



Prairie City SVRA Improvement Group Meeting Tuesday, 11 January 2022

Location: Zoom, Meeting ID 923 2405 9711

Time: 4:00- 5:30 PM PST

Attendees: 41 attendees including, Parks staff, public and non-profit stakeholders

Prairie City Staff: Peter Jones, Joleen Ossello, McKenzie Boring, Steve Gorman, Tony Guzman, Taylor Espenshade

Gold Fields District Staff: Nathan Harper, Barry Smith, Jim Micheaels, Meghan Sullivan, Steve Hilton

OHMVR Division Staff: Sarah Miggins, Callan Mclaughlin, Peter Ostroskie, Jared Zucker

Guest Speaker: OHV Commissioner, Ted Cabral

Stakeholders: Specialty Vehicle Institute of America (SVIA), Cal4Wheel, Almost Racing (Rallycross), California Off-Road Vehicle Association (CORVA), Barlow Adventures, Blue Sky Adventures, Clipped in Races.

Meeting Moderators: Joleen Ossello and Taylor Espenshade

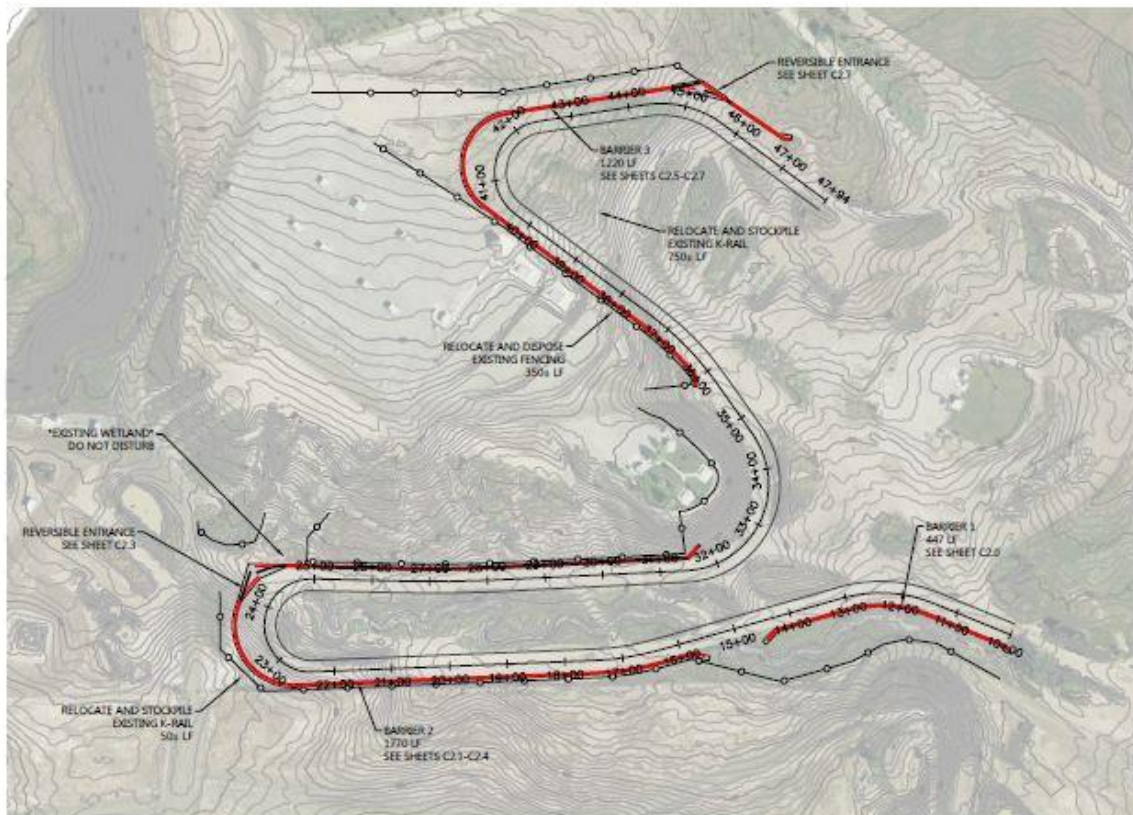
Next Meeting Date: Spring 2022. The goal is for these meetings to occur quarterly. Date of next meeting will be announced when confirmed.

Agenda:

Time	Topic	Presenter
4:00-4:10	Welcome and Introduction to Zoom Features	Joleen Ossello, State Park Interpreter I
4:10-4:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Folsom Ranch Development and New Event Entrance 4X4 Area Safety Catch Fence New Intermediate Track 	Peter Jones, Sector Manager
4:30-4:55	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yost Mine "Pit" Track Project Coyote Gulch Project Route and Trail Management Plan Update Wildlife Habitat Protection Plan and Soil Conservation Pan Updates 	McKenzie Boring, Environmental Scientist
4:55-5:00	New 4X4 Rock Crawl and Revegetation Project	Taylor Espenshade, Environmental Scientist
5:00-5:05	Park Programming, Special events, and Social Media updates	Joleen Ossello, State Park Interpreter I
5:05-5:10	E-bikes	Ted Cabral, OHMVR Commissioner
5:10-5:30	Public Questions and Comments	

Summary:

- **Welcome and Introduction to Zoom Features- Joleen Ossello**
 - Brief welcome to the Prairie City Improvement Group meeting and introduction to some basic zoom functions such as chat, reactions, closed captioning, mute/unmute, and video.
 - Chat function introduction- Raise hands if you have seen PC on social media. Enter your name and association into the chat box.
- **Folsom Ranch Development and New Event Entrance- Peter Jones, Sector Manager**
 - The Folsom Ranch Development construction is underway.
 - A new entrance roadway connection from the realigned Scott Road to the exiting Gate 4/Special event road on the easterly side of the Park will be built. The new entrance road will include a round-about feature and is designed to accommodate vehicles pulling trailers including tractor trailers.
- **4X4 Area Safety Catch Fence- Peter Jones, Sector Manager**
 - This project has been in the works for a few years. The safety catch fence is designed for spectator safety and is made with interlocking k-rails style barriers with a wire mesh and cable fencing. The fencing can easily be moved and rearranged. The fence will not interfere with viewing of races. The fence will be located along the “finger” of the special event track and around the turn closest to the bleacher seating in the 4x4 Track Pit Area.

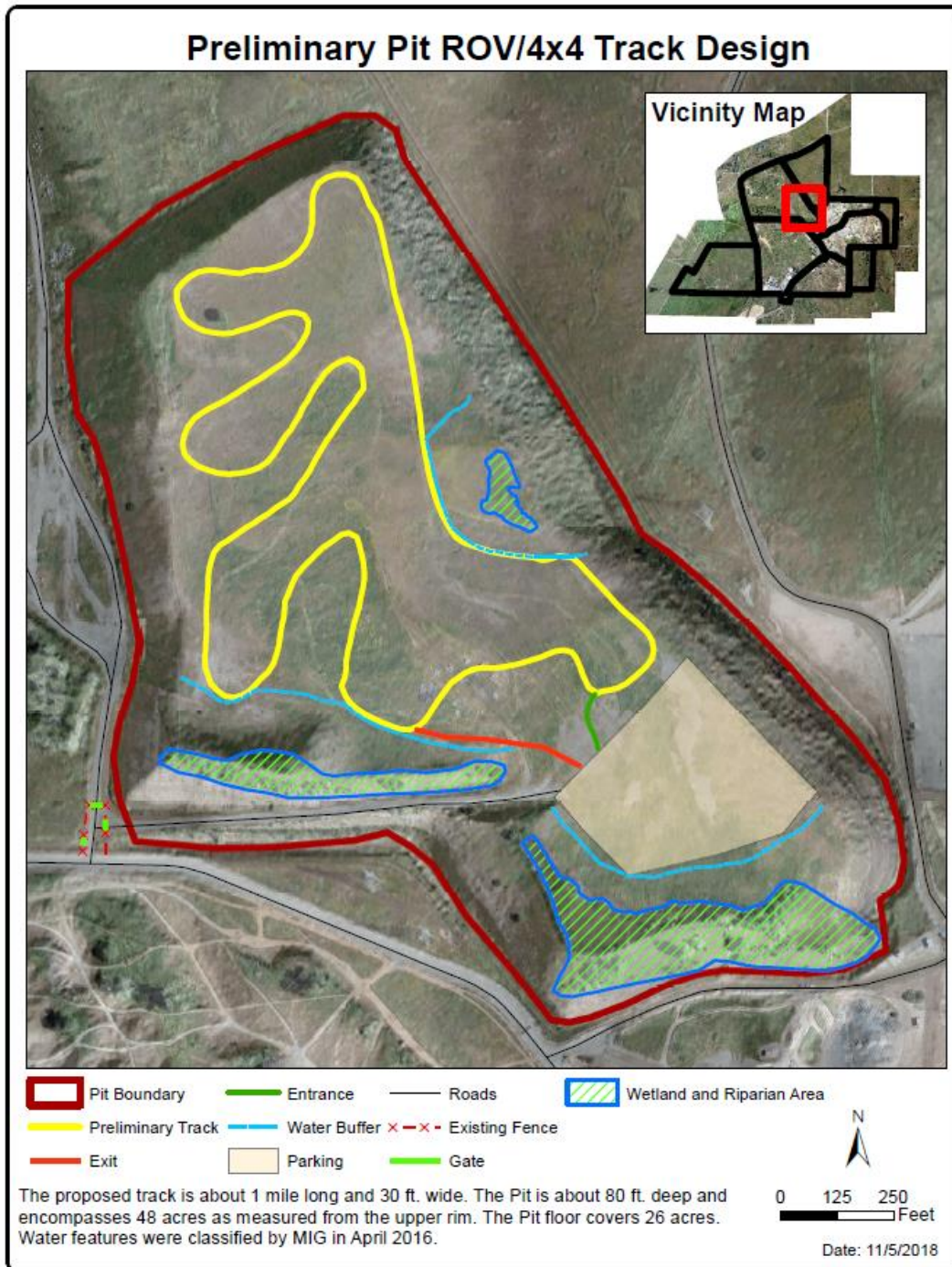


- **New Intermediate Track- Peter Jones, Sector Manager**

- Plans for an intermediate track located just west of the kart track are in the works. The track will be opened to motorcycles up to 230cc and will be open 6 days a week during Park hours unless closed due to special event. The idea is that this track will be open for users with bikes that are too big for the kid's track but are not wanting to use the practice track. It will also serve more experienced kids who have outgrown the existing kids tracks but are not yet ready for the large MX Practice Track. The track is "roughed in" and will be equipped with a sprinkler system to allow for easier watering. The intermediate track will also be equipped with shade ramadas, and picnic tables after the track has been opened to the public.

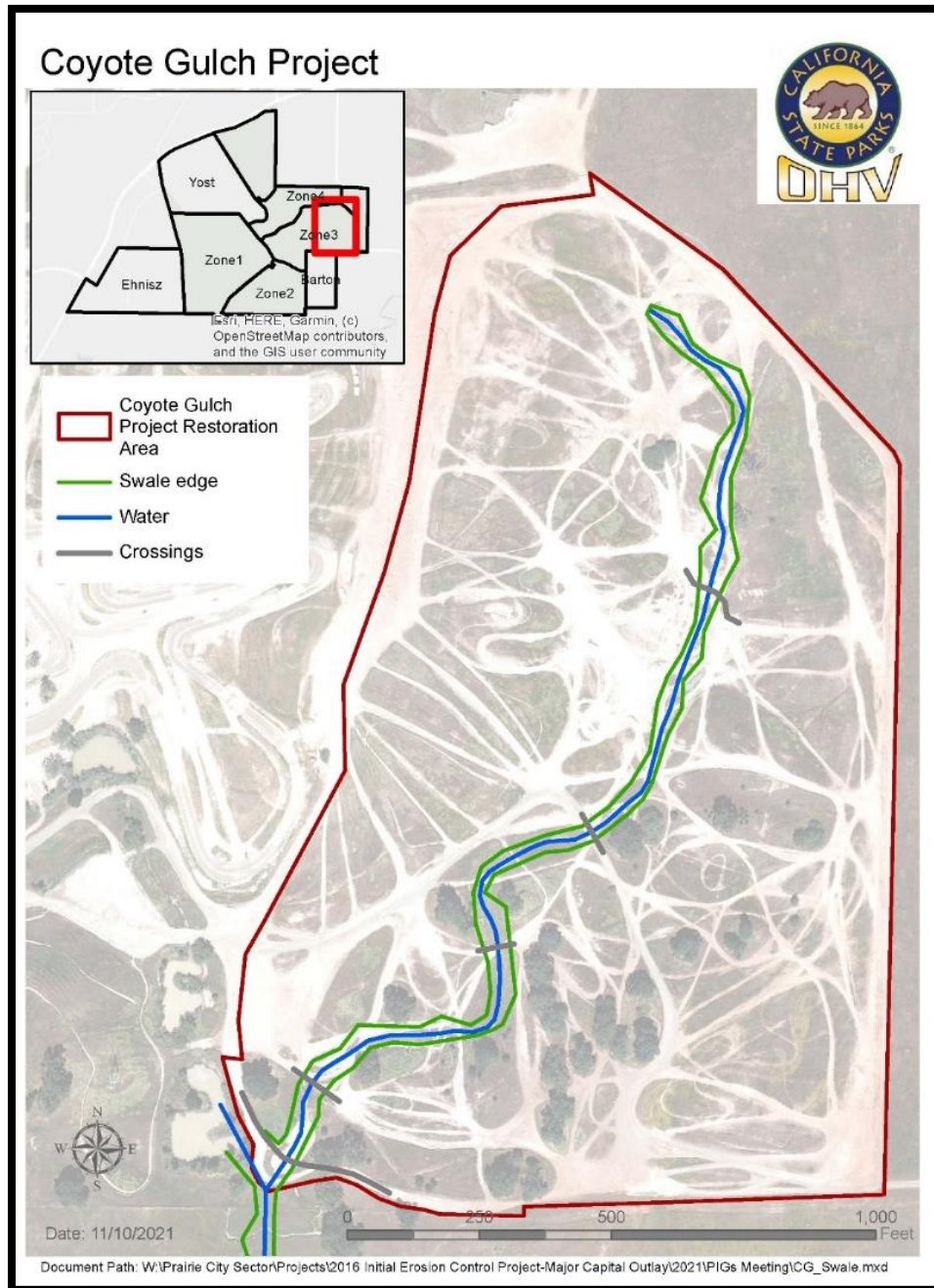


- **Yost Mine "Pit" Track Project Updates- McKenzie Boring, Environmental Scientist**
 - The "Pit" is an 80ft deep former gravel quarry located on the Yost property of the Park. The plan is to build a 1 mile long, one-way ROV and 4x4 track with staging at the bottom of the "pit" with seasonal closures during the winter. Park staff is set to start construction in Spring/Summer of this year. Announcements will be made on social media and the Park website once it is complete.

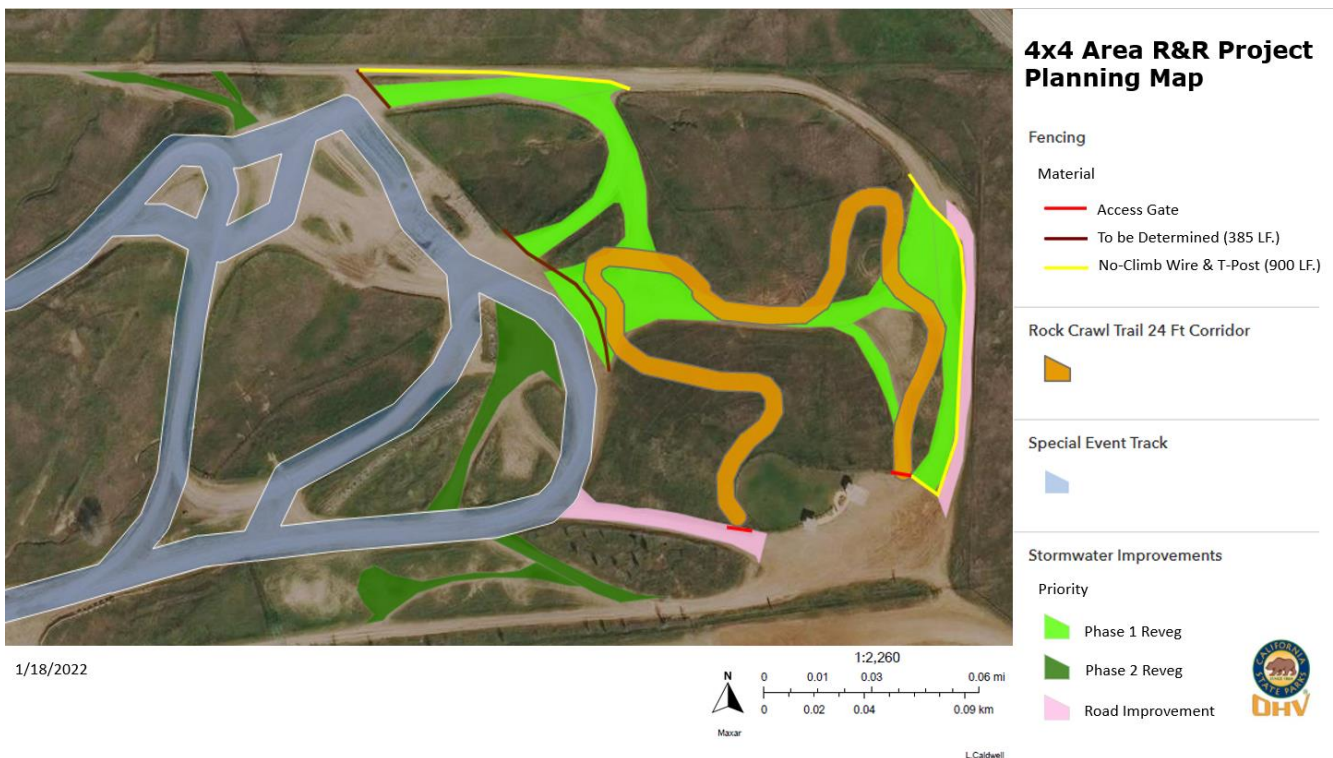


- **Capital Outlay Project- Coyote Gulch- McKenzie Boring, Environmental Scientist**

- This capital outlay project began in 2016 and its purpose is to address stormwater quality through the Park's main drainages. The plan is to fill in and recontour the project area to original line and grade, redesign the eroded stream channel to a 12 ft wide bioswale, create 5 raised stream crossings, and hydroseed the area with native seed. This project will go out to bid this Spring and construction will begin shortly after and will be phased out as to not close the entire area off at once. Trail design is not complete, and we expect to reach out to stakeholders and the public for input on trail alignment and design (much like what was done for the Oak Hill project). Stay tuned for information regarding trail design.



- Route and Trail Management Plan Updates- McKenzie Boring, Environmental Scientist**
 - The Route and Trail Management Plan (RTMP) is the “big picture” plan on how the land use changes presented in the General Plan will be implemented. It will determine use type, safety concerns, and involve public and stakeholders in planning process. Expect workshops and a public commenting period on this document in the future.
- Wildlife Habitat Protection Plan (WHPP) and Soil Conservation Plan (SCP)- McKenzie Boring, Environmental Scientist**
 - We’re updating these guiding documents in response to SB249. The WHPP document defines objectives that drive the adaptive management of the natural resource program to meet the goals in the Public Resources Code and outlines the specific management actions to implement and monitoring effort that determine if the goals have been met. The SCP provides a framework for assessing current conditions, inventorying maintenance and repair needs, and monitoring conditions over time to ensure sustainability of the facility in compliant with the 2020 Soil Standards. The WHPP will undergo public comment in February/March of this year and is expected to be adapted this summer. The SCP is still in draft form. If you’re interested in reviewing and providing comment for either of these documents watch for the public announcement.
- 4X4 Rock Crawl and Revegetation Project- Taylor Espenshade, Environmental Scientist**
 - Creation of a new rock crawl trail and stormwater improvements are set to take place in the Zone 4 4x4 Area this Winter. The rock crawl trail will total 1/3 mile and will be 24ft wide with destination rock obstacle features of various skill levels throughout. Access routes to this area of the Park and the bathroom and picnic area will be improved.
 - Stormwater improvements for this project include bringing routes back up to grade using supplemental soil from sediment basins, fixing incised/eroded routes, and adding approximately 3.25 acres of new grassland. Project should be complete by late spring/early summer of this year.



- **Outreach and Education Updates- Joleen Ossello, State Park Interpreter I**
 - Return of special events; OHV Safety Week/OCT, Visitor Appreciation Day/NOV, Headlight Festival/DEC, First Day Hike/JAN
 - Current projects; Moon Room Interpretive Panel replacement, design of graphic wrap on new outreach trailer, updating of Junior Ranger Adventure Guide
 - Regular social media outreach; Instagram, Facebook, YouTube (@prairiecitysvra)
- **E-Bikes- Ted Cabral, OHMVR Commissioner**
 - Ted presented a concept to allow the use of e-bikes within SVRAs in buffer areas which are not open to combustion engine OHVs.
 - This concept is not coming from OHMVR Division or the OHMVR Commission.
 - Allowing the use of e-bikes will increase the number of advocates and stakeholders at SVRAs and PCSVRA. With new communities being developed close to the SVRAs this is a way to boost interest within the greater community.
 - Investing money in PCSVRA is wise since it is the closest to Sacramento and is often visited first by politicians.

Q&A:

Q: Will this [new intermediate track] be considered a closed course track where 2022 and newer competition bikes can practice?

A: No, this will be a regular course that is open during normal Park hours to the public.

Q: What are you meaning by an ROV?

A: Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle (ROV) aka side by side, UTV, etc.

Q: The Yost/Ehnisz property on the lower left of the map - Southeast corner, is not on the map on the website. Is this a recent acquisition?

A: It was purchased in 2015 and not yet open to the public. Since the acquisition was just before the General Plan adoption, many of the maps for the park don't have the Ehnisz property. We are looking into updating those maps along with other park features like the Intermediate Track addition.

Q: Is PC staff (and other SVRA staff on this call) in the process of identifying "closed course" areas of the park where competition riders who own 2022 and newer competition motorcycles can practice? I get a lot of questions from D36 members about this.

A: Not at this time.

Q: During my 4X4 safety courses, I use a section of trail by this new rock crawl trail - particularly the banked "U" trail to the north. Will this banked portion of the trail be retained or eliminated?

A: The "U Trail" in question is part of the 4x4 special event course and will not be altered.

Q: Is it possible to allow non-motorized mountain bikes on the same trails as e-bikes?

A: This would be a perfect topic to discuss as part of the RTMP. The RTMP will address trail designations. Currently, mountain bikes only use the park on Wednesday during a permitted special event in the summer.

Comment from CORVA: It is part of the mission of the OHV Division to provide motorized access to non-motorized recreation, so this is important to consider. But it would have to be limited to the class of e-bikes that are not considered motor vehicles. There would be erosion/sedimentation issues to consider, the trails would have to be planned.

Q: Would love to talk about the "Cat Box"- not enough sand.

A: This comment has come up before and will be discussed during regularly scheduled staff meetings.

Q: Have you thought about designating certain days as "closed course" days like you do at Mammoth Bar for MTB vs. MC?

A: No, we have not.

Q: Is there, or can we create, a calendar showing scheduled events? Either a calendar on the website that is viewable by the public, or just a Google calendar or similar that permit holders can see for planning purposes, so we don't have to bug staff for any and all possible dates we might be able to consider?

A: Yes, the event calendar on the Prairie City website has been updated with all currently scheduled events through July. <https://ohv.parks.ca.gov/prairiecity/events>

Q: Interpretation: is there any opportunity for interpreters to reach out to local elementary schools, bird watching groups or native plant groups to encourage support for the park?

A: Yes. Our landscape volunteer group includes non-OHV participants, contact has been made with American River Conservancy for support and community contacts to start a bird walk program. There is currently no school program which may change with the addition of staffing and on-site project completions. The First Day Hike in January facilitated an invitation to non-OHV users.

Q: We liked having a large erosion crack for teaching topics on articulation, clearance and traction devices (there used to be one near the new mini sluice). Is there a way to request developing or retaining certain obstacle types?

A: Yes. Visitors may request our suggestion form at the front entrance kiosk (or use any piece of paper) and drop it in the comment mailbox located along the exit side of the kiosk building. Special Event Permittees work with the Associate Park & Recreation Specialist who issues the permit regarding event needs/desires.

Q: Can you share the maps and drafts on email or Facebook?

A: We will publicly post the draft Wildlife Habitat Protection Plan and the Soil Conservation Plan when the public comment period opens.

Respectfully Submitted on 1/19/2022
By J. Ossello, State Park Interpreter I