



OFF-ROAD BUSINESS ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE SUMMARY—FIRST QUARTER 2008

Off-Road Business Association

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2008 ORBA SUPERSHOW

ORBA's 2008 SuperShow to be held at the Del Mar Fairgrounds in San Diego County promises to be a unique off-road show experience for attendees and exhibitors alike.

One addition to the program of events is a truck/jeep/rock crawler "show and shine." Prizes and trophies will be awarded for several categories of trucks and other tricked-out off-road vehicles. The public will vote for their favorites on Saturday and trophies will be awarded on Sunday morning so they can be displayed with the winning vehicles on Sunday.

Also added in 2008 is a Fashion Show program for companies that deal with off-road clothing, riding gear, and accessory items. Fashion shows will take place at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on each day.

The special events will be timed and located to draw attendees back and forth through the display areas as they move to view the action.

For "Show & Shine" info contact Chuck Hattaway at 619.890.9093 or charleshattaway@cox.net. For the Fashion Show please contact Jenny at 760.745.0390 or Jenny@orba.biz.

For vendor information check the ORBA Web site (www.orba.biz) or call 800.948.8216.

SB 742

On October 12, 2007, Governor Schwarzenegger signed Senate Bill

742 into law. It will take effect on January 1, 2008. This bill reforms the California Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) program and extends it for ten years. The OHMVR program has been a source of contention for off-roaders and environmentalists alike. It has even been the subject of an audit by the State of California. The OHMVR Commission—with a majority of the funding authority—had not, in recent years, shown its commitment to the mission of the program. During the last grants cycle the Commission approved only \$365,000, from an allotment of \$18 million, for on-the-ground maintenance of trails.

The OHMVR program has historically gone to great lengths to manage its OHV areas in an ecologically balanced manner. This bill continues that tradition while at the same time providing the needed funding for maintaining the existing OHV areas in the state. This bill is a winner for all Californians!

Details of the bill may be found on the ORBA Web site: www.orba.biz.

SACRAMENTO LOBBY DAY

Don't miss out on all the fun. Meet your fellow ORBA members, get updates on the many land use issues ORBA has been working on, and help shape the future of the OHV industry in California.

The theme for this year's event is "Controlling Our Own Destiny." The success of SB 742—which extended and improved the California OHV program—was just the beginning. We must educate legislators about the benefits our industry has on California's economy. They need to understand that managed OHV use does not harm the environment, and that off-road recreation brings families together.

Lobby day will be held on April 27 and 28, 2008 in Sacramento. ORBA will host an informational meeting at the Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza at 6:00 p.m. Sunday.

On Monday morning we will have breakfast together at the hotel and then head to the Capitol to walk the halls and talk to legislators. If you have never attended one of our

Lobby Days, don't be nervous about talking to legislators. We visit the offices in groups and there is always a group leader with prior experience in the Capitol.

Reserve your room early for this event. Call the Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza between 7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at 916.446.0100 and ask for the special ORBA rate. Also please RSVP to Meg Grossglass at meg@orba.biz or 951.926.1953 or Rocky Trevino at 619.247.1053.

ORBA FACILITATES OPENING PRIVATE TIMBER LAND

In the last year, Potlatch Corporation of Spokane Washington purchased substantial timber lands in central and southern Idaho that had gone through several owners in the last five years. At one point, the lands were closed to public use as well as the Boise Ridge Riders as a portion of the course for their 20+ year old Idaho City 100 National Reliability Enduro. ORBA Land Use Director Bill Dart contacted Potlatch officials, and found them to be very receptive to both public and event use of their lands. We will be meeting in the near future to discuss in detail the options and issues.

SAND CARS & CARB

This summer, California Air Resources Board (CARB) enforcement officials visited many sand car builders and engine builders and issued Cease & Desist orders, as well as asked to audit all 2007 sales. While CARB gave the industry some time to develop certified engines, it was not enough time to have certified cars by the 1-1-07 deadline. Two engine builders have organized a group with all of their car builder clients to negotiate a settlement with CARB that will allow the industry to start fresh after paying yet-to-be-determined fines.

SONORA PASS SNOWMOBILING

ORBA's Land Use Director has been working with Congressman McKeon's office to make sure a Wilderness proposal in the Sierra Nevada's will not close a very popular snowmobiling area adjacent to California Highway 108. ORBA was

already instrumental in getting the US Forest Service to amend the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest Land & Resource Management Plan to lift an earlier administrative closure of this area.

One other issue we hope to resolve in this bill concerns use of snowmobiles across a snow-covered Pacific Crest Trail. In spite of the fact that the trail is under 20 feet of snow in a typical winter, local environmental groups have made an issue of it, and the Forest Service has now blocked a portion of the area to prevent snowmobilers from crossing the trail.

SHERIFF'S SUMMIT

In early November ORBA's Executive Director Fred Wiley, the American Sand Association (ASA) and the United Desert Gateway (UDG) participated in the Western States Sheriff's Summit in Washington, DC. The summit was hosted by William Woody, BLM Director of Law Enforcement. Besides engaging in discussions about law enforcement issues and fee collection at the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area (ISDRA), other meetings were attended with US Fish and Wildlife staff to discuss the delisting of the Pierson's Milk Vetch plant, which is the reason for the current closures in the ISDRA.

Wiley's speech at the Sheriff's Summit focused on partnerships—specifically the strength gained when businesses and law enforcement work toward common goals. He also discussed the need for the OHV industry and law enforcement to understand and openly communicate each other's priorities. This type of communication will help to provide the public with the law enforcement actions necessary for them to use public lands responsibly.

Wiley also made time to meet with legislators and key committee staff members to talk about issues like the current wilderness proposals, the Forest Service's Route designation process, critical habitat, endangered species and the economic impact of OHV recreation. Some of the more noteworthy meetings included U.S. Representatives Duncan Hunter, Bob Filner, Todd Tiahrt

(ranking Republican member of the House Interior Appropriations Committee) and Chris Foster, legislative aide to Mary Bono.

NEVADA OHV LEGISLATION

ORBA's Land Use Director recently met with several Nevada legislators in Las Vegas while attending a meeting of the Nevada Legislature's Public Lands Committee to discuss possible OHV registration and titling legislation. Efforts to pass a balanced bill in the last two sessions of the Nevada Legislators broke down for a variety of reasons, so work is getting started much earlier this time. It is hoped that issues with determining which state agency will run the program, as well as gaining crucial support from the Nevada Governor, can be accomplished during 2008.

ORBA, Nevada OHV groups and the Nevada Powersports Dealer Association are all working together to make sure we get a bill that works for all interests.

ARIZONA OHV REGISTRATION

Arizona is another state that currently has no OHV registration program. Efforts by Arizona OHV groups last year came very close to success, but a last minute issue at the final floor vote killed the bill that had passed through one house with almost unanimous support, as well as through two committees in the second house.

The goal of the Arizona bill would be to develop a sticker program with a grant fund available for OHV management purposes. Arizona already has an OHV fuel tax program to provide safety education and enforcement.

The effort in Arizona will be led by the Arizona OHV Coalition, with support from ORBA.

ELDORADO NATIONAL FOREST

The Eldorado National Forest in northern California has long been a focus of OHV controversy. While the trend has been significant closures of existing opportunities, a new Forest Supervisor came on board to lead the Eldorado. ORBA Land Use Director Bill Dart organized a meeting with Calif. Assoc. of 4 Wheel Drive Clubs, American Motorcyclist Assoc. (AMA) and AMA

District 36 to talk with the new Forest Supervisor about halting the trend toward closure and turning it around to a new era of working together to improve OHV management on the Eldorado.

After over two hours of discussions, everyone agreed that they are all "cautiously optimistic" that the new Forest Supervisor is on the right track. We were told that there will be significant changes in the Final EIS for the Travel Management Plan when it is released in February.

MORE CALIF. WILDERNESS?

H.R. 3682, the California Desert and Mountain Heritage Act by Congresswoman Mary Bono, proposes designating certain Federal lands in Riverside County as wilderness and to designate certain river segments as wild and scenic. Wilderness designations are appropriate for areas that meet the criteria, but not for areas where managed recreation is currently occurring. The areas proposed in this legislation have several different types of recreation occurring on them including OHV use, hunting and rock hounding. In November ORBA's Land Use Director testified in front of a House Subcommittee in opposition to this bill.

Since that time representatives from Congresswoman Bono's office have met twice with ORBA staff. During those meetings her staff agreed to look into adding protection language for some of the existing OHV trails and other uses that are currently occurring.

NEW MEMBERS:

- NCD Customs
- Alloy USA, LLC
- Bully Dog Technologies
- MotoVentures, Inc.
- Competitive Metals
- Warrior Products, Inc.
- Buck's 4x4 Off-Road Center
- Bestop, Inc.
- STaK 4x4, Inc.
- Yakima Products, Inc.
- PRG Products
- Boise Ridge Riders, Inc.
- C&D Cycle Center
- Staun USA, Inc.
- Mac's Custom Tie-Downs
- Redline Performance Products

Join Today! Call 858.488.2101

No Trails = No Sales
The Voice of the Off-Road Industry