

NEVADA COMMISSION ON OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES ANNOUNCES FIRST ROUND OF FUNDING

On January 14, 2016, the Nevada Commission on Off-Highway Vehicles (“NCOHV”) announced approval of four grant proposals at their regularly scheduled meeting.

The first grant approved was awarded to Partners in Conservation for \$133,000. The funds will be used for the removal of a non-functional restroom facility and the construction of a new restroom facility for an OHV area near Logandale, NV. This site is located about 45 minutes outside Las Vegas on BLM land and is one of the most heavily used OHV areas in southern Nevada.

The second grant approval was for \$10,000 and went to the Nevada Outdoor School, a 501(c)(3) non-profit based in Winnemucca, NV. The grant funds will be used to continue educating youth on outdoor ethics and ATV safety in various areas throughout Nevada.

The third grant approved was for \$60,000 to the Off-Road Business Association partnering with the USFS Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit for the Genoa Peak and Logan House Road Best Management Practice Project. The project will include installation of drainage features and restoration of some areas suffering off-road damage to ensure long-term sustainability of these OHV roads.

The fourth grant approved also went to the Off-Road Business Association in the amount of \$36,500 to fund an economic impact study for off-highway vehicle recreation in Nevada. The project is designed to show the financial relevance and importance of off-highway vehicle recreation to the state of Nevada. The funding will develop the best economic data and information on OHV’s significant financial relevance that will assist future policy and legislative activities.

This round of awards capped an 18-month effort by the NCOHV to develop the required regulations necessary to disburse grant funds, and to develop a grant guidebook that met all state and federal guidelines.

It is expected that the NCOHV will award another round of grants beginning in mid-2016.

The NCOHV learned a lot from this process that will apply to the next round of grant-funding. Its success was achieved with the help of many Nevadans and State administrators. The NCOHV expects to do a lot more public outreach to OHV clubs, businesses, and landowners to discover more opportunities for collaboration that will benefit OHV users and the State. Nevada has world-class OHV recreation, and it will be a pleasure to promote this reality.

The NCOHV has already committed \$269,000 for law enforcement for 2014 and 2015 in a separate process. Announcement of a 2016 law enforcement award process with anticipated funding of \$440,000 is expected within days.

The NCOHV has also approved \$50,000 to partner with the Clark County Conservation District's \$150,000 to jointly develop a public education/outreach campaign to promote responsible off-highway vehicle recreation in Clark County and the State. Part of that campaign will develop educational material that will be used throughout the state by law enforcement, landowners, and off-highway vehicle riders.