



OHV Access Project

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the OHV Access Project?

In September 2021, [Senate Bill 155](#) (Ch. 258, Statutes of 2021) amended Public Resources Code Section [5090.42](#), directing the Department of Parks and Recreation, popularly known as State Parks, to explore the acquisition and development of properties and opportunities to expand off-highway vehicle (OHV) recreation in new and existing facilities. This bill also recommended prioritizing opportunities that serve large urban areas such as the Bay Area and Central Valley and offer potential recreational opportunities for OHV recreation and motorized access to nonmotorized recreation.

What types of properties or opportunities are being considered?

State Parks has many options for expanding OHV recreation throughout the state – through acquisition, lease, land swap, partnership, donation, transfer, legislation, and other means as established in Public Resources Code Sections [5005](#), [5006](#), and other State and Department policies.

How are properties being considered? What about State Parks and State Recreation Areas?

Senate Bill 155 included language directing State Parks to consider expanding motorized access to nonmotorized recreation within existing state parks and state recreation areas with terrain appropriate for this type of recreation. While it specifically mentioned areas within Henry Coe State Park, this language does not require State Parks to allow OHV recreation at Henry Coe; it is a recommendation to explore the viability of that recreation.

State Parks' process to explore expanding access to remote areas of the park by street-legal vehicles for nonmotorized activities includes consistency with the unit's classification, environmental impact considerations, and public input. While there has been some confusion regarding the purpose of this bill, the language does not open Henry Coe State Park to OHV activities. However, State Parks does intend to explore options to expand access, as identified in Senate Bill 155, responsibly and consistently with existing regulations, policies, and classifications while also considering the impacts on resources and other recreation.

How is this project being funded?

Senate Bill 155 directed \$29,800,000 be transferred from the General Fund to the Off-Highway Vehicle Trust Fund to be used to acquire and develop properties. The funds are not automatically transferred to OHV Trust Fund. The state retains the funds until the Department requests them through the Budget Process for a specific project or acquisition. Should the legislature approve the budget request, the funds are transferred to the OHV Trust Fund to be expended according to the budget request.

What happens next?

The first step in this process – where we are now -- is to gather information through public outreach and research. Then, State Parks will prepare a preliminary report, feasibility study, and the OHV Recreation Action Plan. Once these steps are complete, the Department will work on strategies to implement the OHV Recreation Access Plan recommendations.

Who is managing this project?

The Strategic Planning and Recreation Services Division will manage this project's planning phase in conjunction with the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division and OHMVR Commission.

I have lots of ideas! How can I get involved?

There will be several opportunities to be involved in this project, including virtual and in-person meetings in 2023 and beyond. These meetings are a great opportunity to provide input and learn about Senate Bill 155 and State Parks' process for searching, selecting, and acquiring property. Please email Planning@parks.ca.gov to sign up for project updates and learn about upcoming meetings.

Please take our survey!

This survey asks about locations, OHV recreational experiences, and potential partnerships State Parks should consider for this project. Your answers will help State Parks gather information during this planning process. Please use this [link](#) or <https://forms.gle/geTkFo6vynfxF1n9> for the survey and check back for more information.

How soon will I see the results of this project?

Depending on the recommendations in the OHV Recreation Access Plan, some opportunities may happen faster than others. For example, agreements with other agencies and organizations might be achieved in a shorter time than acquiring property.