect with their public lands, and everyone should have a way to take part," said BLM Director Steve Pearce. "With All Americans Outside, we're making it easier for people of all abilities to experience these lands, understand why they matter, care for them, and pursue careers on public lands."

All Americans Outside offers four ways to take part:

- **Explore:** Enjoy BLM managed lands through recreation and outdoor experiences, including hiking, climbing, off-highway vehicle use, biking, camping, hunting, fishing, boating, and more.
- **Learn:** Understand why a place matters by learning about its history, ecology, and heritage.
- **Serve:** Volunteer for a local BLM project to care for public lands.
- **Work:** Find career opportunities on public lands, including opportunities for youth and veterans.

The initiative complements the BLM's implementation of the EXPLORE Act, a historic bipartisan commitment to expand outdoor recreation on public lands and waters and support rural economies and communities while enhancing the American quality of life. All Americans Outside amplifies accessible recreation, youth and veteran engagement, and partnerships, making these EXPLORE Act goals real for people across the country.

Field Office Reports

Bakersfield Field Office

The Bakersfield staff focused on the Keysville Special Recreation management Area (SRMA) as they finished out the summer visitation season. They increased BLM recreation staffing with volunteers from the Field Office to assist with visitor contacts and area monitoring during holiday weekends. The staff conducted education contacts providing maps, area information, and riding etiquette information.

They completed the installation of route signage along the main OHV corridor from the Keyes Mine to the closest vault restrooms, monitored/patrolled 10 miles of OHV trails, and partnered with the Kern River Conservancy to host the 11th Annual Great Kern River Cleanup. Over 60 volunteers including BLM recreation, law enforcement and fire staff, focused on trash removal throughout the Keysville SRMA.



Figure 1 - Before and after example of BLM restroom painting work.



Figure 2 - Volunteers of the Annual Great Kern River Cleanup take time to pose for a picture in front of a BLM fire truck.

Bishop

Field staff made 300 OHV visitor contacts along green sticker routes in the Poleta Open OHV Area and stocked nearly 200 OHV maps at the kiosk.



Figure 1 - BLM staff monitoring at the Poleta OHV Area just east of Bishop, CA.

The Alabama Hills kiosks were stocked with another 300 OHV related brochures. The green-sticker route repair in Alabama Hills was monitored each month and the repairs are holding.

More than 25 new or replacement signs were installed, including many trail-difficulty decals and black-diamond ratings. Fifty-four miles of routes were evaluated for Red/Yellow/Green soil condition ratings. Facility maintenance was conducted at five campgrounds, including water-

system servicing, restroom upkeep, janitorial work, and signage updates.

Since last quarter, Law Enforcement Rangers completed 326 hours of OHV patrols, covering 2,000 miles of OHV routes in the Alabama Hills, Volcanic Tablelands, Long Valley, Poleta Open OHV Area, Tungsten Hills, and Fish Slough. They conducted extensive public contacts on OHV safety, helmet and registration requirements, and educated visitors about legal riding opportunities. They issued numerous verbal warnings and citations for helmet, off road travel, double riding, registration violations, and misuse of red/blue lights. Rangers coordinated the removal of abandoned or illegally parked vehicles posing hazards to riders. Their combined efforts improved public safety, strengthened compliance, and protected sensitive public lands.

Bishop staff also monitored 42 restoration sites, installed 50 signs, removed nearly 100 plant cages on existing restoration sites, performed monthly monitoring at Contact Flat restoration site, and continued to water new plantings.



Figure 2 - One of the restoration sites monitored by the Bishop staff. Plant cages were removed after this picture was taken and the site was recorded as "successful" for restoration.

Eagle Lake

Seasonal staff focused on maintaining the OHV areas during the summer months.

In October 2026, they plan to complete the Widowmaker trailhead development project to install a vault toilet, three shade structures and widen the existing parking and camping pad. Equipment operators have already placed picnic facilities at the trailhead.



Interns monitored wilderness study areas (WSAs), restoration signing, and installed new signs and sign bases at the Tunnison and Five Springs WSAs.

El Centro

BLM utilized Restoration Grant funding to manage and maintain Pierson's Milk-vetch critical habitat within the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area (ISDRA). During this year, Park Rangers spent 3,200 work hours installing or replacing over 11,000 signs and travelled over 4,200 miles in the ISDRA to install them. The El Centro Field Office continues to monitor Pierson's Milk-vetch plots in conjunction with USFWS.

Ten outreach events in support of OHV recreation were completed, including booths at Sand Sports Super Show, Camp RZR, Veterans Day and MLK Jr weekends. BLM staff also hosted “Meet a Park Ranger” and “Meet a Maintenance Worker” events and participated in OHV themed “Trunk or Treat” events during Halloween. Staff distributed over 12,000 OHV brochures to the visitors throughout the year.

The El Centro Field Office approved and monitored over 50 OHV focused special recreation permits

(SRPs), ranging from vending in ISDRA to competitive OHV races, and non-competitive jeep rides and poker runs throughout the Superstition and Plaster City OHV Areas. The ISDRA received 1,072,838 visitors throughout the year.

Redding Field Office

Summer is the slow season for the Redding Field Office but the staff remained busy preparing for the next high visitation period. They removed an abandoned RV and car and completed culvert inlet cleaning in preparation for El Niño.

Staff reported an increase in camping due to www.recreation.gov implementation for campground access.

They hosted a successful "Fall Crawl" event with the Friends of Chappie group on September 12, with about 250 people in attendance throughout the day.

With lots of fallen trees across roads and trails after every wind event, staff continue to buck them out to keep OHV recreation opportunities available to the public.

Ridgecrest Field Office

In September 2026, repairs began on the washouts and damage on the main access routes in the Spangler Hills OHV Open Area and is expected to be completed in early FY2027.

In the final quarter of 2026, the Ridgecrest Field Office plans to continue route maintenance along the Argus Range in Panamint Valley to repair washouts and damage to OHV trails. The work is being completed with the support of the Barstow Field Office Heavy Equipment Operator.

~End of Report~