

2026 (G26) Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program BLM - Ukiah Field Office's Preliminary Application Comments

Comments submitted by the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division to individual Grant Applicants should in no way be construed as a guarantee of successful results for the Applicant within the competitive Grants process or a commitment of funding. Additionally, the lack of comments by the OHMVR Division to any specific Applicant does not ensure successful results for the Applicant within the competitive Grant process or a commitment of funding.

Failure by the Applicant to respond to any OHMVR Division comment of their preliminary Application may be cause for eliminating that item from the Applicant's final Application.

All final Applications will be reviewed by the OHMVR Division. The OHMVR Division may, at its sole discretion, decrease the requested amount and eliminate activities pursuant with regulation Section 4970.07.2 (f)(1-5) and for Law Enforcement Projects, regulation Section 4970.15.3(b)(1-5).

If multiple proposed Projects are requesting funding for the same deliverable, and multiple projects are successful, only one project will receive funding for the deliverable.

For proposed Projects requesting Grant funding for snow and/or winter activities. Applicants must ensure the activities and/or Equipment/Heavy Equipment/Trailer requested are not and/or cannot be funded by the Department's Winter Program (commonly referred to as the Snow Grooming Program).

For proposed Projects requesting Grant funding for the maintenance of roads and/or trails, note that only roads and/or trails that allow "green sticker" Off-Highway Vehicles are allowed to receive Grant funding.

Applicants are reminded that no Grant funds and/or match can be expended, or Project activities conducted in any land owned or managed by the Department except as allowed in the Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program regulations section 4970.09 (b)(11).

General Evaluation Criteria:

- No comment.

Ground Operations: G26-01-17-G01

Project Description – Background

- No comment.

Project Description – Project Description

- Applicant must further clarify “the maintenance that we will be doing will be more intensive than in the past.” Applicant must provide specific examples of the “more intensive” work.

Project Description – List of Project Deliverables

- #1 – Applicant must clarify which specific “approximately 30 miles of designated OHV roads and approximately 16 miles of designated Green Sticker trails” will be maintained in this proposed Project. In addition, Applicant must clarify the meaning of “8 additional miles ... depending on ... available staff time, and available equipment and funding.” It is unclear how the Applicant was able to provide accurate cost estimates when the availability of staff, Equipment, and funding (match) has not yet been established. Furthermore, Applicant is reminded that monitoring activities should not be included in Project Deliverable #1 but must instead be listed under Project Deliverable #7 or Project Deliverable - Other.

Project Description – All Others

- No comment.

Project Cost Estimate

- All Staff Line Items – Due to recent federal staffing reductions, it is unclear whether the staffing levels listed in the Project Cost Estimate are accurate. Applicant must confirm that all staff positions listed in this Application are currently filled prior to the final Application submission. In addition, the percentage of staff time spent working on Project Deliverable #1 is unclear. Applicant must clarify what portion of staff time will be dedicated to the maintenance of OHV trails and roads within the line item notes. Lastly, Applicant must further clarify the meaning of “monitoring” as referenced in the line item notes and specify what portion of staff time will be dedicated to performing this activity.
- Staff #2 & 11 – Applicant must clarify the meaning of “Collecting and delivering data to improve visitor safety and reducing damage in OHV area” and how the work is not duplicative of the work completed by the specialist staff members. In addition, the activity described as “monitoring contract deliverables” appears to be duplicative of the work outlined under Staff #1. Applicant must clarify why multiple positions are performing the same activity or remove the duplicative costs.
- Staff #4 “Managers” – It is unclear why three first-line supervisors are needed for this Project. Applicant must either reduce the number of supervisors requested to one, or provide a clear justification for the need for multiple first-line supervisors relative to the scope of work outlined in the Project Deliverables. In addition, “planning, organizing, monitoring GO activities” and “all other aspects of

managing the OHV project area” appear duplicative of Staff #1 duties. Applicant must clarify why multiple positions are performing the same activity or remove the duplicative costs.

- Staff #8 & 9 – Line items appear both duplicative and excessive in relation to the decrease in miles completed in the prior year's Application. Applicant must confirm why both positions are needed or remove one of the positions. In their justification, Applicant must provide a detailed explanation demonstrating that the costs are reasonable and proportionate to the scope of work outlined in the Project Deliverables.
- Staff #10 “Volunteers” – Applicant must include the specific locations and number of miles of roads or trails to be maintained in relation to Project Deliverable #1. It is unclear from the Project Description which agencies are responsible for maintaining which specific miles of road or trail.
- Contracts #3 “Brushing Contract” – Applicant must provide a clear explanation of how the contract cost was determined, including the precise scope, location, and amount of trail work in miles to be conducted.
- Materials / Supplies #1 “Gravel” – Applicant must clarify approximately which locations will be receiving resurfacing and repair.
- Materials / Supplies #2 “Boulders” – The proposed cost for this line item has increased significantly compared to the prior year's Application. Applicant must provide a detailed explanation justifying this increase and demonstrate that the cost is reasonable and proportionate to the work outlined in the Project Deliverables. In their justification, Applicant must identify the specific locations where the boulders and barriers will be placed to support the requested increase in cost. In addition, Applicant must either remove the verbiage “Any barriers or boulders harvested on site...” from the line item notes or move a portion of the associated costs to the Match column, as there are currently no costs reflected in the match column for this line item. Lastly, the activity described as utilizing fencing / barriers for “sensitive habitats or cultural sites in/near OHV routes and facilities” appears to be a Restoration Project activity. Applicant must further clarify how this activity is directly related to the proposed Ground Operations Project.
- Materials / Supplies #3 “Maintenance Supplies” – The proposed cost has increased significantly compared to the prior year's Application. Applicant must provide a detailed explanation justifying the higher cost and demonstrate that it is reasonable and proportionate to the work outlined in the Project Deliverables. In their justification, Applicant must provide a clear explanation of how the cost was determined by identifying the cost and quantity of each item to be purchased that the Applicant used to determine the line item cost. Applicant may separate the line item out to better categorize the purchases. Furthermore, Applicant has listed “fencing materials” within this line item, which appears to be duplicative of the costs included under Materials / Supplies #2. Applicant must clarify how the fencing materials in these two line items differ from one another. Lastly, Applicant must clarify the specific locations of the culverts that are proposed to be replaced under this Project.

- Materials / Supplies #5 “Signs” – The proposed cost has increased significantly compared to the prior year's Application. Applicant must provide a detailed explanation justifying the higher cost and demonstrate that it is reasonable and proportionate to the work outlined in the Project Deliverables.
- Equipment Use Expenses #1 “Heavy Equipment Transport” – Applicant must clarify how the cost of \$750 per trip was determined.
- Equipment Use #7 “Abandoned Vehicle Removal” – Abandoned vehicle removal is funded through the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Program and is therefore not an eligible Grant expense. Applicant must remove this line item, all associated language referenced in Project Deliverable #1, and any applicable staff time expected to perform this task from the relevant staff line items.
- Others #1 “Heavy Equipment Operator Travel” – Applicant must provide justification for how the cost was determined.
- Indirect Costs #1 “First Aid Kits” – The proposed cost for this line item appears excessive. Applicant must provide a clear explanation of how the cost was determined, including the number of first aid kits to be purchased and the individual unit cost for each.
- Indirect Costs #2 “Admin Costs” – Applicant must provide a clear explanation of how the cost was determined, including the precise scope and amount of work to be conducted. For any staff positions included in this line item, Applicant must utilize the hourly rate and quantity of hours as the unit of measure to clearly demonstrate how the associated costs were calculated. If helpful, Applicant may break this line item out into multiple Indirect Cost line items to clearly identify and separate the various costs.

Law Enforcement: G26-01-17-L01

Need Assessment

- Item #3 – Applicant must provide justification for increase of days requested from previous applications.
- Item #4 – Applicant lists 2 LEO's in Needs Assessment but includes 3 Park Rangers in Project Cost Estimate. Applicant must clarify if park rangers have enforcement authority and how they are deployed for the purposes of this project. Applicant must specify the types of vehicles used for OHV patrol.

Needs Enforcement Certification

- #5 – “overland expo” Applicant is reminded that grant funds must be utilized in areas that directly impact their Project Area. Overland Expo SoCal or PNW is not directly impacting the proposed Project Area.
- #6 – Applicant must provide additional details identifying curriculum used to train personnel in natural and cultural resource protection.
- #10 – Applicant must describe how it is meeting the law enforcement operational needs (patrol time, staffing levels, education, patrol vehicles, OHV patrol vehicles, call volume, response time, regulatory signage, etc.) of the OHV areas

and/or OHV designated routes within its jurisdiction. *§ 5090.53. *Conditions for Grants or Encumbrance of Funds No funds may be granted or expended pursuant to Section 5090.50, unless all of the following conditions are met:(h) The recipient has included in its application a description of how it is meeting the operations and maintenance needs of any existing off-highway motor vehicle recreation facility under its jurisdiction.*

Project Cost Estimate

- Staff #3 "Park Rangers" – Applicant must clarify how Park Ranger duties directly impact the law enforcement project. Park Ranger Staff time solely focused on education and outreach may be better suited in an Education and Safety Grant Application.
- Contracts #1 & 2 – Applicant must clarify if this dispatching cost is only a portion of the total dispatching contract to correlate with OHV calls for service vs all other LE dispatching services.
- Others #1 "Rear Frame Replacement" – Applicant is advised this line-item request is contingent upon compliance of section 4970.08.2.(c)(3) of the OHV program regulations. Applicant must clarify what percentage of Law Enforcement funds were used for the original purchase and revise line item to cover that percentage.