

## **2026 (G26) Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program USFS - Eldorado National Forest's Preliminary Application Comments**

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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).

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### **General Evaluation Criteria:**

- No comment.

## **Ground Operations: G26-02-03-G01**

### **Project Description – Background**

- No comment.

### **Project Description – Project Description**

- No comment.

### **Project Description – List of Project Deliverables**

- #1 – 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.
- Staff #1, 2 & 4 – The percentage of staff time dedicated to Project Deliverable #1 is unclear. Applicant must clarify within the line item notes what portion of staff time will be specifically dedicated to both monitoring activities and the maintenance of OHV trails and roads.
- Staff #1 “GS09 Assistant District Rec Officers” – Applicant must clarify the meaning of “monitor ground operation activities.” In addition, “maintains documentation to be used in accomplishment reporting and monitoring” appears to be an Indirect activity and duplicative of duties performed by Indirect staff lines #1 & 4. Applicant must clarify how the activities directly support the Project and are not duplicative of each other.
- Staff #3 “OHV Technicians/GS05 Recreation Technicians” – Applicant must clarify the number of staff members within the line item notes. In addition, the proposed cost for this line item has increased significantly compared to each of the prior year's Application. Applicant must provide a detailed explanation justifying the quantity of hours requested and demonstrate that it is reasonable and proportionate to the scope of work outlined in the Project Deliverables.
- Staff #4 “Volunteers” – Applicant must clarify the statement “Most of the labor for the trail maintenance will be performed by volunteers,” as this is inconsistent with the Applicant's intent to hire two work crews as described under Contracts #6 and 7. Applicant must clarify the duties of the volunteers and specify where the trail maintenance will take place and the amount of work to be completed.

- Staff #5 “Forest Biologist” – Applicant must clarify the number of staff members within the line item notes. In addition, Applicant must clarify how the quantity of hours was determined as it is unclear.
- Contracts #2 “Barrett Lake Composting Toilet” – The proposed cost appears excessive. Applicant must provide details for how the cost was determined and attach a copy of the supporting contract quote to the final Application submission.
- Contracts #3 “Staging Area/CG Toilet Cleaning” – The proposed cost for this line item appears to be duplicative of the Staff #3 line item. Applicant must either remove the costs associated with one of the line items or provide a clear explanation justifying the need for both.
- Contracts #5 “Buck Island CB Toilet cleaning & pumping” – Applicant must further clarify how the cost of this contract was determined, including a detailed explanation of how the frequency of vault pumping at “approximately 20x a year” was established.
- Contract #6 “Printing MVUMs” – Compared to like Projects, the proposed unit quantity for this line item appears excessive. Applicant must clarify what percentage of the Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUMs) included in this line item will be distributed specifically to OHV users during the Project performance period. It is unclear how the Applicant can ensure that non-OHV users, such as general forest visitors, Christmas tree cutting permit holders, and fuel wood permit holders, will not also be receiving these maps, as costs must be proportionate to OHV use.
- Contract #7 & 8 – The proposed cost for this line item appears excessive in relation to the amount of trail work to be completed. Applicant must provide specific details regarding the work to be performed, including the amount of time dedicated to work at Barret Lake and Gold Note separately, rather than combining them into a single figure.
- Materials / Supplies #2 “Signs, posts, hardware” – Applicant must clarify the meaning of “educational” signs and clearly demonstrate how the signs directly relate to the maintenance and operation of the OHV Facilities and are necessary to achieve the Project Deliverables.
- Materials / Supplies #3 “Kiosk/Bulletin Boards” – It is unclear why this line item is needed, as it was listed on the prior year’s Application. Applicant must clarify the need for this line item and provide specific details, including the number of kiosks that require repair or replacement and the specific locations of each kiosk to be serviced. In addition, line item also appears duplicative of the Eldorado National Forest Patrol District’s Materials/Supplies #4 “ Sign Supplies”. Applicant must clarify how the line items are not duplicative.
- Materials / Supplies #5-10 – The items listed in this line item appear to be primarily related to the work to be completed on the Barret Jeep Trail. Applicant must clarify how these items will also be utilized for work on the Gold Note trail and demonstrate that the costs are proportionate to the scope of work to be performed at each location.
- Equipment Use Expenses #1 “Vehicle Mileage” – Applicant may only claim fuel at a per gallon rate, not a per mile rate. Applicant must revise line item to show a per gallon quantity, rate and a UOM of each without increasing the line item total.

Additionally, Applicant is reminded that fuel receipts must be submitted to justify fuel costs. Use rate includes ineligible items such as tires, lube and oil service, washing, mechanical inspections and repairs.

- Equipment Use Expenses #2 “Vehicle FOR” – It appears the Applicant may have transposed the Rate and Unit of Measure for this line item. Applicant must review and correct this line item to ensure the information has been entered accurately.
- Indirect #1 “Forest Asst. Rec Officer” – Applicant must clarify what percentage of the Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUMs) will be distributed specifically to OHV users. It is unclear how the Applicant can ensure that non-OHV users, such as general forest visitors, Christmas tree cutting permit holders, and fuel wood permit holders, will not also be receiving these maps, as costs must be proportionate to OHV use. Any costs not related to OHV users shall be removed on a proportional basis.