

ORBA

ORBA - A Trade Association for Motorized Off-Road Businesses

Below is a list of meetings and/or events ORBA staff has attended recently:

March 16, 2010 - Presented California Desert Protection Act of 2010 to the Victorville City Council.

March 23, 2010 - Attended public hearing held by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service about the proposed listing of the Flat Tailed Horned Lizard.

March 24-25, 2010 - Attended the Nevada BLM Mojave Southern Basin Resource Advisory Council (RAC) Meeting. Toured off-road areas in the Vegas valley and spoke to the Council members during the business meeting on the 25th.

March 26-27, 2010 - Attended the BLM California Desert Advisory Council (DAC) Meeting. This meeting is held by the BLM to take public input. ORBA staffer Meg Grossglass is appointed to this council. We received an update on renewable energy, the wild burro and horse program and updates by all of the field managers.



*Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area
Las Vegas, NV*

ORBA

HOW ORBA WORKS FOR YOU

Work with local, state & federal land managers to ensure access to public lands.

Protect, promote and represent the off-road recreation industry.

Educate state and local leaders about the economic value of our industry.

Utilize lobbyists to be pro-active on political issues.

Utilize an attorney to work through the various administrative processes and litigate on issues when necessary.

WANT TO SEE WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO LATELY?



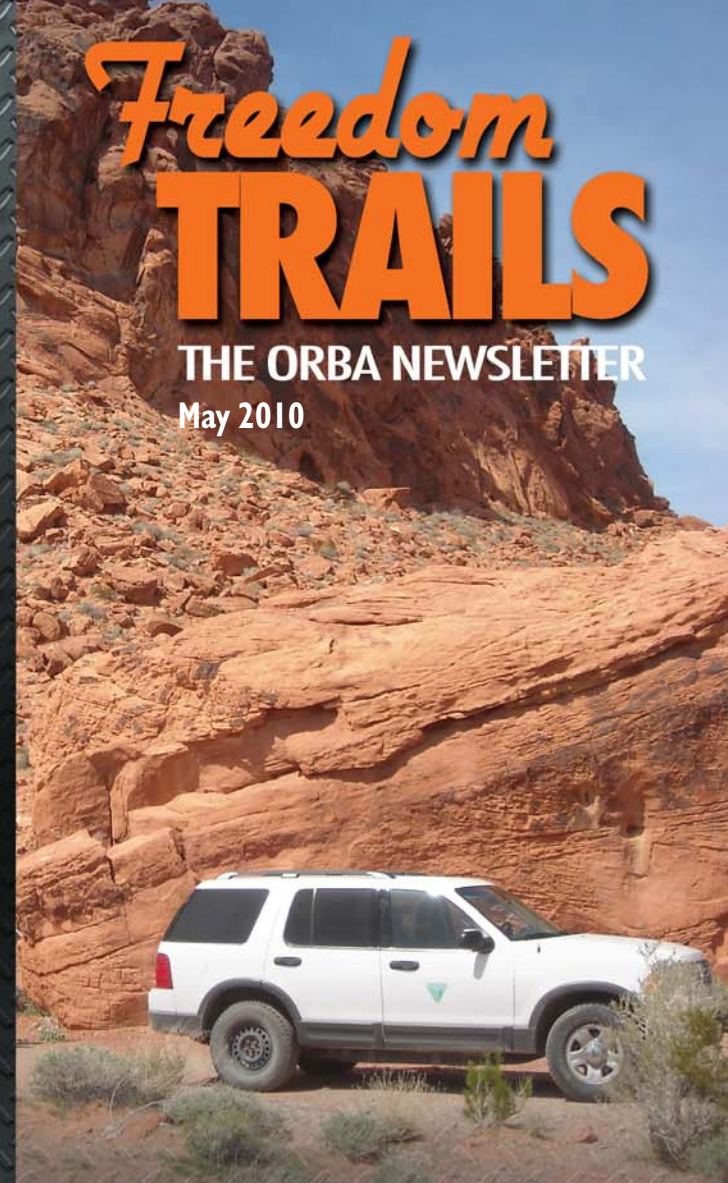
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Off-Road Business Association, Inc.

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THE ORBA NEWSLETTER

The Latest Land Use Updates

ORBA Invited to Speak at
Nevada BLM Advisory Meeting

On March 25th ORBA staffer Meg Grossglass was invited to speak to the BLM's Nevada Mojave-Southern Basin Resource Advisory Council (MOSO RAC). The BLM uses these Resource Advisory Councils all over the country. The purpose of these councils is to provide advice and recommendations to the BLM on resource and land management issues. This is done at meetings that are open to the public. The public is also welcome give the BLM input on land management issues at these meetings.

Meg gave a brief overview of who ORBA is and what we do. She also explained the importance of the planning processes the Las Vegas field office is embarking on. The Las Vegas field office is revising its Resource Management Plan (RMP). The RMP is a land use planning document that will guide the BLM in managing the varied uses of the area. There is a large amount casual and competitive OHV use that occurs in this area therefore it is especially important the OHV community participate productively in the revision process.

During that meeting ORBA offered to have a staff member explain the most productive way for OHV advocacy organizations to participate in the process. We also offered to write template comments letters for any organization that wants to get involved. It is important that all stakeholders work collaboratively with the BLM to find ways to provide for continued OHV recreation opportunities and still ensure adequate protection for natural resources.

Nevada BLM Advisory Tour

The focus of this RAC meeting was OHV use. It is customary for the members of a BLM RAC to have a tour of selected BLM areas before the actual meeting. This is done so that the RAC members, who come from all different walk of life, are exposed to the varied users and uses of public lands. During this tour we visited the Nellis Dunes OHV Area. While we were there we were treated to a demonstration of a full blown desert race truck by VORE - the Vegas Off-Road Experience. This company offers some unique services. They offer packages that range from a one day training/driving experience to multi-day packages and they even offer a race package: where you just show up for a desert race and they provide everything you need to compete. We would like to thank VORE for the time and effort it took to put on this demonstration. For more information www.vore.com.

Draft Recreation Area Management Plan (RAMP) for the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area (ISDRA) aka Glamis Available for Public Comment

On March 26, 2010 the BLM released their draft RAMP for the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area (ISDRA). The public and interested stakeholders have 90 days to submit comments on the plan. A RAMP provides guidance for development and management of the resources in the recreation area.

This draft RAMP analyzes the environmental impacts of many land management issues, including recreation, renewable energy, and species listed under the Endangered Species Act, including the threatened Peirson's Milk-Vetch. A range of alternatives are analyzed in the RAMP, including closure of areas designated as critical habitat by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to off-highway vehicle use.

If you would like a copy of the draft RAMP go to the website listed below:

www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/elcentro/recreation/ohvs/isdra/dunesinfo/docs/isdramp.html



RAC tour with Vegas Off-Road Experience (VORE)
Rob Ward - VORE, Bob Dieli - BLM Nevada, Chuck Self - VORE (left-right)

ORBA Now Offering Member Benefits

ORBA is now offering NEW cost saving benefits. While land use is still the primary function of ORBA we are now starting to expand what we offer our members. The recent economic down turn has all of us thinking about how to save money. ORBA has partnered with some of your fellow members to offer certain services at discounted rates.

The first ORBA member to offer discounted services is Century Business Solutions. They are providing fellow members with reduce rate credit card processing. We have already started to use their services and saved a significant amount. If you would like more information about them go to www.centurybizsolutions.com or:

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Off-Road Business Association, Inc.

The Voice of the Off-Road Recreation Industry