



# OFF-ROAD BUSINESS ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE SUMMARY—THIRD QUARTER 2008

Off-Road Business Association

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## In This Issue:

- 2009 ORBA SUPERSHOW
- ORBA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LAUDED
- ORBA LOBBY DAY 2008
- LAND USE DIRECTOR REPORT
- OTHER LAND USE ISSUES
- NEW REGIONAL FOREST SUPERVISOR
- NEW MEMBERS

### 2009 ORBA SUPERSHOW

Preparations for the 2009 ORBA SuperShow are underway. The show will take place at the Del Mar Fairgrounds on February 7 and 8. The 2009 venue will feature the popular TrophyKart races once again, but the track will be moved, improving the overall track design and creating room for more vendors, particularly those with big rigs.

Lots of cool things are happening with the marketing. Blue C is working on the artwork for the show and is planning a very fresh and innovative marketing campaign.

Additionally, Dirt Alliance has agreed to support ORBA's efforts with cross marketing and preparing fun and exciting events at the show. This year the show will have its own Web site: [orbasupershow.com](http://orbasupershow.com).

Lastly, the Sand Sports Super Show team is going to manage and promote booth sales for the show. All systems are looking good! If you haven't registered, send in your form ASAP to ensure the best location. For more info on the show, check out the website on July 1.

**Jenny Hove, SuperShow Manager**  
800.948.8216/SuperShow@orba.biz  
ORBA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
LAUDED

ORBA's Executive Director Fred Wiley was selected by *Off-Road Business* in its Spring edition as one of five people having the most influence on the off-road industry in the past year.

The magazine cited some of the successes Wiley has achieved with

his quiet but effective behind-the-scenes approach.

### ORBA LOBBY DAY 2008

ORBA had a new spin on lobby day this year. This was the third year that members met with legislators from California at the state capitol in Sacramento. From the beginning—with the scheduling of appointments, to the actual day, April 28, 2008, the reception was notably more positive. Schedulers knew ORBA and in general worked very hard to accommodate appointments with legislators or key staff people.



Nguyet Le Thomas of Advanstar

Part of this change is due to the passage of SB 742, the noteworthy bill supported by both environmental and OHV groups. California legislators overwhelmingly supported and passed this bill which protects the environment and improves the funding and management ability of the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division.

Before the teams took to the halls, Assemblymembers Joel Anderson and Roger Niello shared their support and insights, and at the same time acknowledged the

need to support the OHMVR Division of California State Parks' future efforts to provide additional recreation areas. The teams were given their assignments (appointments) and information packets and spent the day walking the long halls and meeting with the legislators. ORBA teams passed along a 'thank you' regarding SB 742, provided information on the economic impact of the industry, and asked for their continued support with OHV issues. At the day's end, the feeling was very upbeat, with members sharing that their efforts had been helpful and the meetings both interesting and with just a few exceptions, very positive.

ORBA wishes to thank the sponsors for this year's event: Kawasaki Motor Corporation, Yamaha Motor Corporation and Advanstar Communications.

### LAND USE DIRECTOR REPORT

Our Land Use Director, Bill Dart, has been working tirelessly on several issues throughout the West.

There are several wilderness proposals in California, Nevada and Idaho which could potentially impact negatively OHV recreation opportunities in those states. Dart is working with legislators and enthusiasts alike to ensure that recreation interests are considered.

Dart is involved in issues concerning three OHV areas on BLM land in Nevada. He is working on a proposed trail map and a Resource Management Plan in Idaho.

In California Dart is working with other OHV groups on a response to the closure by the BLM of the popular Clear Creek OHV area. Additionally, he continues to monitor the sand car issue but there is no progress to report regarding any settlement between the California Air Resources Board and the sand car consortium.

Also in California, Dart finished writing an appeal of the Eldorado National Forest Route Designation plan, focusing on closure of trails and snowmobile areas without adequate justification or using incorrect information.

In Idaho Dart is writing scoping comments for proposed Travel Plan for the Salmon-Challis National Forest in central Idaho. The proposed action is reasonable in most Ranger Districts, but he is asking for eliminating some proposed closures in two of the Ranger Districts.

Also in Idaho, Dart observed the Idaho City 100 National Reliability Enduro on June 1, where they used Potlatch Corp. land for the first time for their event. The promoting club, the Boise Ridge Riders, is an ORBA member and Dart successfully negotiated use of their lands for the event. He is having very productive ongoing negotiations with the lumber company about public use of their private lands on a semi-permanent basis. Potlatch staff was very pleased with the event.

#### OTHER LAND USE ISSUES

ORBA staff member Meg Grossglass was appointed to the Riverside County OHV commission by Supervisor Marion Ashley. The Commission is tasked with the identification of candidate sites for off-highway vehicle parks. Other tasks assigned to the OHV Commission include: provide input on related site acquisition issues, assess the extent and range of use for candidate sites and provide guidance to county staff and decision-makers regarding public input.

California Department of Parks and Recreation has given a permit to Icelandic America Energy Company to drill a test geothermal well within the Ocotillo Wells State Vehicular Recreation Area (OWSVRA) located in Imperial and San Diego Counties of California. This is of great concern to ORBA and its member companies because development of geothermal resources could interfere with the recreation in this area. Energy development is not the mission of California Department of Parks and Recreation, unlike the BLM that has a multiple-use mandate. When and if Icelandic America Energy decides to develop this resource ORBA will be fully involved in the public process and attempt to reduce any impacts to OHV recreation. ORBA will be a strong advocate of compensation to the OHV community for any loss of recreation area.

Florida Power and Light (FP&L) is proposing a wind farm in the northwest corner of the Johnson Valley OHV area, specifically the West Fry Mountains. The area is managed by the BLM. A group of effected stakeholders, including ORBA staff, has met several times with FP&L representatives in an effort to reduce the impacts to the recreation community, especially the AMA D37 race events that are held there. Again ORBA will continue to follow this project as it goes through the public process and seek compensation for the OHV users of this area if there is any loss of opportunity.

Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC) located in Twentynine Palms, California is considering expansion into the Johnson Valley Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Area. U.S. Marine Corps officials have been studying areas along the borders of their base for potential acquisition to meet the Marine Corps training requirements. No decision has been made by the Marines on which areas would be most appropriate to fulfill the Combat Center's mission. It is the intent of ORBA to be involved in this process at every level: local, state and federal. ORBA is hopeful that another solution, or a compromise, can be found that fulfills the training needs of the Marines while allowing OHV recreation to continue in this area.

In September of 2007 Mary Bono Mack introduced H.R. 3682—The California Desert and Mountain Heritage Act. This bill proposes to designate certain federal lands in Riverside County, California, as wilderness, to designate certain river segments in Riverside County as a wild, scenic, or recreational river, to adjust the boundary of the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, and for other purposes. ORBA staff is currently working with Bono Mack staffers to get protection language inserted into this bill to ensure access to OHV trails that may be affected.

Just north of OWSVRA is an area known to off-roaders as Truckhaven. Off-roaders have been recreating on this property for over fifty years. The parcels owned by the Freeman Trust were acquired by

State Parks in 2006. State Parks is undertaking a planning effort, including a full California Environmental Quality Act analysis, to determine who should manage the area, Anza Borrego Desert State Park or OWSVRA (or both) and what uses would be allowed.

#### NEW REGIONAL FOREST SUPERVISOR

On June 2, 2008 a small group of OHV leaders met with the new Region 5 Supervisor, Randy Moore. The group included Fred Wiley of ORBA; Terry McHale, legislative advocate; Daphne Greene, Deputy Director OHMVR Division and Don Amador, BlueRibbon Coalition.

The purpose of this meeting was to welcome the new supervisor and to share views with the partners that will be closely involved in managing the region.

Moore was quick to share with us that motorized recreation is and will always be a proper use of federal lands. He also let us know he rides anything with a motor, especially snowmobiles and dirt bikes.

There was discussion about how the OHV community, the administration and the legislature have partnered to insure that the people have good places to recreate and enjoy the outdoors. We also talked about the process of managing forest lands and agreed that where we could help, we would have a place at the table. Moore indicated a strong belief in the process of following the rules.

#### NEW MEMBERS:

- AMSOIL/JR Synthetics
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- Girardi Wealth Management Group
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- Penton Racing Products, Inc.
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