

Eldorado National Forest Grants Update

March 2022

The CA State Park OHV Grants Program provides for well managed off-highway vehicle recreation by providing financial assistance to cities, counties, districts, federal agencies, state agencies, educational institutions, federally or state recognized Native American Tribes, Certified Community Conservation Corps and nonprofit entities.

The Grants Program supports the planning, acquisition, development, maintenance, administration, operation, enforcement, restoration, and conservation of trails, trailheads, areas, and other facilities associated with the use of off-highway motor vehicles, and programs involving off-highway motor vehicle safety or education.

- For more information: https://ohv.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1164

Proposed G22 (2023) Grant Applications will only include:

- Law Enforcement-\$268,000

The ENF is taking a pause on the Ground Operations grant for CY2022 & 2023 (G21 & G22 grant cycles) due to the Caldor Fire impacts, capacity, and concern over meeting State HMP/NEPA expectations.

Perceived Effects:	Actual Effects:
No OHV Route Maintenance will occur including brushing, tread work, trash and/or hazard tree removal.	OHV Route and/or Equipment Maintenance will continue as much as possible using Forest staff, volunteers, and fire recovery efforts.
No Equipment Maintenance or purchases will occur.	Equipment will continue to be maintained. No new purchases.
No OHV Facility Maintenance will occur including restrooms, signs, campground facility maintenance, trash and/or hazard tree removal.	OHV Facility Maintenance will continue at the minimum to include restrooms, trash, and hazard tree removal.
No OHV Route Signing will occur including traffic control, directional, and OHV education and safety signs.	OHV Route Signing will continue.
No Fencing/Barriers will be installed.	Fencing/Barriers will be installed as needed to define legal routes.
Environmental/Cultural Requirements will not be met without the completion of required trail assessments, monitoring plans, compliance reporting, and/or species monitoring.	Environmental/Cultural Requirements will be met. Assessments and monitoring will continue.
Public Outreach/Visitor Services will not occur such as map distribution, on-trail contacts, media, and web updates.	Public Outreach/Visitor Services will continue. MVUMs will be updated, printed, and distributed annually.

How will this work be done?

Existing opportunities within the Forest-wide Restoration agreement (expires 9/30/22) AND our annual Law Enforcement agreement.

- Elkins Staging Area (8.8 acres treated & restored), John Don't (9 sites treated & restored), Cody Meadows (additional barricades and/or treatment efforts).
- Patrols within OHV recreation sites and along OHV routes.

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Increased Agency Staffing Efforts.

Disaster Relief Efforts for Caldor Fire.

- A large portion of our Forest's OHV opportunities occurred within the Caldor Fire boundary. Activities include:
 - Sign Replacement along roads, trails, and recreation sites.
 - Hazard Tree Removal
 - Trail Maintenance
 - Barrier Installation along routes such as the MET, Silver Fork Rd, N/S Rd, Elkins OHV Riding Area, Gold Note Riding Area, and the Strawberry Riding Area.
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G21 (2022) Current Grants

Law Enforcement G21-02-23-L01 - \$252,078 (expires 12/31/22)

- Staff Patrol Hours
- Boulder Purchase ~\$7,000 (includes using on-site boulders with estimate from local quarry for a match)
- LE Avalanche/Safety gear
- FPO/LE Motorcycle PPE
- Razor & Trailer Maintenance and Fuel
- Snowmobile & Trailer Maintenance and Fuel
- LE Trailer Accessories

YOTO Hybridization Study G21-02-03-R01 - \$90,530 (expires 12/31/24)

- This project is focused on developing a definitive identification of the toad species (s) that occupy the Deer Valley, Indian Valley, and Blue Lakes areas. This will help with OHV management in these areas.
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G17 On-Going Grants

Habitat & Movement of the CA Red-legged Frog in the Rock Creek Area G17-02-03-R02 (expires 9/30/22)

- This project is focused on gaining a better understanding of the movement of these frogs that occupy the Rock Creek OHV area on the Georgetown Ranger District. This will help with OHV management in these areas.

Forest-wide Restoration G17-02-03-R01 (expires 9/30/22)

- Restoration, interpretative signage, and barriers will be focused in areas, such as, Cody Meadows, Deer Valley, Elkins Flat, and several routes on the Pacific Ranger District.
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