



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division

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Armando Quintero, *Director*

OFF-HIGHWAY MOTOR VEHICLE RECREATION COMMISSION

STAFF REPORT COVER PAGE

West Sacramento, CA

November 19, 2025

STAFF REPORT: Planning Program Update

STAFF: Katie Metraux, Strategic Planning and Recreation Services Division

SUBJECT: Status of Planning Efforts for State Vehicular Recreation Areas

I. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

No Action Needed. For information only

II. BACKGROUND

Katie Metraux of the Department of Parks and Recreation Strategic Planning and Recreational Services Division will present a report highlighting several planning efforts underway within State Vehicular Recreation Areas (SVRAs).

The update includes information on Ocotillo Wells and Hungry Valley SVRA General Plan projects, as well as the OHV Access Initiative.

III. ATTACHMENTS

- Staff Report
- Status of SVRA General and Management Plans



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Summary

Ocotillo Wells and Hungry Valley State Vehicular Recreation Areas (SVRAs) are updating their park general plans. The OHV Access Initiative examines the potential for expanding OHV recreation across the state. This report outlines the purpose, process, and milestones of each project.

Discussion

The following summarizes recent SVRA and OHV planning projects and initiatives.

Hungry Valley SVRA General Plan Update

The Hungry Valley SVRA General Plan Update (Update) will offer a comprehensive management strategy for the park's roughly 19,625 acres. It serves as a blueprint for future decisions about land use, facilities, recreational opportunities, and the management of natural and cultural resources. The Update considers changing conditions, reviews the latest information and data, and includes lands added to the park since the 1981 General Plan was adopted.

Please visit the project website at www.PlanHungryValley.com to learn more about the project, and view documents.

The planning team is preparing the Draft General Plan and Final Draft Environmental Impact Report. These documents will be posted on the project webpage and the OHMVR Commission meeting webpage for public review in early January 2026. They will then be presented to the Commission in February for their consideration.

Ocotillo Wells SVRA Plan

The Ocotillo Wells SVRA General Plan project started in 2008 to include new properties added to the SVRA and update policies and resource management requirements since the 1981 General Plan. In 2015, Ocotillo Wells SVRA and BLM's El Centro Field Office agreed to develop a joint general plan for the Ocotillo Wells SVRA/Ocotillo Wells Special Recreation Management Area. The project was paused in 2019 and resumed in 2024. In Summer 2025, BLM experienced a change in administrative direction and withdrew from the project. The Ocotillo Wells SVRA General Plan will continue to focus on providing management guidance for state park-owned lands and will keep managing about 26,000 acres of connected BLM parcels under an existing Memorandum of Understanding. The project is expected to be completed by the fourth quarter of 2026.

OHV Access Initiative

In September 2021, Senate Bill 155 (Ch. 258, Statutes of 2021) amended Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5090.42, directing the California Department of Parks and Recreation, commonly known as State Parks, to explore acquiring and developing properties and opportunities to expand off-highway vehicle (OHV) recreation in new and existing facilities. The bill also recommends prioritizing opportunities that benefit large urban areas, such as the Bay Area and Central Valley, and that provide potential recreational opportunities for OHV recreation and motorized access to non-motorized recreation. State Parks have various options for expanding OHV recreation across the state—including acquisition, lease, land swap, partnership, donation, transfer, legislation, and other methods as outlined in PRC §§5005, 5006, et seq.

The next steps for this project include continued discussions with public land managers and a site feasibility study.

Commission Action

For information only.

Attachments

Status of SVRA General and Management Plans