

2026 (G26) Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program USFS - Inyo National Forest'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.

Planning: G26-02-05-P01

Project Description – Background

- No comment.

Project Description – Project Description

- Applicant must clarify which specific trails shall be surveyed throughout the route system, as the entire 2,027 miles is too broad. This scope of work appears to be excessive given the annual weather events within the Project Area. The maintenance needs derived from the monitoring results are unlikely to be achievable within future Projects, before conditions change. In addition, Applicant must further clarify what the long-term goal of the surveying is, as it is unclear whether these surveys shall contribute to sustaining long-term OHV use or future Development Projects.

Project Description – List of Project Deliverables

- #1 – Applicant must revise the Deliverable to reflect the updated Project Description, only listing the specific trails and number of miles that shall actually be surveyed on the Project.
- #4 – Project Deliverable is not supported by the Project Description. Applicant must revise the description to include this information or remove the Deliverable.

Project Description – All Others

- (B) How the proposed Project relates to OHV Recreation – Applicant must revise the narrative as it is unclear whether the outcome of this Project will result in a Development, Restoration, or Ground Operations Project.

Project Cost Estimate

- All Staff Line Items – Due to recent federal staffing reductions, Applicant must confirm that all staff positions listed in this Application are currently filled prior to the final Application submission.
- Staff #1, 4, & 5 – Line item Project activity of “training” appears duplicative. Applicant must remove one line item or explain the need for separate line items.
- Staff #1 “OHV Program Manager” – “Grant writing, billing, budgets...” and “equipment maintenance” are indirect activities. Applicant must move these activities and the costs associated to the Indirect Costs category.
- Staff #2 “OHV Techs QTY (2)...” – Applicant’s hours appear excessive. Applicant must revise the line item to reflect actual work to be completed. In addition, Applicant must clarify how many miles are anticipated to be seen on a daily basis.
- Materials / Supplies #1 “PPE for UTV use” – Line item notes do not match the total request. Applicant must revise the requested amount to match the notes, as the total expenses per person are \$260, which totals \$1,300. In addition, Applicant must revise the QTY and Rate to reflect the cost per person.
- Materials / Supplies #2 “TrafX System Package” – Software is considered an Indirect expense. Applicant must move the language and costs associated to the Indirect Cost category.

- Materials / Supplies #2 & 3 – Applicant must clarify how many TRAF X system counters they already own and clarify how many are needed on each trail as it is unclear.
- Equipment Use Expenses #1 & 3 – Applicant’s methodology is incorrect. Applicant must reduce the line item QTY to reflect the notes section for each line item, how often in day(s) the piece of Equipment is expected to be used on the Project and how many trails and/or miles will be surveyed per day.
- Equipment Use Expenses #2 “Forest Service Truck” – Applicant must clarify the methodology for this line item. How often in day(s) the piece of Equipment is expected to be used on the Project and how many trails and/or miles will be surveyed per day. In addition, Applicant is reminded that they may only claim the Fixed Operating Rates (FOR) and must revise the line item to reflect those rates.
- Indirect Costs #1 “OHV Program Manager” – Line item appears duplicative of Staff #1 “OHV Program Manager”, Applicant must remove one line item or explain the need for separate line items. In addition, the proposed cost for this line item appears excessive. 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. Lastly, “grant writing” is not an eligible cost. Applicant must remove the language and costs associated.