

2026 (G26) Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program USFS - Los Padres 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.

Ground Operations: G26-02-09-G01

Project Description – Background

- No comment.

Project Description – Project Description

- Applicant has included specific Project Deliverable activities within the Project Description section. Applicant must relocate the duplicated information to the appropriate line item within the List of Project Deliverables section.

Project Description – List of Project Deliverables

- #1 – Applicant must clarify the number of miles of trail and road maintenance that will be completed within each individual District, rather than reporting the total as a whole. In addition, Applicant must specify which trails and road within each District will be receiving maintenance. Furthermore, Applicant is reminded that monitoring is not an eligible activity under Project Deliverable #1 but should be included 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, Applicant must confirm that all staff positions listed in this Application are currently filled prior to the final Application submission.
- Staff #1, 2, 4, 6 & 7 – 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 note.
- Staff #1 "Volunteers" – Applicant must provide a clear explanation of how the line item cost was determined, including the specific locations and number of miles of roads and 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 and trail.
- Staff #2 "OHV Recreation Technicians" – Applicant must specify how many staff are included on each Ranger District. Hours for the SLRD are over a full-time position for one staff.
- Staff #5 "Archaeologists, Tribal Liaison" – 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.

- Contract #3 “MPRP Mechanized Trail Crew”– Line item was included in the prior year's Application. Applicant must clarify why this line item is needed again as the areas maintained did not change. In addition, the proposed cost for this line item appears excessive. Applicant must provide a clear explanation of how the contract cost was determined, including the precise scope, location, and amount of trail work in mileage to be conducted. Applicant must also attach a copy of the supporting quote to the final Application submission.
- Materials / Supplies #7 “Fire rings, Pedestal BBQs, Tables” –Applicant stated in Project Deliverable #4 that 36 Facilities will be maintained, however, the line item notes reference “122 day use and campground sites”. Applicant must clarify the exact number of Facilities that will be serviced under this Project and ensure that the information is consistent throughout the Application.
- Materials / Supplies #8 “Culvert and Drainage Supplies” – Applicants notes are inaccurate and must be revised, as the reference to "SLRD and SBRD requests were added to this previous MPRD line item" was also included in the prior year's Application. Applicant must review and update the line item notes to accurately reflect the current Application year. In addition, Applicant must identify the specific locations where planned repairs will be conducted and ensure they are clearly listed under Project Deliverable #1.
- Material / Supplies #9 “Resource Survey/Monitoring” – The proposed line item is duplicative with the previous year's Application. Applicant must remove this line item and associated verbiage located in Project Deliverable #11.
- Materials / Supplies #10 & 11 – Applicant must clarify which specific roads and trails will receive work associated with these line items, as it is unclear how the costs were determined without knowing how the materials will be used. In addition, Applicant must clarify in their response why these line items are needed on an annual basis, as the same locations requiring repair were identified in the prior year's Application.
- Equipment Use Expenses #4 & 10 – Applicant must remove redundant verbiage that is not related to this Application. I.e. “Based on the new OHV Division Regulations...”.
- Equipment Use Expenses #8 “SLRD - FS Owned-Operated Dozer” – Applicant must update the line item rate to accurately match the information provided in the line item notes. Rounding up the rate is not permitted.
- Equipment Use Expenses #10 “MPRD OHV Equipment Maintenance/Repairs” – Applicant must move all costs and associated language related to Heavy Equipment maintenance to its own separate line item.
- Equipment Use Expenses #11 “MPRD Backhoe Rental Fuel” – Applicant must remove redundant verbiage that is not related to this Application. I.e. “This item has been moved to a separate line item...”.
- Other #2 “Trailer Maintenance/Repairs” – Applicant must remove redundant verbiage that is not related to this Application. I.e. “Based on the new OHV Division Regulations...” In addition, Applicant must clarify if they own three Grant funded Trailers as they only two on their previous year's Equipment inventory.

- Indirect Costs #1 “Indirect Costs” – Compared to like Projects, 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.