

CORVA

CALIFORNIA OFF-ROAD
VEHICLE ASSOCIATION

www.corva.org

OFF-ROADERS IN ACTION

Comments On Johnson Valley Due Now!

As you read in last months issue the time is NOW, have you provided input yet? Time is running out in the process and your opportunity to submit a letter to BLM ends on December 15th. We need your comments, suggestions, and/or objections regarding the appropriateness of considering the Johnson Valley area for the base expansion. Information and ideas about writing a letter to BLM can be found at the CORVA website (www.corva.org). Also visit the Partnership for Johnson Valley website (www.pfjv.com) for updates and information.

The NEPA process will provide a chance to let BLM know how important the continued availability of Johnson Valley is to the public. It is critical to participate in each stage of the process to let your voice be heard.

Tell BLM that Johnson Valley offers unmatched year-round outdoor opportunities for multiple use visitors and residents throughout high desert communities. Its varied landscape is highlighted by steep rocky mountains, rolling hills, open valley dry lake beds, sandy washes and wide vistas. It is used for competitive racing events, off road free play, gem and mineral collecting, rocketry, land sailing, filming and has numerous opportunities for hiking, rock hounding, wildlife watching and dispersed camping. All these support the local and California economy. No other designated "open" area in the California desert provides the broad range of resources and value on this scale.

The BLM must hear from YOU! The removal of Johnson Valley from public use must not happen without offsetting the enormous loss of recreational lands that will occur if the current base expansion plan moves forward as proposed.

Write your letter to BLM **TODAY** and stay tuned for more information about how you can make a difference in this process.

Letters to the BLM should be addressed to: Mrs. Roxie Trost, Field Manager, Barstow Field Office, 2601 Barstow Road, Barstow, CA 92311. Include in the heading of the letter: Re: Notice of withdrawal application and segregation - FR Doc. E8-21397. Next issue we will provide you the talking points for the upcoming second comment period.

Northern California Jamboree 2008

A Great Success – Our Northern California Jamboree came through with flying colors. The park was full, weather was wonderful and the support we received from all the clubs made this a very successful Jamboree.

We had people arriving at Frank Raines Park as early as the previous weekend, as they know what large crowds gather for this event. By early Friday every campsite was taken and by Friday evening the parking lot was pretty much full. (We probably could have squeezed in a few more)

This was a great event, we made money for CORVA and had a good time doing it.

Read the full report on page 8.



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WHAT IS CORVA?

The California Off Road Vehicle Association (CORVA) is a varied group of outdoor recreationalists who are extremely active in promoting the positive aspects of vehicular access on public lands and protecting that right.

The group is composed of the owners of "Green Sticker" vehicles such as ATV's, motorcycles, 3-wheelers, trials bikes, and dune buggies, as well as "street legal" 4x4 vehicles, dual sport motorcycles, baja and desert racers.

The main purpose of CORVA is to have fun! We also work with the land managers for responsible off-highway vehicular access and recreation opportunities. Secondly, we educate our membership on the constantly changing rules and regulations and promote conservation, clean-up and trail maintenance projects.

We participate in lobbying activities in both Sacramento and Washington DC. We work closely with the State Department of Parks and Recreation providing input to the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) program from the users' standpoint. We provide a valuable resource to land managers in the form of dedicated OHV enthusiasts who believe in using our public lands responsibly.

We are active at all levels of the land management public process with both the BLM and USFS. We do this by commenting on many environmental documents on issues that affect us.

We coordinate with other multiple use organizations such as snowmobiles to horse enthusiasts to protect multiple use rights that we both share. Only together can we fight the extremists. We are,

"Dedicated to protecting our lands for the people, not from the people."

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Newsletter Editor: VACANT

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jim Woods

Where is the "Volunteer Fever"?

Those of us involved on the Board of CORVA, and other OHV groups, continuously promote and encourage our membership to "get involved" to help keep our off-road opportunities available. For the past year, many OHV events have had lower than expected turnout. Part of this has been caused by the current economy and higher fuel costs. But I believe some OHV users are experiencing an "apathy-fever" – like a temporary lack of enthusiasm caused by a feeling of helplessness. Many CORVA members tell me they want to "get involved", "help the cause" and "make a difference" but they just don't know how. Here are my suggestions that hopefully will inspire you, cure your apathy-fever and help improve our OHV opportunities.

Join an OHV organization. This seems like a no-brainer except when you realize that over half of you reading this newsletter are NOT current paid CORVA members. So, open your wallet and join – \$30.00 per year for CORVA and about the same for the other OHV organizations as well. Your dollars are vital to the OHV voice being represented locally, statewide and at the federal level.

Volunteer. My wife says there are two types of volunteers – temporary or one-time volunteers and occupational volunteers. The temporary volunteer donates time to one event, like maybe at a clean-up or club rally. The occupational volunteer takes on a more-permanent position that uses their professional skills to help their organization. A marketing executive might volunteer time to help create pamphlets for the organization. Both types of volunteers are vital to the OHV community. Decide what type you could be, and do it. It's simple and extremely enjoyable. You'll meet the nicest people, too.

Educate yourself. This is the most important thing you can do. The best opportunity you have to learn about OHV open areas, trail closures, upcoming laws and legislation and leadership is by attending a Lobby Day event. CORVA has been involved for many years with the California League of Off Road Voters (CLORV) Lobby Day. This two-day event combines an educational workshop along with an actual door-to-door walk of the halls of our State Capitol building. There are interesting speakers, lectures about what is happening concerning OHV laws and new regulations. Groups from both Northern and Southern California get together to network bond and discuss our OHV world. The event culminates with an evening reception where we Lobby Day participants meet with our elected Representatives in a casual atmosphere. We build personal relationships with each other, and promote feelings of mutual respect. Lobby Day is a must for every OHV family. Seriously, plan now to bring your family to our next OHV Lobby Day.

OHV families have equal rights to our public land as much as any other group. We are the original OHV-environmentalists, having given millions of OHV dollars towards OHV areas and maintenance. There are constant clean-ups and rallies by OHV clubs, trail preservation maintenance programs and continuous encouragement to promote responsible OHV use. Recently, the Green/Red Sticker fees doubled (from \$25.00 to \$50.00 every two years) for funding to increase law enforcement and maintenance at the state SVRA areas, and promote OHV opportunities. The OHV commission wants our input for projects and grants. Your involvement now is vital.

The 2009 CLORV Lobby Day will be released soon – the schedule is being decided now, but it will probably be held in late April 2009. I have volunteered to assist with the planning committee. This is something I really enjoy, and it's how I "make a difference". Make this the year you get involved. Lose that "apathy-fever" and choose to "make a difference" in your own way. You CAN help keep OHV use alive in California – you can help keep our OHV areas open for our children and their children. You only need to decide that you're ready.

See you at Lobby Day 2009,



PS. Recommended reading – "The One Hour Activist – the 15 Most Powerful Actions You Can Take to Fight for the Issues and Candidates You Care About", by Christopher Kush, JOSSEY-BASS, A Wiley Imprint 211 pages.

Available at Amazon.com and some other book stores.



14th Annual Truckhaven Challenge!



January 24-25, 2009



Near Salton City, CA
Fun for the Whole Family!

NO PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED! PAY AT EVENT SITE!
All OHV's Welcome!*

POKER RUN- Saturday, January 24

Registration- Each Vehicle \$35

Kids (12 and under) on ATV's/MC- \$15

All Prices include one poker hand and 1 raffle ticket!

PRIZES: Poker Hands 1st- \$250 2nd- \$100 3rd- \$50

Games 1st- \$100 2nd- \$50 3rd- \$25

START TIME 8:00 AM! Start line closes at 11:00 AM.



**SEE MAP TO EVENT
AT www.corva.org**

*ATTENTION!

The main route is calculated for all OFF ROAD vehicles and experienced riders/drivers. You will encounter steep hills, tight canyons, loose sand and rocks. The main route is tested with a high clearance Jeep in two-wheel drive and open differentials. However, the route will change with the passage of many vehicles and since we can't factor in the experience level of each rider/driver, it may be a tough, technical trailride for some participants, especially drivers of stock SUV's and small children riding ATV's and dirt bikes. If you are not willing to risk damage to your vehicle, or are not sure of your riding/driving skills, do not make the run.

Course length approx. 20 miles

Alternate "difficult routes" for those willing to "GO FOR IT!"

Checkpoints have "games of skill" for more family fun and prizes!

Course closes 4:00 pm

BBQ dinner (see menu) to follow Poker Run

Awards and great raffle prizes donated by off-road industry!

Trailmasters Club BBQ Dinner Menu

Hamburger	\$3.00
Hamburger w/side of chili	\$4.00
Hot Dog	\$1.50
Hot Dog w/chili	\$2.00
Bowl of chili	\$1.00

SATELLITE SAFARI- Sunday, January 25*

*GPS receiver required

9:00 AM to Noon

Treasure Hunt-type game

Each Vehicle \$10.00



Great Fun!!!

REQUIRED SAFETY EQUIPMENT!

4x4's, Bajas & buggies- Metal roof or Roll bar

ATV's/MC's- Helmet, spark arrestor

ATV's must have whips/flags!

SUGGESTED ITEMS:

First Aid Kit, Tow Strap, Spare Tire, Fire Extinguisher

Registration desk will open early Friday (January 23) afternoon at the event

Camping for the event is located in an easily accessible dirt area. Plenty of room for motorhomes and trailers. This is dry desert camping, so no hook-ups. There will, however, be toilets available for those "tenting it".

All proceeds from this event go to CORVA's Land Use Fund!

Need more info?

email: geoff.teare@corva.org or call Geoff (661) 478-5719

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CORVA Land Use Resources and Public Policy Report

By Bruce Whitcher

CORVA VP of Land Resources and Public Policy

- **Johnson Valley**

The BLM has published the Notice of Withdrawal and Segregation on September 15, 2008, required to study the Johnson Valley area for use by the Marines. An act of Congress will be necessary for the actual withdrawal to occur. Public meetings have been held to solicit public input on the withdrawal. The comment period on the withdrawal closes December 15, 2008.

Around the same time the Department of the Navy published the Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS for the area. The Notice of Intent includes alternatives under study. Public meetings have been scheduled for:

December 3 – Twenty Nine Palms – 5-9 pm

December 4 – Victorville 5-9 pm

December 5 – Ontario 5-9 pm

The deadline for comments on the Notice of Intent is January 31, 2009.

It is vitally important that comments be submitted at every step of the process. The draft EIS will probably be published in early 2009 and the comment period will close in 2011.

We continue to request that any expansion of the base be toward the East into the Sheephole Valley and Cadiz Dunes wilderness area. Please watch the Partnership for Johnson Valley website for details. <http://www.pfjv.org>

- **Truckhaven Geothermal Lease Record of Decision Issued 8/08**

The Truckhaven Geothermal Leasing Area will affect use of the Ocotillo Wells SVRA. The affected area is located north of State Route 78 and generally west and south of County Highway S-22. The area is part of the California Desert Conservation Area.

The main issues addressed in the Final EIS were geothermal resource leasing, recreation, and special status species. After careful consideration of all factors, including balancing the need for renewable energy and the need to maintain areas for recreational opportunities associated with the Ocotillo Wells State Vehicle Recreation Area, the BLM has selected Alternative 3 as the preferred alternative. Some areas will be required to consolidate production facilities and, thereby, minimize surface impacts.

Two power plants are anticipated to be constructed within the planning area, which would involve an initial disturbance of approximately 502 acres. Following construction, approximately 95 acres would be reclaimed, leaving approximately 405 acres disturbed by roads, well pads, pipelines, and the two plants. Various site-specific Conditions of Approval will be imposed at the development stage to protect other resources and uses.

- **Clear Creek Management Area Management Plan Revision**

BLM published scoping comments related to the proposed CCMA Area plan revision. The revision is designed to update the management plan for the area to include new considerations such as asbestos exposure. BLM will now prepare alternatives for a draft EIS. We will be submitting comments on this important DEIS. The Record of Decision is anticipated in 2009.

- **Red Rock State Park General Plan Update**

The Red Rock General Plan update has been under development since 2006. It is designed to update the plan to include expansion of the park that has occurred with the addition of areas such as Last Chance Canyon and Nightmare Gulch. We anticipate public meetings to discuss the plan update in the next few months. Look for announcements, OHV use is certain to be affected.

The first in a series of public meetings is to be held.

When: Saturday, December 13, 2008, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Location: Springhill Suites by Marriott, Maturango Conference Room

Address: 113 E. Syndor Ave. Ridgecrest, CA 93555

• **OHV Draft Grant Regulations**

The draft OHV grant regulations will affect funding for OHV recreation everywhere in California. These regulations are posted on the California Parks Department website. The comment period has now ended.

CORVA submitted comments that addressed possible shortcomings in the 2008 Soils Standards and Guidelines.

There will be a Commission meeting on December 3, 2008, in Sacramento.

• **Forest Service Route Designation:**

• **Tahoe National Forest DEIS**

Route designation continues to move forward on California's National Forests. The draft EIS for Tahoe National Forest was released at the end of September and we have begun analyzing the document. A CORVA sponsored comment writing workshop was held on October 15. The Tahoe National Forest comment team is preparing comments for submission.

The deadline for comments on the DEIS is November 26, 2008

• **San Bernardino National Forest Travel Management EA**

A coalition of trail users including AMA d37 Off-Road, CAL4WD, Bi Bear Trail Riders, CTUC and ORBA submitted comments this month on the San Bernardino National Forest Environmental Analysis. CORVA also submitted comments. This is a very important area for OHV recreation. WE are hoping for selection of Alternative 3, the "enhanced recreation" alternative. OHV groups met and reviewed full scale maps and have worked extensively with the Forest to help preserve your right to ride great events such as the annual Big Bear Dual Sport event.

• **Wilderness Bills**

The National Landscape Conservation (NLCS) Bill (S. 3213), also known as the Omnibus Lands Bill, did not receive a vote prior to the recess of Congress. The bill was amended to include the McKeon Boxer Eastern Sierra and San Gabriel Wild Heritage Act and the California Desert and Mountain Heritage and the Sequoia and Kings Canyon Wilderness Act. To pass, the bill will require a vote during a "Lame Duck" session after the elections.

Economic issues have taken priority, such as a possible financial bailout for the auto industry. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has called for a lame duck session, however this is not a sure thing as dozens of retiring and defeated lawmakers would have to be called back to work.

Stay tuned for developments on this bill, it is a big one. Bruce

Contact me at: bruce.whitcher@corva.org

CORVA NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Here are the main projects that CORVA is involved with at this time. Please cut this form out and mail with your donation to:

CORVA
 1500 W El Camino, #352
 Sacramento, CA 95833-1945

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 Address _____
 City _____
 State/Zip _____

I AM DONATING TO:

Reopening of Clear Creek Area	\$ _____
Forest Comments Projects	\$ _____
Route Designation Process	\$ _____
Funding the CA Desert Legal Bills	\$ _____
Funding work at: _____	\$ _____
Other Area: _____	\$ _____
General Fund (non specific)	\$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Please make checks payable to **CORVA**

Donations are not deductible as charitable contributions

Northern Jamboree - A Great Success!

by Debi Campbell

Once again Friday found the Jamboree crews already setting up and mapping out the events, putting up signs to direct people to the times and events. For Friday afternoon, our annual Horseshoe competition was cancelled. Bill Salmon was late coming to the Jamboree this time and we just couldn't start without him. We will make this a go next year. We hope that it becomes a mainstay for Friday afternoon; we'll have more participants and great prizes.



Friday evening found people setting up camp, enjoying campfires, talking about the upcoming events, wishing well to old friends as well as meeting new friends. At 7pm we had our great Bingo games, thanks to Charlie and his group. What a great way to spend the evening.

Saturday morning had everyone up early and eager to start his or her games. Registration opened at 8am. We had many different events and a great registration team. Without the hard work of all the people that setup the events and worked (some of them all day), our Jamboree would not have been such a success.

We had a special presentation from the Stanislaus Parks at 10am. Awarded for their dedication and service were:

John Balbach: A Trail Head was named for him and a beautiful sign will be posted. He was a park commissioner for many years and he loved Frank Raines Park. John helped to get grants, went

to countless meetings and was a huge part of making the park a success.

Jewell & Loyde Kee received a plaque, camp hosts for many years was at Frank Raines sometimes for month, to oversee and protect the park.

Walt Kohler, volunteer signed up through the United Way, head equipment operations for maintaining trails, at Frank Raines and LaGrange Parks.

Representing the parks were: Sonya Harrigfeld, Director; Marguarita Ramos, Deputy Director; Cathy Gomez, Staff Services Coordinator/Grants; James Pursley, Maintenance; Richard Morgan, Maintenance; Park Commissioners: Ron West & Ismael Saldana.

Registration was very busy, trying to sign everyone up as fast as we could and we would like to thank everyone for being so patient. Everyone had a chance to play as much as they wanted and had a lot of events to choose. We had people coming back for more tickets trying to out do the person in the lead. This is were the fun begins, as just when you thought you had the best time and no one could beat you, someone would come back and take the time away from you. You could never be sure you were the winner unless you ended up being the last person to run the event.

You didn't even need to play the games to have a great time, you could just go to watch and laugh your heads off watching those determined drivers, and passengers try to pull the best times.

Saturday afternoon we had family and children events during the day. There were Arts and Crafts for the kids but I think the moms had just as much fun. Thank you Pam Houser for the great craft ideas and your helpers. We also had a wonderful Children's Costume Contest. This year we had it in the club house. All the parents could sit and watch and enjoy all the costumes. The judges had a very hard time but finally chose the winners. We want to thank all the parents without their help and support we couldn't get it all done.

Our Event Directors were:

Escarabajo Buggy Club: Wiggle Worm, Mouse Hunt, Adult Costume Contest, Saturday Dinner, Registration help

East Bay Hi-Tailers Club: Registration, Friday Night Bingo

Merced Run Abouts Club: Egg Carry

Modesto Ridge Runners: Barrel Loop, Pumpkin Carry, Children Crafts, Children's Costume Contest, Registration help

After the driving games, the children then all came for trick-or-treating at the different campsites. The costumes were great and what a place for them to be, no worry for the parents about the children getting hurt and many of them went in groups without their parents. Where else do you feel that safe for your children? Also, no worry that all the goodies had to be checked, we knew we had a safe environment. This is what Halloween is about and what CORVA is all about. Having fun, having families together, enjoying our great outdoors.

At 5:30pm people started pouring in for the wonderful Spaghetti dinner and all the fixings. Thank you Escarabajo for our great meal. We were beginning to wonder if the line was ever going to stop but there was lots of praise for a great meal.

We had so many wonderful items to raffle and we want to thank the businesses, individuals and clubs for donating. Thank you Scott O'Connell for all your help in getting us the "Grand Prize" 5 Pro Comp Tires and all of the other wonder items you sent us from the South. Thank you to all that bought tickets for the raffle.

Once all the trophies were awarded, adult costume contest and raffles completed everyone did their own thing. Some stayed and joined in our Karaoke and danced, others went back to camp and had campfires and tall stories. It was a long, fun day and everyone had a story or two to tell.

Sunday morning found everyone up early for Our CORVA meeting. We had our new President, Jim Woods, he was very gracious in telling us where CORVA is headed and how we can all do our part. We also want to thank Jim for coming to our Jamboree, he visited with many of the campsites Friday and Saturday, introduced himself and just joined in the fun.



We found the rest of Sunday morning with most of our Jamboree participants started packing up early, cleaning camp and heading home.

Again, this was a great event, we made money for CORVA and had a good time doing it. We hope that everyone will think hard about becoming a member of CORVA, if they are not already. Let's try to make the 2009 Jamboree as big or bigger. We need lots of individuals to participate in the planning and execution of the Jamboree. Anyone in the North that has an idea or wants to help next year, just call or email Debi and we will get you involved.

There are so many people to thank and I am sure that if we tried to mention them all, I would forget someone. So rather than do that we would just like to THANK YOU ONE AND ALL FOR ALL THE SUPPORT YOU GIVE TO CORVA – AND THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA JAMBOREE. Here's looking to another great Jamboree in 2009.

Submitted by: Debi Campbell, Northern CORVA Secretary debra.campbell@corva.org

New Column Letter to the Editor

*please write us a letter
regarding your OHV
questions, comments
and concerns.*

*CORVA - Editor
1500 W. El Camino Ave. #352
Sacramento, CA 95833-1045
Email to: editor@corva.org*

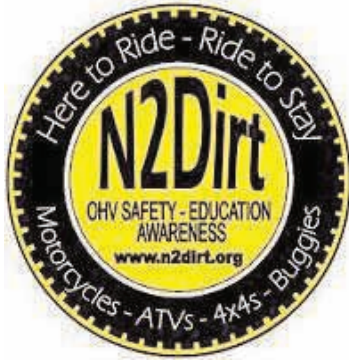
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For more information please contact us at: 800-42-CORVA
Send an email to: advertising@corva.org

We need you to help CORVA make a difference. Show your support and advertise in the newsletter.



EDUCATIONAL NEWS

BY DAN EGER

What's in your resolutions?

With New Years right around the corner I figured that it is a great time to think about the next year. What do you plan on doing in 2009? Ride the sand at Dumont Dunes? Cruise gorgeous trails in Tahoe? Take in some incredible spring scenery in the desert? All of the above is what drives me. They drive me to get thru the work day/week and they drive me to volunteer time to the organizations that help keep these areas open. What will the thought of another year of off road fun drive you to do? I ask you to consider the organizations that help keep the access to your trails open. Please continue to support them. They all need your membership and your help.

Name: _____
 Street: _____
 City: _____ Zip: _____
 I am donating: \$ _____

Look at the events that you go to thru the year and see if one of the groups you belong to would volunteer to help with something at one of those events. Nothing too big, just some help. Have you ever considered writing a letter to the people who represent you in your government? Now is the time or at least make it a New Years resolution. It doesn't have to be in support/opposition to a particular piece of (fill in blank), just let them know how you feel about the way they are representing you (good or bad). Have you considered going to a local BLM/land use meeting? Add one of those to your list. How about a cleanup in one of your favorite riding spots? So what's in your New Years resolutions? I hope they are full of fun, healthy and mindful promises to yourself. I know mine will be.

To make a donation please
 Make checks payable to: N2Dirt

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Happy Holidays, Dan Eger

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THE NORTHERN REGIONAL REPORT

by Amy Granat

The CORVA Northern Jamboree was held on October 25-26 at Frank Raines Park. The weather couldn't have been better, and the Northern CORVA clubs did an amazing job organizing games and events for all the participants. It was really a family event with kids of all ages winning ribbons and trophies donated by the clubs. One of the highlights of the weekend was the costume contest held for children and adults after dinner. There were many interesting and inventive costumes greeted with great appreciation by the crowd. Thanks to the Escarabajo Buggy Club, the Modesto Ridge Runners, the Merced Runabouts, and the East Bay Hi-Tailers. All the clubs really went above and beyond to make this event a success as approximately \$3,900.00 was raised for CORVA after expenses! Special thanks have to go to the Marketing Committee and Scott O'Connell for the amazing raffle prizes, including the set of 5 Pro-Comp tires. Everyone was really excited about the set of tires, and everyone on the Northern Board appreciates Scott's hard work.

On Sunday we had a Northern Region board meeting and held elections for the Northern BOD positions. Elected to serve were Amy Granat - Regional Director, Doug Houser - Assistant Director Legislation, Kyra - Assistant Director Grants, Diana Mead - Assistant Director Clubs, and Debi Campbell - Secretary. We welcome our newest CORVA board members, Diana Mead and Doug Houser, and I believe it's going to be an exciting year for the Northern Region with their input and enthusiasm.

The CORVA Comments Project Team has been busy as well. We held two workshops in Auburn on October 15, and October 19, teaching OHV users how to comment on the documents being produced by the forests in California by the Forest Service. We also sponsored a meeting with Friends of Tahoe Forest Access in Pleasant Hill to enable Bay Area OHV users of the Tahoe National Forest the opportunity to meet with Forest Service officials, view the maps, ask questions and listen to a presentation given by Friends of Tahoe Forest Access explaining how to write effective comments on the Tahoe Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Many in the Bay Area had requested a local meeting, but Tahoe National Forest officials refused all their requests. When the CORVA Comments Project team offered to finance and arrange a meeting, the Forest Service agreed to participate. Once CORVA guaranteed the funding, a coalition of activists from a variety of organizations did a lot of work to organize the meeting. We had about 100 participants along with Daphne Greene and Phil Jenkins from the OHV division of State Parks.

The coalition of clubs made the Northern Jamboree a success, and a coalition of volunteer activists, with CORVA's help, made the Bay Area/Tahoe meeting a success. We can accomplish much more together by working together, listening and learning from each other. I am proud to say CORVA is really making a difference in Northern California. Our motto: Educate and Empower, OHV users can make a difference.

To get involved or for more information: commentsproject@corva.org

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SAVE JOHNSON VALLEY FUN RIDE

When
Dec. 13-14 08

Where
Cougar Buttes
More info on Back



PARTICIPATING NOW IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER!

EVENT PURPOSE

THE PURPOSE OF THE FUN RIDE IS TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE LEGAL DEFENSE FUND WHILE INFORMING & EDUCATING PEOPLE ON HOW THEY CAN HELP IN THE FIGHT TO SAVE JOHNSON VALLEY AND THE FUTURE OF OHV.



ACTIVITIES

MULTIPLE LOOPS FOR BIKES
QUAD & UTV LOOP
ROCK CRAWLING DEMOS
OBSERVED TRIALS DEMOS

SAT. NIGHT FESTIVITIES

LIVE MUSIC ON STAGE
RAFFLE WITH GREAT PRIZES
GUEST SPEAKERS
BONFIRE & SOCIAL HOUR

Food Prepared by:



UNITED OUR VOICES CAN BE HEARD!

Saving our land is now more important than ever. You may or may not know that Johnson Valley is under the scope for closure. Johnson Valley OHV Recreation area is home to hundreds of events a year in the off-road community and hosts an amazing 189,000 acres of land for public use, the largest OHV area in the United States. **This land is now in jeopardy of closure** for an expansion of the 29 Palms military base, which currently borders the eastern boundry. Some 422,000 acres are proposed to be converted to base land, virtually wiping out any off-road activities in the area.

This closure would have massive impact in the off-road community, not only will families suffer, but businesses as well. Bike shops, performance aftermarket manufactures, local gas stations, restaurants, etc will all see a drastic decline in sales from this proposed expansion. The main question is where would we go? Quite frankly there isn't many places left, and none that are the size and depth of Johnson Valley. It simply can not be replaced.

We ask everyone to make time to attend. It is not only important for you, but all of the people who recreate on public lands including future generations. The event is December 13 and 14, mark it down, tell your friends and show the government that you care about this area and others like it!



Now is The Time to Act!

Fun Ride Staff

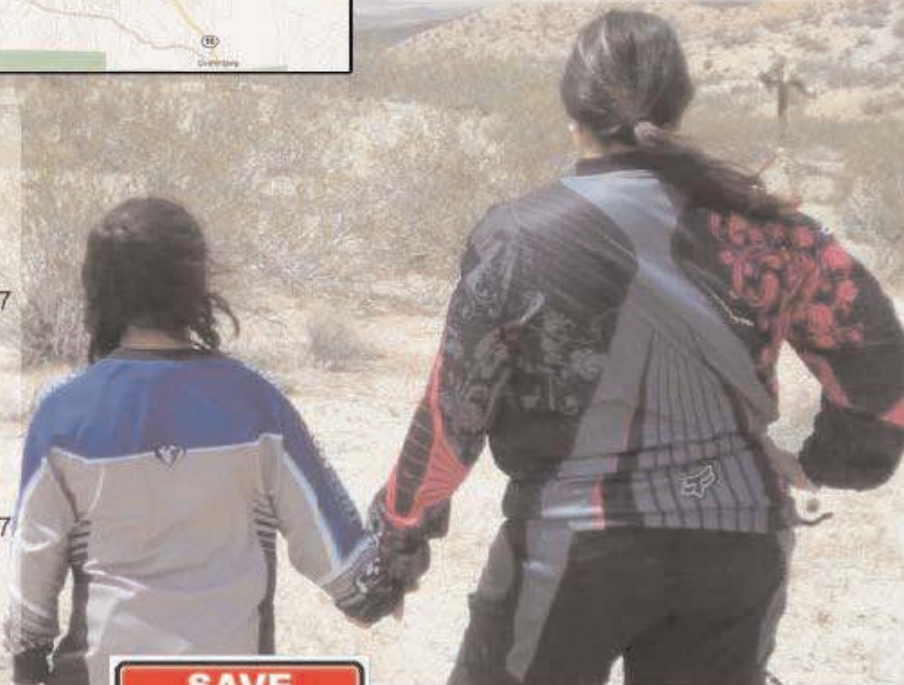


GPS COORDINATES
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DIRECTIONS

From the I-15 North.
Exit Bear Valley Rd. East.
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Contunue straight onto Hwy. 247
Turn left on Camp Rock RD.
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Follow arrows to desination.

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Follow arrows to desination.



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Chula Vista, CA

August 16 - 17
Pomona Fairplex
Los Angeles, CA

September 13 - 14
Chula Vista International Raceway
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December 6 - 7
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KUMHO TIRES



[Grand Opening of the El Mirage Visitor Center](#)

The grand opening of the El Mirage Visitor Center took place on Oct 25, 2008. The ceremony, organized by the Friends of El Mirage and the BLM's Barstow Field Office, was attended by almost 300 people who enjoyed a fajita lunch and a first-hand look at the new facility.

BLM State Director Mike Pool welcomed the many people who made the construction possible and commented that the visitor center was "a great example of how agencies can work with the friends group to make something positive happen for the area's visitors." Ed Waldheim, Friends of El Mirage president, presented appreciation awards to Mike Pool and to Roxie Trost (Barstow Field Office Manager), Steve Borchard (California Desert District Manager), and Daphne Greene (Deputy Director of the California Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Commission). After the presentations, Mike Pool and Daphne Greene cut the ribbon to officially open the Visitor Center.



The El Mirage Off-Highway Vehicle Area is located in the Mojave Desert on the western edge of San Bernardino County near the Los Angeles County Line. Receiving more than 83,000 visitors last year, the area provides for a variety of activities. It is visited by people with dune buggies, quads, motorcycles, gyrocopters -- and rocket cars, for time trials conducted on the dry lake bed.

The Visitor Center was largely funded by the State of California and the BLM, and operated by the Friends of El Mirage. The Friends operate a bookstore at the center, sell permits and provide information.

You can take a tour of the new visitor center here:
http://www.us360.com/homes/viewer.cfm?tour_id=23378

[R5 R50 Opened in the Rands](#)

by Ed Waldheim



Hector Villalobos, BLM Field Manager explaining to customers at the Jawbone station what they have to do to ride in the Rands. They must have a map on their person, signed and authorized by BLM representative. In this case Robin Malow Friends of Jawbone Station Manager is authorized to do this. This will be free to public for one year. After that a fee will be charged. Key is, without the map you can get fined for up to \$1000 and one year in Jail. Why all this?

Remember West Rand's was closed in 2002 because the public did not stay on the trail. So the Center for Bio Diversity (CBD) sued the BLM for not being able to control the public. Trails were never the issue, it was the off route travel.

So Ed Waldheim on behalf of Friends of Jawbone with his wife Linda wrote a grant for \$300,000 to open up R 5 and R 50 by putting a fence on both sides of the trail. The rational was that if trails where not the issue, lets fence it and lets open it up. You could think this was a simple task. It took us 4 years after putting in for the grant to get this opened today. This will add 15 miles of trails to the public for access to Munsy Road or head to Randsburg.

Thanks go to Hector Villalobos, his staff Ron Gartland, Craig Beck and Eddie Duarte who worked hundreds of hours to make sure that all the proper paper work was done. Mr. Villalobos shared with us that up to yesterday 10/31/2008 he was still having calls from Attorneys in DC, Legal folks and CBD trying to stop this opening. But thanks to the work of Hector Villalobos and his team, the trail is legally open.

There are conditions - Unless the public stays on the trail, no fence cutting no off route travel, we could be starting from the beginning again. This is for the entire Rand's area. Not just the West Rand's. This encompass the entire 65,000 acres Rand's Management area. That is the reason for the permit and education element of this permit.

THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL REPORT

by Jim Arbogast

For those of you reading this update, I want to assure you that CORVA's Board of Directors along with a handful of dedicated Field Reps and some very helpful volunteers, we are now a 100% and growing Volunteer Statewide OHV organization. Beginning earlier this year with our elections of new officers, we began tightening our belt, which is tighter than it has ever been in the ten years that I've been involved. We can't tighten our belt any tighter.

We have dedicated folks on the So Cal Board such as our Secretary and Industry Liaison Scott O'Connell who recently put up a booth at a 4 Wheel Parts Monster Sale at their Thousand Oaks store and pulled in 11 new paid members. Thanks go to John Snyder and the guys at 4 Wheel Parts Performance Center. Scott did more of the same when he recently put up a booth at the Jawbone Store and pulled in another 10 paid members with the help of our Club Director Jeff Leonard. Scott has also been quite active in contacting businesses to donate some serious products for our events such as a set of five tires for our recent Northern Jamboree.

Jeff Leonard recently attended the dedication of the new El Mirage Visitor Center and attended the Victorville Public Info meeting regarding the proposed expansion into Johnson Valley by the 29 Palms Marine Base. Jeff has been actively getting the word out for us with various clubs and will be offering help for the December Fun Ride to be hosted by D-37.



Ed Stovin our Grants Director attended BLM's dedication for the new Buttercup Ranger Station at the south end of the ISDRA, where you can now get your permits and medical help. There was also a touching ceremony where the road to the campground was named in honor of Patrol Agent Luis Aguilar killed in the line of duty with his widow & daughter speaking. Ed is also the immediate past President of the San Diego Off-Road Coalition (SDORC) who helped extensively with SDORC's annual Lost Lizard Fun Run at Ocotillo Wells with 300+ entries. Ed has been commenting and following the Lark Canyon windmill project with its recent appeal going against us that will allow windmills in the area.

George Paniagua our Legislation Director has recently attended a NEPA workshop up in Northern California and continues to work closely with Chris Horgan and the Stewards of the Sequoia. George is quite high on the NEPA workshop and strongly feels its guidance by key folks on our Northern Board is key in pushing back an over zealous US Forest Service (USFS). The USFS which appears to have an agenda of eliminating thousands of miles of trails in a given forest and we have nineteen forests in California alone. George has a full plate on Thanksgiving weekend with three OHV events to attend. It will be interesting to find which event gets the priority.

And last but not least is yours truly attending the Thursday afternoon 29 Palms open house meeting in the gym of the local junior high with Field Rep Dick Moon. The meeting started at 4pm and was scheduled to stay open for the public till 9pm. The Gym had five stations with key Military and BLM agency folks informing the public to every aspect of the proposed base expansion with large maps to further push their propaganda that seeks to eliminate 95+% of our Johnson Valley OHV area. I'll be busy writing comments and it's that crucial that everyone does the same. Please ask every one you know to do the same. Harry & Helen Baker were present as they have been at every meeting involving this base expansion that should go east and south BUT NOT WEST into Johnson Valley. I hope your comments express those sentiments.

Your Southern BOD continues to have our monthly Board Meetings via teleconference and communicate between meetings. We also join our full State Wide Board meetings with 100% participation.

Respectfully submitted, Jim Arbogast

Contact me at: jim.arbogast@corva.org

SAVE JOHNSON VALLEY

Please take the time to send in your comments

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Jawbone Canyon Store

A big thanks to the Spencers who invited us to set up a booth at their event for a membership drive. On Saturday November 8th they had a BBQ (Great food!) and a live band. It was an absolutely beautiful day with a spectacular sunset.

There was a good turnout for this event with a good amount of interest in saving our public lands. Scott O'Connell and Jeff Leonard set up a booth for the day. We made the crowd aware of our work at Johnson Valley and explained the new "Comments Project". Everyone was interested in the Piutes area and I think we may have some folks that will participate in the "Comments Project" when it comes around to the Piutes. Everyone seems concerned about the many marked closures in the Jawbone area.

Thanks again to Scott and Patty at the Jawbone Canyon Store we really appreciate your help!

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12/13-14 **Save Johnson Valley Fun Ride.** Come have a fun time and help support the area by raising funds for legal efforts. See the ad on pages 12-13.

January:

1/17 **12th Annual MLK Weekend Cleanup at the Imperial Sand Dunes.** Help clean up the dunes. Registration starts at 8am. Free lunch and a prize drawing. For more detail information please see www.uniteddesertgateway.org or phone to 760-352-3681

1/24-25 **CORVA TRUCKHAVEN CHALLENGE** Fun for the whole family, come enjoy a poker run and satellite safari open to all OHV vehicles. (see announcement on page 5)

February:

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