

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS
THE NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY
OFF-HIGHWAY MOTOR VEHICLE RECREATION DIVISION

OHMVR COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING

Held at

North Tahoe Event Center
8318 North Lake Boulevard
Kings Beach, CA 96143

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

September 26, 2014

8:38 a.m. to 3:38 p.m.

Reported by SANDRA L. HOPPER CSR No. 7110

SCRIBE REPORTING & LEGAL COPYING
Certified Shorthand Reporters
2319 K Street, Suite 201
Sacramento, CA 95816

916-492-1010

FAX 916-492-1222

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

IN ATTENDANCE

--oOo--

OHMVR COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Diana Pérez, Vice Chair
Teresa Villegas
Ted Cabral
Eric Lueder
Kevin Murphy
Edward Patrovsky
Erin Hafkenschiel

OHMVR COMMISSIONER ABSENT:

Paul Slavik, Chair

OHMVR DIVISION STAFF:

Christopher Conlin, Deputy Director
Maria Mowrey, Administrative Chief
Kathryn Tobias, Legal Counsel

OTHER OHMVR STAFF AND REGISTERED VISITORS

--oOo--

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

INDEX OF AGENDA ITEMS

--oOo--

| <u>ITEM</u> | <u>AGENDA DESCRIPTION</u> | <u>PAGE</u> |
|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------|
| I | CALL TO ORDER | 4 |
| I(A) | PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE | 4 |
| I(B) | ROLL CALL | 4 |
| II | APPROVAL OF AGENDA | 10 |
| III(A) | APPROVAL OF MINUTES | 11 |
| IV | COMMISSION REPORTS | 12 |
| IV(A) | Commissioner' Reports | 12 |
| IV(B) | Committe Reports | 33 |
| V | PROGRAM REPORTS | 46 |
| V(A) | U.S. Forest Service Report | 46 |
| V(B) | BLM Report | 86 |
| 11:00 | PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD NON-AGENDA | 96 |
| | ITEMS | |
| | PUBLIC COMMENT ON USFS and BLM | 113 |
| | REPORTS | |
| V(B) | BLM Report (Continued) | 116 |
| V(C) | State of Nevada OHV Program | 123 |
| V(D) | Deputy Director's Report | 164 |
| V(D)(1) | California Air Resources Board | 129 |
| | Red Sticker Regulation Update | |
| | Public comment | 155 |
| V(D)(2) | Budget Update | 178 |
| V(D)(3) | Grants Program Update | 190 |
| V(D)(4) | Planning and Acquisition Update | 195 |
| V(D)(4)(a) | SVRA General Plans | 195 |
| V(D)(4)(b) | Hungry Valley SVRA Propose | 203 |
| | Acquisition | |
| V(D)(4)(c) | Eastern Kern County Proposed | 206 |
| | Acquisition | |
| V(D)(5) | Outreach | 211 |
| V(D)(6) | Legislation Update | 219 |
| V(D)(7) | Law Enforcement/Safety Update | 227 |
| V(D)(8) | 2015 Calendar - Preview of | 231 |
| | Potential Commission Meeting Dates | |
| | Public Comment | 236 |

--oOo--

1 AGENDA ITEM I - CALL TO ORDER at 8:38 a.m.

2 AGENDA ITEM I(A) - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3 Commissioner Villegas led the meeting attendees in the
4 Pledge of Allegiance.

5 AGENDA ITEM I(B) - ROLL CALL

6 Commissioner Slavik not in attendance.

7 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you.

8 Just a couple of housekeeping items before we
9 begin, before we approve the agenda and the minutes.
10 Chair Paul Slavik is not here today. He is in Italy --
11 or in Croatia, and he's having a good time. And he
12 wanted me to let everyone know that he greatly misses
13 us. And so Teresa -- Commissioner Villegas is going to
14 be reading his report during the Commission Reports
15 today, and that will be a little bit later.

16 A couple of other notes. I do want to
17 acknowledge, just briefly, the devastating fire that --
18 that is here. I have been keeping up with it. My
19 thoughts, our thoughts and prayers to all the families
20 and individual that have been impacted by this fire.
21 And I do want to assure that we thank all the fire
22 personnel, all of the public agencies that are out there
23 right now taking care of this for all the families out
24 there. So I'm very grateful for that.

25 The last thing that I want to note is that this

1 is the first time I'm chairing the Commission Meeting.
2 So I want to let you all know in advance I will be
3 making some mistakes. I will probably forget a couple
4 of steps. But I do want to thank Vicki and Deputy
5 Director Conlin in advance because they did say that
6 they were going to keep me on track and make sure that I
7 cover everything that I need to cover. So I'm feeling
8 very, very confident with their support.

9 So the first item that I want to cover is
10 introducing our new commissioners today. So we're going
11 to start with our new commissioner.

12 And, Erin, we're going to start with you. And
13 please help me, I just want to make sure I pronounce
14 your last name correctly. And would you please --
15 welcome, and please tell us a little bit about yourself.

16 COMMISSIONER HAFKENSCHIEL: Great. It's
17 "Hafkenschiel." It's pretty phonetic once you hear it a
18 few times.

19 Hi, everyone. Thank you for having me. I'm
20 really excited to be here. Thank you so much to the OHV
21 staff for my wonderful one-on-one session and all of the
22 help getting me set up, and also to the warm welcome
23 from all of my fellow Commissioners.

24 As Vicki said, I'm from San Francisco. I live
25 in San Francisco, California, in the Presidio in

1 San Francisco. And I was born and raised in Sacramento.
2 I did my undergrad at U.C. Berkeley where I studied
3 political economy. I have a master's in public policy
4 and urban planning from the Harvard Kennedy School. I
5 started my career at the Hewlett Foundation in their
6 environment program doing environmental grant-making. I
7 spent a year in China on a Fulbright grant studying
8 sustainable urban planning, and about a year and a half
9 at the Bay Area Council doing work -- Bay Area Council
10 is a business sponsor, regional public policy agency.
11 And I now work for California Environmental Associates,
12 which is an environmental consulting firm in downtown
13 San Francisco.

14 As a life-long user of the California State Park
15 system, I'm real excited to be involved with this
16 Commission, and, you know, hope to ensure that OHV use,
17 you know, continues to be done in an environmentally
18 sound and sustainable way. And I have to say I've just
19 been incredibly impressed with the OHV Program as I've
20 started to learn more and more about it. Very impressed
21 with all of my fellow commissioners and, of course, the
22 OHV staff. So thank you very much.

23 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you, Erin. We're very
24 impressed with you.

25 Okay. Our next not-so-new commissioner

1 resurrected, Eric Lueder, welcome back. It's great to
2 see you again, Eric.

3 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Thank you.

4 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: What -- what have you been up
5 to?

6 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Nothing much. Thank you,
7 Commissioner Pérez.

8 As you noted, I was a member of this Commission
9 a few years ago, between 2008 and 2012. And I had a
10 great time, did a lot of projects with the Division.

11 And so a little bit about me. Born and raised
12 in the San Francisco Bay area, grew up primarily in
13 Sonoma County, been a life-long motorcycle enthusiast,
14 went to Sonoma State University, graduated with a
15 bachelor's degree in economics and business management.

16 I've had a career with Marin County Department
17 of Public Works for the last 20-something years, which
18 is half of my life. Currently the chief real estate
19 agent for the County of Marin. So my office handles all
20 the acquisitions for public projects, parks and open
21 space. So I've had a lot of experience within the
22 conservation field.

23 Currently living in Mill Valley with my
24 beautiful wife Debbie, and have one adult daughter who's
25 22 and recently successfully launched. So very excited

1 about that. And just recently got back on the
2 Commission through Speaker Atkins' office. So I guess
3 the moral of the story is never say never. And I
4 certainly appreciate all the staff, all their hard work.
5 And it's a pleasure to be back.

6 Thank you very much.

7 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you, Eric. Eric, do
8 you know what's changed since the last time I saw you?

9 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Well, it's certainly not
10 my lack of hair.

11 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: No. Now I need reading
12 glasses.

13 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: So do I, but I haven't
14 bought any yet.

15 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thanks, and welcome back.

16 Okay. Next I'd like to introduce our local
17 dignitaries.

18 And would you please make yourself known when I
19 call out your name. I just want to make sure that you
20 are here. We have Patrick Floria, Mayor, from Truckee.
21 Is he -- is he here? Here?

22 Okay. Lee Adams, Sierra County Business. Lee
23 Adams?

24 Okay. All right. And then I have Richard
25 Anderson, Nevada County Board of Supervisors.

1 Okay. Maybe they're coming a little later.

2 Okay. Next I'd like to introduce our State
3 Parks staff. Good morning, Deputy Director Conlin.
4 Great to see you.

5 And I'd like to welcome our new counsel, Kathryn
6 Tobias.

7 Our Chief Administrative -- our chief -- our
8 Administrative Chief Mowrey. Nice to see you. And I
9 don't see Chief Phil Jenkins here today. I guess he's
10 out.

11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah, he's out. He's
12 out.

13 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Okay. Great.

14 Oh, Tim Beals. Tim Beals. Okay. Okay. This
15 is a -- okay. We'll get to that. Oh, he's here. Tim
16 Beals. I'm sorry. Tim Beals, Sierra County. Welcome.

17 TIM BEALS: Thank you.

18 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you for being here.
19 Appreciate that.

20 Okay. So thank you, Division staff, for being
21 here. I see Dan Canfield and I see my favorite
22 geologist, Will Harris is here. Debbie, Vicki, thank
23 you, everyone, for being here.

24 I'd also like to thank many of our members from
25 our public agencies who are here and also members of the

1 public. I'm welcoming also our fellow commissioners.
2 Thank you and good morning.

3 So a couple of other notes that I'd like to
4 make.

5 Public comment for agendized items will be open
6 for your information. We're going to be available for
7 open comment after the BLM report, after the CARB
8 report, and at the conclusion of our Deputy Director's
9 reports.

10 In addition, comments on non-agendized items
11 will be held at 11:00 a.m. And I will interrupt the
12 meeting to assure that we go through the non-agendized
13 items at 11:00.

14 If you would like to make comments on any of the
15 items, please use the green forms -- green public forms
16 for agendized items, and the blue for non-agenda items.
17 Make sure you give them to Vicki. Make sure your name
18 is on them. And you will have three minutes for public
19 comment. And I would ask that everybody please be
20 considerate of everybody's time. Hopefully we can all
21 be concise with our reports. We have quite a number of
22 items to get through today.

23 **AGENDA ITEM II - APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

24 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. So I'd like to start
25 by requesting a motion to approve the agenda. I think

1 all the commissioners have had an opportunity to see it.

2 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: So moved.

3 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Do I hear a second?

4 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: I'll second.

5 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Thank you.

6 All in favor, say "aye."

7 (Commissioners simultaneously voted.)

8 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Any opposed?

9 (No Commissioners opposed.)

10 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Any abstentions?

11 (No Commissioners abstained.)

12 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Motion passes.

13 Agenda's approved.

14 **AGENDA ITEM III(A) - APPROVAL OF 5-2-2014 MINUTES**

15 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Okay. The next item.

16 Okay. All Commissioners have had an opportunity to see
17 the draft version of the minutes.

18 Does anyone have any changes or corrections to
19 the minutes?

20 Commissioners, any changes?

21 Okay. And hearing none, may I have a motion to
22 approve the minutes.

23 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: I'll make a motion to
24 approve the minutes.

25 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you.

1 COMMISSION CHAIR LUEDER: Second.

2 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Second?

3 Okay. All in favor, say "aye."

4 (Commissioners simultaneously voted.)

5 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Any opposed?

6 (No Commissioners opposed.)

7 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Any abstentions?

8 (No Commissioners abstained.)

9 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Minutes approved.

10 **AGENDA ITEM IV(A) - COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

11 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. So we're going to move
12 to our Commission Reports. And will each of the
13 commissioners -- will you all, when you -- say just a
14 little brief introduction for the benefit of our new
15 commissioners, just tell us a little bit about yourself.
16 And if we can keep our reports to about three to four
17 minutes, I'd appreciate that. And so we're going to go
18 ahead and start with Commissioner Murphy.

19 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: I've been working with
20 Commissioner Pérez on the OHV safety for -- specifically
21 for the Oceano Dunes. And I went through a course on
22 the OHV safety for the State of Oregon.

23 Just a little bit about myself. I'm from Morgan
24 Hill. I ride Northern California, ride dirt bikes off
25 road, Hollister Hills. I started riding trials bikes a

1 couple years ago; so that's my OHV background. I was
2 also a volunteer at Hollister Hills for a number of
3 years in the nineties.

4 But back to the report. Mostly the OHV safety
5 for the kids, Ted and I have been working on the trail
6 system, the statewide trail, motorized trail. That's
7 going well.

8 Yesterday I went on a tour with Don Amador of
9 the Prosser Pit OHV area. We took his truck to the top
10 of Boca Ridge and then back down the other side to the
11 reservoir. And we got to see the area. And it's a very
12 clean forest. There's lots of good signage there
13 designating the designated OHV routes. And there was
14 some pretty good signage there to detract people from
15 going cross-country riding. So it was good. We had a
16 good time.

17 On the way up, I stopped at the Indian Springs
18 OHV area that's off of Eagle Lakes Road. I took a
19 little drive through there as far as I dare go in my
20 truck. But that was pretty nice. There was some Jeep
21 guys in there, and that looked like a nice area as well.

22 So that's about it. Just looks nice up here.
23 It's a beautiful area.

24 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you. Thank you,
25 Commissioner Murphy.

1 And if you don't mind, I'm going to move to the
2 other side and ask Commissioner Cabral if he would
3 report next.

4 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Okay.

5 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Yes. First off, I had an
6 opportunity to drive up here with Erin, so I think she
7 knows everything she needs to know about me at this
8 point. And Eric, of course, I've known for years.

9 First off, I'd like to -- I appreciate seeing
10 some people in the crowd, and it's nice to have, you
11 know, the different members of, you know, different
12 staffs from the Forest Service, BLM, from the Air
13 Resources Board. I'm glad you were here to make
14 presentations. I always enjoy those.

15 I will make detailed reports during the
16 committee reports as far as my dealings with any of the
17 agencies that I've had at this point.

18 I do want to report that I went back to the
19 National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council. They
20 had their conference back in Montana about six weeks
21 ago, and it was a great conference. And I'm happy to
22 report that their 25th anniversary conference is going
23 to be held here in California. So I encourage as many
24 people that are interested in OHV use as possible to
25 come to the conference and support it. These people do

1 a great -- they have a great program. They are all
2 about trying to make the public lands a better place for
3 all of us to visit and to recreate with.

4 And other than that, I think I'll keep it there
5 so we'll be able to move forward. All right?

6 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you.

7 Okay. We're going to move to Commissioner
8 Villegas.

9 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Good morning. It's not
10 working? Hello? Yeah? Okay.

11 Good morning, everyone. I -- a little bit about
12 myself. I'm from Los Angeles. I work in the -- I work
13 for the Board of Supervisors, and I work for Supervisor
14 Gloria Mulina. I have been with her off and on for the
15 past 15 years. I do a lot of work in conservation and a
16 lot of environmental issues: Water, air, flood control,
17 parks. You name it; I run the gamut.

18 I have been on the Commission now for a little
19 over a year. I am -- my expertise is in conservation.
20 I'm not necessarily an off-road participant, although I
21 appreciate what this entails. And I would like to
22 follow legislation in terms of how it is impacting OHV.

23 Over the summer, in terms of the involvement
24 that I've had pushing forward the OHV agenda, I
25 participated in one of the planning meetings for an

1 acquisition that we have in Southern California. And I
2 did that with Paul Slavik as well.

3 Other than that, I have not been as active as I
4 have anticipated just for personal reasons. And that is
5 my report.

6 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Thank you.

7 I'm going to go ahead and --

8 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Do you want me to read
9 the Policy Report?

10 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Yes.

11 Chair Paul Slavik wanted us to have a moment of
12 silence for Jim Keeler. And before I do that and -- and
13 Commissioner Villegas is going to read his report.
14 Deputy Director Conlin, I don't want to put you on the
15 spot, but is there a few words that you would like to
16 say about Jim Keeler? And then I'll give an opportunity
17 to the commissioners. I know he was a long-time partner
18 for the Division.

19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: All right. Yeah, we
20 absolutely honor him. He was a tremendous partner for
21 us. He was a great presence in the State of California.
22 He is grievously missed by many in BLM as well as across
23 the entire state. So Paul is right, I think it's proper
24 that we give him a moment of silence and think about all
25 the great things that he did during his lifetime for us.

1 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Is there anyone on the
2 Commission -- any commissioners that would like to say
3 anything?

4 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: I'd just like to say
5 that I worked with Jim Keeler for several years with the
6 BLM, and he was a friend and very easy to work with.
7 And I'm going to miss Jim.

8 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. I'd like to have a
9 moment of silence for Jim Keeler.

10 (Moment of silence.)

11 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Thank you. I did get
12 an opportunity to meet Jim. And he called me this
13 summer. And he was a good man. And we'll all miss him.

14 Commissioner Villegas, would you please read
15 Chair Paul Slavik's report --

16 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Sure.

17 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: -- for the record.

18 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Sure. I will try to
19 channel Paul.

20 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: That's the report.

21 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay.

22 "On May 14th I attended the National Outdoor
23 Recreation Conference in San Francisco with Dan Canfield
24 who made a very good presentation on the California
25 Off-Highway Vehicle Program. We made several good

1 contacts at the conference including a student from San
2 Francisco State University that was interested in OHV
3 recreation. I put him in contact with one of the
4 professors, Professor Jackson Wilson, Ph.D. in the
5 Department of Recreation and Parks and Tourism. We
6 discussed the possibility of a field trip of Carnegie
7 SVRA and getting his students more engaged in the OHV
8 recreational issues. That field trip will take place
9 after the start of the fall semester with the support of
10 Carnegie SVRA staff."

11 Is it okay?

12 (Unintelligible discussion among
13 the Commissioners.)

14 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay.

15 "On May 31st I had lunch with some folks that
16 were interested in starting a Youth Desert Service
17 Program and school in Joshua Tree National Monument.
18 Those folks are connected to Brendon School
19 Environmental Science and Management and Graduate School
20 at UCSB. They're very" -- a little previous -- "they
21 had very little previous knowledge of the program. This
22 could have been an interesting application with the
23 Wonder Valley OHV trespass situation in that area. More
24 to come on this.

25 "On July 10th, Urban Park Work Group at the

1 Castaic State Park to develop a plan for a one-day youth
2 outreach program in partnership with L.A. County Parks &
3 Rec and California State Parks, L.A. County Sheriff, Cal
4 State Northridge, Department of Health & Wellness and
5 our Boating and Waterways were included.

6 "The activities included ATV experience,
7 environmental training, water safety, a recreation
8 component that will take place next on October 18th.

9 "On July 31st Teresa" -- that's myself -- "Dan
10 and Chris Hon, Hungry Valley SVRA from the State, and
11 myself attended open house for the new Hungry Valley
12 SVRA acquisition. You'll hear more about that in the
13 follow-up meetings that took place.

14 "On August 8th, Paul met with Honda personnel to
15 discuss a possible donation to the Off-Road PALS Program
16 (phonetic). More to come on that. Also that evening I
17 joined Garratt Aitchison from Ocotillo Wells for a
18 presentation that was billed as a Dirt Lifestyle event,
19 called Off Roads Night in Temecula. There were several
20 presenters besides us talking about this issue. And
21 this was the first time this type of event took place.
22 Turn out was low, but the promoter promises big things
23 next year."

24 And, Commissioner Cabral, Paul was very excited
25 that you attended the National OHV Conference in

1 Montana, and he expresses his excitement for a potential
2 joint meeting next year.

3 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Yeah, thank you.

4 I'm going to pass on my Commissioner Report. It
5 is going to be combined during the Committee Reports.
6 Commissioner Patrovsky and I are tag-teaming. So you'll
7 hear a little bit more later.

8 But I would like to let the new commissioners
9 know my name is Diana Pérez. I've been on the
10 Commission for three years. It's been lots of fun.
11 I've greatly enjoyed it. I got involved because I have
12 a son who loves anything and everything that has a motor
13 in it. So that's somehow I ended up here. But I've
14 definitely appreciated everything that I've learned. It
15 is a very impressive program.

16 And there's a lot to learn, Erin, but you'll see
17 how fun it really is.

18 So I'm going to go ahead and now turn it over to
19 Commissioner Patrovsky.

20 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: I've worked for 28
21 years as a law enforcement officer, National Resources,
22 the last 15 and a half with the BLM. And I want to
23 thank Commissioner Pérez for helping facilitate a
24 presentation that's going to be made by John Blachley,
25 who is a patrolman for the Sierra Pacific Corporation.

1 I want to introduce John real quick, hear a little bit
2 about his background. He has 30-years' experience as a
3 law enforcement -- law enforcement agencies, 13 years of
4 which, of course, chief ranger for the Palm Springs
5 Field Office for the BLM. This was after getting --
6 obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree at Cal Poly,
7 San Luis Obispo. In 1988 he made the mistake of hiring
8 me as one of his rangers, and I -- I worked for John for
9 three years; one of the best of my career. Back in
10 those days we -- we patrolled on ATCs before they were
11 outlawed. One thing that John was very heavy in was --
12 we would camp out in the desert on weekends and go out
13 on patrol and meet the recreationists. And upon
14 retirement, he became a cadet training officer for the
15 California Fish & Wildlife Game Warden's Academy. And
16 he also has accepted a part-time teaching position at
17 the National Park Service Seasonal Ranger Academy at
18 Santa Rosa Junior College.

19 John's going to be giving a short presentation
20 about OHV trespass problems from designated routes on
21 adjacent National Forest onto the private property of
22 Sierra Pacific Corporation for which he works. And at
23 this point, I'll turn it over to John.

24 JOHN BLACHLEY: Well, first, I'd like to thank
25 the Commissioner --

1 Does that work? Great.

2 First I'd to thank the Commission for allowing
3 me some time to present this issue that we're having on
4 private property. And, also, it's kind of revealing to
5 me to be here and see Commissioner Patrovsky. And, you
6 know, he said it was the best time of his career; yet,
7 he was only there for three years. So I'll have to ask
8 that.

9 The one thing I want to bring out, as you heard,
10 I have over 30 years' experience in the field of law
11 enforcement with the Bureau of Land Management and the
12 Park Service. And the one thing I want to bring out
13 before I bring my presentation is that the individuals
14 that I am contacting on private property, illegally
15 trespassing, illegally denuding our watersheds, there's
16 a different stewardship of these individuals. There's a
17 different tread-lightly idea of these individuals than
18 when I contacted users on the public lands. And this is
19 incorporated with just not destruction of natural
20 features but to the lack of OHV registration, no spark
21 arresters and, I know it's not illegal on private
22 property, but double riding, no helmets and also if you
23 go by contact, very many of them are DUI. So there is a
24 separation of these individuals that I am contacting.

25 Next slide. Do I get to --

1 All right. I work for Sierra Pacific
2 Industries. We are a timber-harvesting agency and a
3 private company. And as such, we come under the
4 California Timber Harvest Practices Act. And this act
5 mandates a CEQA equivalent report on all timber harvest
6 activities. So before we can harvest an area, we must
7 submit an equivalent CEQA document.

8 We have now a very strict oversight by
9 California Department of Water Quality and California
10 Fish & Game on any water-quality issues on our property.
11 And if you haven't noticed, if you're a purchaser of
12 timber, recently there's been tax -- a consumer tax
13 placed on timber that has added to the staff of water
14 quality and Fish & Wildlife to do water-quality
15 monitoring.

16 I currently patrol 220,000 acres. That's my
17 district. I take in three separate counties. And I
18 understand that Sierra Pacific owns 1.7 million acres in
19 California, private property.

20 Next one.

21 I bring these slides to show your attention --
22 it involves all aspects, from ATVs -- you can see here
23 we put trail cameras up on some of our gates. These
24 gates are anywhere from \$1,000 to \$1,500, and we have
25 thousands of them all over our property to try to keep

1 trespassers out, basically, because we have to deal with
2 sedimentation and water-quality issues.

3 Next one.

4 It goes to motorcycles and -- from ATVs, we have
5 problems with motorcycles going through our plantations,
6 going through our lands without authorization.

7 Next.

8 And already two primary vehicles. We have the
9 Jeeps out there doing the same thing. Unfortunately
10 this Jeep was going -- had just left a meadow where he
11 tore up some forest and did quite a bit of damage to a
12 meadow that was on our property.

13 Next one.

14 We also have something that's starting here, and
15 that's called the establishment of some illegal routes
16 of travel. You can see that -- it's kind of hard to
17 see, but to the left there's a yellow sign there. We
18 post these signs "Private Property," "No Off-Road" --
19 "No Vehicle Use." We put the Penal Code section. We
20 put all that in there, and yet these individuals are
21 placing what's called a wall trail, an illegal trail
22 that they're establishing on our property. And these
23 trails go for miles. And so this is some of the issues
24 that we have on that area.

25 Next slide.

1 In 2008 we and Butte County and Plumas County,
2 we experienced a severe fire. And this fire burnt
3 thousands of acres of our land. We're able to do what
4 we refer to as salvage harvesting of the timber. And
5 immediately after that we went and we replanted
6 plantations. And you can see that in the middle of our
7 plantations this illegal off-road vehicle route. Now,
8 if I could take a panoramic of all our plantation here,
9 you would see several of these routes.

10 Now, one of the interesting things of this photo
11 is this area is adjacent to an approved Federal Land
12 Management Agency OHV route. And we have a lot of
13 issues with individuals not staying on the approved
14 federal routes but instead going on our property and
15 other private properties.

16 Next slide.

17 This, again, is another plantation that we have.
18 This is adjacent to a Federal Land Management Agency.
19 Our concern here is this is more of a granitic soil.
20 And we have Class 1 and Class 2 streams on our property
21 for trout and salmon, and so these granitic soils, if
22 they get into adjacent Dogwood Creek here, they're going
23 to cause a lot of havoc with spawning and with our fish
24 populations. But this is one we've -- you can see the
25 logs that we've put. We've tried everything to stop

1 this illegal trespass. And we have some major
2 sedimentation right here.

3 Next one.

4 This is another -- this is in our Redding Field
5 Office. This is where they'll just cut right through
6 the trees and make their own trails. They'll just come
7 behind the gates, and then they'll come up here. And
8 you can see the major sedimentation issue that's going
9 to come from this when we get rainfall.

10 Next one.

11 This slide indicates -- this is a gated road.
12 We have forest roads. We have many, many miles of
13 forest roads. And during the wintertime, they're locked
14 up and they're even locked up to us. We do not go on
15 those roads during the winter, because, as you can see
16 from the tracks in this slide, it will -- that mud will
17 go into this stream. This is Dogwood Creek. This is a
18 Class 2 trout habitat stream. And you can see the
19 sedimentation that's already occurring from this illegal
20 trespass route.

21 Next one.

22 This one's a little difficult to see, but this
23 is a road here, and that going through the trees there
24 is an illegal OHV -- or a motorcycle route. And what
25 happened was we had -- believe it or not, if you can

1 remember back in December, we did get some rain. And we
2 had a big flash flood that came down. The water was
3 channeled down that route, came to the road, and blew
4 the road out and blew all that sediment into what's
5 called Kimsheew Creek. That's a Class 1 trout habitat
6 stream. So we continue to have these issues on our
7 lands.

8 Now, what I have done is I've given each
9 commissioner some -- a plan of some remedies, things
10 that we would like to see. I don't know if I have time
11 to discuss those or anything. But, again, from my 30
12 years' experience of law enforcement, I do want to bring
13 to the Commission, I do appreciate that the OHV Law
14 Enforcement Grant that Butte County was extended, it
15 helped us. They're in the infancy of developing this
16 program. And that is one of my recommendations is that
17 there be an increase --

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: I'm sorry.

19 JOHN BLACHLEY: Go ahead.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Not right now.

21 JOHN BLACHLEY: Okay. That's fine.

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: At the end. If you
23 want to report on the issues, then that's appropriate.
24 If you want to give us recommendations, that's during
25 the Public Comment period.

1 JOHN BLACHLEY: Okay. That's fine.

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay? Thank you.

3 JOHN BLACHLEY: All right. Thank you. I really
4 appreciate this opportunity, and thank you again.

5 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you, John. Thank you.

6 Okay. Any questions?

7 Okay. We're going to move to Committee Reports.

8 Let's see. Do any Commissioners have any Committee
9 Reports?

10 Okay. I'm sorry. I'm sorry. Let me just --
11 we'll get to the Committee Reports in a minute.

12 I'd like to have our guest Tim Beals do a
13 short -- you want to -- welcome. Come on up. And I
14 know you have a few things to say and -- before we move
15 on with the agenda. But thank you for being here.

16 TIM BEALS: Thank you very much. I appreciate
17 the opportunity to address you and take me out of order.
18 I've got to be back in Sierra County at 11:00, and it's
19 a little ways off.

20 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: That's okay. Thank you.

21 TIM BEALS: But, again, I thank you.

22 My name's Tim Beals. I'm the County Public
23 Works Director, Planning Director, Building official,
24 and about 12 other titles that I have in a very small
25 frontier county.

1 I welcome you here today. And I'm sorry the
2 tour was canceled, but I know -- I had planned to make a
3 short presentation to you at Little Truckee Summit, and
4 unfortunately that had to be canceled. So maybe we can
5 do that some day in the future. In fact, I would extend
6 an invitation to the Commission to come to Sierra County
7 and have one of your meetings there and enjoy, stay and
8 play in the frontier. I know there's fewer cars and
9 more deer and mountain lion and bears. So please enjoy
10 your stay there.

11 It's good to see Kathryn Tobias. I've been with
12 the county 40 years, and we've crossed paths a number of
13 years.

14 (Multiple speakers.)

15 COUNSEL TOBIAS: Take me out of that.

16 TIM BEALS: Yeah. And our paths have crossed,
17 and it's good to see you.

18 COUNSEL TOBIAS: I was a child.

19 TIM BEALS: We all -- we all were. We're
20 more -- I guess we're better suited for it now.

21 COUNSEL TOBIAS: Yes.

22 TIM BEALS: But I'm here for two reasons: One
23 is certainly to welcome you, but is to just extend our
24 appreciation from the county level for your continued
25 support of the county's OSV Program. I believe we're

1 still the only county that manages an OSV Program, and
2 we've been doing that for nine years. We have a very
3 strong cooperative partnership with the Forest Service,
4 Tahoe National Forest, and Plumas National Forest to
5 some extent, and -- and your staff. And I compliment
6 your staff. They're very easy to work with and very
7 accommodating.

8 We also have a very unique program. We have a
9 group of volunteers that operate the entire West Side
10 Grooming Program. They operate a state-owned groomer.
11 It's a very successful program.

12 On the west side -- on the east side of the
13 county we have a contract groomer that's stationed out
14 at the Little Truckee Summit, and that's the location
15 that we would have been able to tour you the other day,
16 but we'll try that again some day.

17 But we have the largest groomed-trail program in
18 Northern California. We have 240 miles of groomed
19 trails. We are the recreational winter-known for the
20 Lake Tahoe/Truckee area, for the Reno/Sparks area. We
21 have a high, high usage at the Little Truckee Summit.

22 On the west side of the county we serve not only
23 the region that I just identified, but some of the
24 Sacramento/Grass Valley area, and we have a high use on
25 the west side as well. So we have a very successful

1 program. And we encourage your continued support of the
2 program.

3 And I want to highlight the fact that we have a
4 group of volunteers that are really -- they really make
5 this program successful. And I hope you at some point
6 in time get to extend your appreciation and recognition
7 of that effort to them because it wouldn't happen
8 without them.

9 The other issue I wanted to point out is that
10 the Forest Service has received a grant from you for
11 NEPA work regarding the expansion of the Little Truckee
12 Summit parking area, the trailhead. We appreciate your
13 acknowledgment of that program, your support through the
14 grant, and we're looking forward to a second round of
15 funding that will allow the construction of the
16 expansion of this facility, which is long overdue. And
17 it has a host of safety and health issues, has a host of
18 management issues that will -- it will certainly be
19 appropriate. And this use is a vital economic engine to
20 the Sierra/Nevada County region. So we hope you will
21 continue to support the program.

22 But I'm here representing the Board of
23 Supervisors. And I want to just welcome you here. This
24 isn't Sierra County, but we're close. We're about 15
25 miles to the north. And we certainly extend the

1 invitation to you at any time you come to Sierra County.
2 Be glad to show you around and would welcome that
3 opportunity.

4 So are there any questions of anybody? And I'd
5 be glad to try and respond or describe the program if I
6 failed to give you enough detail.

7 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Any questions?

8 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Do you have any trail maps
9 available? Do you have them here, by chance?

10 TIM BEALS: I don't have any with me unless the
11 Forest Service -- one of my cohorts to my left or to my
12 right, they may have some programs -- or some maps.
13 But, if not, we can certainly get them to you. Be glad
14 to do that.

15 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Yeah, that would be nice
16 if it wasn't easiest enough to do.

17 TIM BEALS: Glad to do it. I think they may
18 have some of those maps here with them. So --

19 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: All right. Thank you.

20 TIM BEALS: -- we'll make that happen.

21 But thank you again. And I appreciate the
22 opportunity. And thank you for taking me out of order.
23 I sincerely appreciate it.

24 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you. Thank you for
25 your report, Ms. Beals. And we definitely want to come

1 back again for that tour.

2 **AGENDA ITEM IV(B) - COMMITTEE REPORTS**

3 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Committee Reports.

4 Any reports on this side of the table? Any
5 reports? Okay.

6 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Actually, you know, I'd
7 like to --

8 On the National Forests Committee, there is the
9 Early Adopters of the new Planning process that is the
10 Sierra, Stanislaus, and Inyo National Forest, I believe.
11 I think I got them right.

12 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Sequoia.

13 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Sequoia. Excuse me. Too
14 many S's.

15 Anyway, with that, I've been involved in
16 monitoring the process, making comment. And I have to
17 say that it's very important for people with any
18 recreation interest to be involved. So whether it's
19 you're a -- whatever type it is, whether it's motorized,
20 non-motorized, because recreation now has a seat at the
21 table in the planning process with the National Forest.
22 So to be able to, you know, make sure that we're
23 sustainable and -- and will be there for a long period
24 of time, we have to be involved in the process. Without
25 that, it's just not going to be part of the plan. But

1 at least this time we have a seat at the table. So I
2 think things are moving forward well, and I'm looking
3 forward to hearing some of the information from the
4 Forest Service personnel when they make their report.

5 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you, Ted.

6 Any Committee Reports?

7 Commissioner Murphy, do you have any additional
8 reports?

9 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Just --
10 Ted, do you want to finish? Is that what you
11 said?

12 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Yeah. I had one more
13 thing.

14 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Go ahead.

15 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Go ahead.

16 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Also, on the Statewide
17 Motorized Trail, I'd like to make an official request to
18 have it be an agenda item on our next meeting.
19 Actually, what I'd like to have it is to be in two
20 segments. If we could have it at a Southern California
21 meeting and then at a Northern California meeting so we
22 can get public comment from each section of the state on
23 what their views are on the Statewide Motorized Trail so
24 we can kind of come up with a good plan to move that
25 forward, please.

1 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Yes.

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. We should be
3 able to do that, Madam Chair.

4 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Yeah. Yes.

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. All right.

6 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Good. Thank you.

7 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Yeah.

8 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Go ahead, Teresa.

9 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: You know, I neglected
10 to -- I just wanted to elaborate a little bit more on
11 the committee that Paul and I sit on for like outreach
12 and for involving more youth. Since we didn't need to
13 in the summer, I know that we're going to be having our
14 first event in October. Good participation has been
15 involved with our L.A. County folks and with the State
16 in order to get youth introduced to off-roading and just
17 to get them out of the urban area and into a different
18 path. And I think that's really important. I just
19 wanted to commend the staff, you know, for their
20 involvement with that process. And, also, just to
21 continue to be able to characterize our users and -- as
22 this program is going to be launching, I think if
23 there's any way for us to just keep track of how many,
24 you know, youth are participating, where they're from,
25 and how -- you know, the -- kind of the good and the bad

1 as the program progresses.

2 That's it.

3 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Good. Thank you.

4 Commissioner Murphy.

5 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Our group has been working
6 on OHV safety training specifically for kids and also
7 for the Oceano Dunes Area. As I said, I went through
8 the Oregon State online course. And the program was
9 lengthy but, to be honest, as I went through it, I was
10 kind of looking for things that didn't necessarily need
11 to be there. And other than some specifics about how to
12 load an ATV on a trailer and some other things, I didn't
13 see a lot that really could be taken out. So whether or
14 not we adopt our own program or make that a viable
15 alternative, I'll have to meet with Commissioner Pérez
16 and tend to hash that out further.

17 But the program as it stands from Oregon is --
18 it's substantial, but it is thorough and it's pretty
19 complete.

20 So that's about it.

21 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: I agree with that.

22 Commissioner Patrovsky, did you want to cover
23 some of our work on the Pacific Crest Trail? Would you
24 please report on that.

25 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: I'll do my best.

1 Diana Pérez and I have been -- since the last
2 Commission Meeting, we were appointed to head a Law
3 Enforcement Committee, and as such, we have worked on
4 some issues regarding the Pacific Crest Trail in the
5 area south of Tehachapi. We have contacted, met and
6 conducted field trips with members of two property
7 owners associations: The current Recreation Landowners
8 Association, which is composed of individuals who have
9 purchased property near the PCT in the Rosamond area so
10 that they have a place to ride; and there's another
11 group that's further north towards Tehachapi, the Oak
12 Canyon Association, I believe they're called. I could
13 be wrong on that.

14 But the -- this group is concerned about OHV
15 trespass onto their private property, and they basically
16 want this trespassing to stop. These two groups for
17 years haven't gotten along very well, and there have
18 been some accusations flying back and forth. And what
19 we've been trying to do is to get them to talk to each
20 other and also to see if we can work out some of the
21 vehicle trespass problems on the PCT itself. And this
22 is also in conjunction with the Division's attempts
23 to -- for better signage for use -- with use of kiosk
24 and other information in order to try and work out some
25 of these problems. We've conducted field trips. We've

1 had representatives with the Kern County Sheriff's
2 Department who have explained some of the limitations on
3 enforcement action. For instance, just getting a -- a
4 green sticker number on a bike and a bike description in
5 a trespass situation usually in itself is not sufficient
6 for a citation. You needed to get a good look at the
7 rider. Riders wear a helmet, and that doesn't work very
8 well.

9 So we've -- I think we made some progress in
10 getting these two groups to talk to each other. There's
11 a lot of long-standing animosity. And, you know, we
12 haven't been able to eliminate all of that. But some
13 communication's better than none. We're going to keep
14 at it.

15 And, Commissioner Pérez, would you like to add
16 anything to that?

17 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: The only thing I want to a
18 add is at the last Commission Meeting, Chief Jenkins
19 said -- and -- you know, and I remembered this, he said
20 the kiosks, the panels are the first step. And I
21 really -- and we don't know if it's going to take ten
22 steps to get where maybe we can maybe work this out.
23 But I really think that the panels, the kiosks are very
24 important. It is a very important step to get the
25 information out there to the public. And I don't want

1 to, you know, go over everything that Ed has gone over,
2 but it's been a great learning experience. We've spent
3 a lot of time out there.

4 And I think in a nutshell I do want to
5 acknowledge that Brian Robertson and Mike Howard have
6 done an incredible job. I think when -- Commissioners,
7 when you get a little more involved, you start seeing
8 what it really takes and the amount of effort and time
9 to get -- to put all this together. So I've been very
10 impressed. And I know Brian isn't here, but he should
11 be commended for all his work and Mike Howard. We just
12 kind of took it over.

13 And so I'm just looking forward to seeing those
14 kiosks and those panels out there, and then seeing
15 how -- hopefully that things get better at that point.

16 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: Commissioner Pérez,
17 would you like me to discuss the meeting we attended in
18 Landers?

19 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Did you just -- could you
20 just go over the five items --

21 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: Sure.

22 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: There are five items that
23 were suggested. And we're just going to briefly just --
24 we're not going to solve them. It's just -- it's very
25 complex. But let's just cover them briefly.

1 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: Okay. Commissioner
2 Pérez and I attended a -- were invited and attended a
3 meeting of the Alliance for Responsible Recreation,
4 which is a confederation of several environmental groups
5 representing hundreds of members. This was held in
6 Landers on August 9th. And most of you came and
7 listened and interacted with them on some of the points.

8 But they came up with five points that they
9 wanted us to bring to the Commission for our
10 consideration. One of them -- the first one is
11 educational outreach. One idea that they came up with
12 would be public service announcements. As I mentioned
13 at the meeting, Clint Eastwood did one for the BLM about
14 20 years ago where he said, Some guys out there are
15 trashing the public. And they can either get their act
16 together or get out of town, however Clint talks. And I
17 think that this idea of using some imagination along
18 with a positive message can have a lot of impact. I
19 think that Clint Eastwood's did.

20 The second one is they expressed a wish for
21 greater fines and also vehicle impoundment and
22 confiscation for flagrant violations. This is something
23 that we've discussed a lot. It's a very complex issue
24 both at the State and the federal level. So I won't get
25 into that a lot. But they're concerned about that.

1 The third one is the issue of visible
2 identification plates for OHVs. This is something that
3 we explained at the meeting. This problem -- this is
4 controlled by the DMV and not by our Division. It's
5 something that's probably not going to happen at least
6 in the foreseeable future. I did explain that we're
7 probably going to have larger stickers on the vehicles
8 which would be easier to see.

9 Number four was harassment and intimidation that
10 some critics of OHV trespass feel that they've
11 experienced. That was something that was covered by
12 some of the speakers at the last Commission Meeting.

13 The fifth point was they want to see more
14 restrictions on youth. And this wasn't discussed a
15 whole lot, but I think they were talking about not only
16 parental supervision but enforcement, such things as
17 making sure that the kids are on machines that are
18 designed for kids and not for adults and other -- more
19 safety training, also.

20 So those are the five points that they wanted us
21 to bring back to the Commission.

22 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Thank you.

23 Was there a comment that --

24 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Yes. Commissioner Pérez,
25 I just wanted to ask a question about the committees --

1 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Yes.

2 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: -- since we have two new
3 Commissioners. I know I have an interest in getting
4 engaged in some of the committees, and I'm sure
5 Commissioner Hafkenschiel also has similar interests.

6 So I wanted to see if we were going to review
7 those at some point soon. I can just let you know my
8 interests at this moment are Forest Service, BLM and the
9 new Fuel Tax Study, SB853.

10 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Deputy Director Conlin, do
11 you offhand know which committees are available, open?
12 I don't know whether you have that list readily
13 available.

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: We do have the list. I
15 don't know that we have it right now. I'm looking to
16 staff if we've got it available. We can --

17 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Maybe we can come back to
18 that.

19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Probably, but -- Yeah.

20 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Maybe after --

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: You can review it. And
22 if you want to take a look at it -- the one -- and I
23 know you probably remember this from the last time you
24 were on the Commission, one caveat with these is we have
25 to keep it to two Commissioners. So if there's already

1 two, you've either got to bump a guy or -- right, or --

2 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Yeah.

3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: We can work it out
4 somehow. But yeah, we've got to limit it to two just so
5 we don't get in trouble here. Kathryn will yell at me
6 if we don't.

7 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: I understand. You don't
8 need to -- understood.

9 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay.

11 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. We'll come back to it,
12 Eric. Okay?

13 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Thank you.

14 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: All righty. We're going to
15 go -- okay, all the Committee Reports are done. And
16 Chief -- Administrative Chief -- I'm sorry. Okay.

17 Do you need a break? You okay?

18 THE REPORTER: I'm fine.

19 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Let me know.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: And can I --

21 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Yes.

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: One more real quick
23 comment before -- I saw a couple of feared looks in the
24 audience.

25 Just one correction on what Ed said so that --

1 the stickers will not be larger; the numbers on the
2 stickers will be larger on the next iteration. So it
3 would be the same-sized sticker. But from DMV, what
4 we're able to do was create numbers that were larger,
5 the actual assigned digits to that particular vehicle so
6 the people could see it better if they're looking for
7 it. So -- okay?

8 Thanks.

9 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you.

10 Okay. Can we -- did you need to take a break or
11 can we wait a little bit? Is that okay? Do you need a
12 break?

13 COUNSEL TOBIAS: What does everyone --

14 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. I think we're good.
15 We're good, right? Okay. Great.

16 Okay. Administrative Chief Maria, you will be
17 introducing our new employees to the Division.

18 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: Yes.

19 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Thank you.

20 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: Good morning,
21 Commissioners, members of the public. My name is Maria
22 Mowrey, Administrative Chief.

23 I'd like to introduce some new staff to the
24 Division. We've had some staff changes since the last
25 meeting, and so there are some of them here in the

1 audience and I would like to introduce them. For those
2 that I call your name, please stand up so the
3 Commissioners know who you are.

4 We have Katie Metraux. She's a new Planning --
5 Planning specialist. She started in April.

6 We also have Maria Olmos. She's our new Grant
7 administrator.

8 We also have Mark Hada. He's a State Parks
9 Superintendent III, and he will be overseeing our
10 Visitors Services Program. And he actually hasn't
11 started yet, but he starts next week.

12 Also I wanted to note a few staff that are
13 moving on. Barbara Greenwood, a Grant administrator.
14 She is retiring as of September 30th. So many of you
15 know her. She's not here today.

16 Also our Superintendent Brian Robertson has
17 moved on to Point Sur. So he's now on the coast.

18 And then Mike Lair has also moved on. He's now
19 at Russian River District.

20 Also one final person that I wanted to
21 acknowledge and thank very much is Mike Howard. He is
22 moving on to Folsom Lake Sector. And so this will be
23 his last meeting, but I am hoping he will continue
24 helping us with our work here at the Division.

25 That's all I have to announce. Thank you.

1 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you.

2 (Applause.)

3 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: The Commission welcomes you.
4 And we're very excited to have you part of the team. We
5 look forward to your contributions to the OHMVR. And we
6 look forward to getting to know you better.

7 And, Mike, we certainly are going to miss you.
8 I was disappointed, you know, but I'm sure we'll see
9 you. We'll see you around, but thank you. Thank you so
10 much form everything you've done.

11 Okay. Thank you, Maria.

12 **AGENDA ITEM V - PROGRAM REPORTS**

13 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: We're -- let's see. I think
14 we can go another 10 or 15 minutes. So we're going to
15 go ahead and start with the Program Reports.

16 And we have the report from the U.S. Forest
17 Service, Kathy Mick.

18 Welcome.

19 **AGENDA ITEM V(A) - PROGRAM REPORTS - U.S. FOREST SERVICE**

20 USFS MS. MICK: Good morning, Commissioners,
21 Division staff, and members of the public. My name is
22 Kathleen Mick, and I work in the regional office for the
23 Forest Service and I manage the trails, OHV and Travel
24 Management Program.

25 (Microphone interruption in the proceedings.)

1 USFS MS. MICK: And so I'd like to start out our
2 presentation by introducing some of the staff from the
3 Tahoe National Forest, and then they're going to go
4 ahead and give a presentation and talk a little bit
5 about some of the things you weren't able to see
6 yesterday because of the cancellation of the field trip.
7 And then when they conclude, I'll go ahead and finish
8 with the items on my overall regional report.

9 So first I'd like to introduce some of the staff
10 that are here, and then a couple of those folks will
11 come up and speak to you.

12 The first person I'd like to introduce is Terry
13 Brennan, who is the Public Service Staff Officer for the
14 Tahoe National Forest out of Nevada City.

15 And then I'd also like to introduce Quentin
16 Youngblood, who's the Sierraville District Ranger. And
17 Quentin will be speaking to you.

18 And then Joe Chavez, who works also out of
19 Nevada City. And he's the Tahoe Trail Program Manager
20 for the entire forest.

21 Then also with us today we have Jeff Wiley,
22 who's one of the Recreation -- Rec officers and an
23 awesome field presence for Sierraville.

24 And then John George, who's in the back here,
25 from the -- who's the Rec Staff Officer from the Truckee

1 Ranger District.

2 And so Quentin and Joe and Jeff are going to
3 give you a little presentation. Then, as I mentioned,
4 I'll go ahead and conclude.

5 USFS MR. CHAVEZ: We're going low tech here.
6 It's an old-fashioned board. So I hope that's okay.

7 Do you guys have a little traveling mike or
8 should I promise just to speak loudly?

9 (Multiple speakers.)

10 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Will you please make sure you
11 introduce yourself before you begin.

12 USFS MR. CHAVEZ: Yes. My name is Joe Chavez.
13 I'm the Trails Recreation Specialist on the Tahoe
14 National Forest.

15 Thank you, Terry.

16 And one of my main duties is managing the
17 off-highway vehicle grants. And hopefully you guys will
18 be able to, for the most part, see this.

19 Sorry we didn't have the opportunity go out and
20 see some of the local OHV Program management that goes
21 on at the Tahoe National Forest yesterday. So -- but in
22 this short amount of time that we have to talk about OHV
23 and OSV management on the Tahoe National Forest, the
24 main thing that we want to convey to the Commission is
25 our appreciation for the partnership that we've had with

1 the OHV Division over the many years.

2 And the Division's help has been immensely
3 instrumental to us in being able to manage the
4 off-highway vehicle and Over-Snow vehicle programs on
5 the Tahoe National Forest. And they are very numerous.
6 You might want to look at those because there's a lot of
7 stuff that you guys help us with and don't want to
8 forget about.

9 But instead of reciting numbers of visitors and
10 miles of different kind of trails that we have, what
11 I'll say is that of the four districts that comprise the
12 Tahoe National Forest, each one of them has a robust
13 both off-highway vehicle and Over-Snow vehicle program
14 to meet the demands that are put on us from the users.
15 And you can see this, as you're looking through the map,
16 why, because we have Interstate 80 that traverses the
17 forest bisecting it, and we have other major highways,
18 like Highway 20 here connecting the Grass Valley area;
19 Highway 49 going up through the north Yuba country, and
20 89 going to Sierraville down to Truckee and on down
21 south towards Lake Tahoe. So all those provide easy
22 access for the major metropolitan areas of Reno, just
23 over here, Sacramento, and then down onto the Bay Area.

24 So what I'd like to do is highlight, however, to
25 the Commission how the Division's grants have helped us

1 with managing OHV opportunities on the forest, and
2 especially -- so I'm going to focus on some of the
3 unique things that the Tahoe National Forest provides to
4 the OHV, OSV user. And we're going to start from the
5 north and work down.

6 The Downieville area on the very northern end is
7 the challenging single-track major interest area in this
8 region. In fact, in Travel Management, when we went
9 through our process, we learned that it is the best
10 quality, remote, challenging single-track system this
11 side of Idaho. And we have the Gold Valley Area up here
12 also, probably one of the -- personally -- and it's not
13 just because I work on that district for so long -- is
14 one of the most beautiful areas on the Tahoe National
15 Forest. The only way you can get in there is with
16 four-by-four trail access.

17 We also have this smaller piece but more of that
18 challenging single-track area down here, Halls Ranch,
19 Fiddle Creek.

20 Now, Travel Management, we learned, clarified
21 through everybody, including the Forest Service
22 employees that the higher-level roads that users used to
23 go between this system and this area were no longer
24 available -- were no longer available between these
25 areas for legal OHV use, non-street legal. And -- so

1 with the help of the OHV Division, we are currently
2 under a funding grant to look at providing a trail to
3 connect these two areas again.

4 Let's see here. Oh, the other thing I forgot to
5 mention about the Downieville area is -- most of you
6 probably have heard of the Downieville Downhill. It's a
7 very popular mountain-bike riding area. And so they
8 share the same trails as the OHV'ers do. And we've
9 worked with the shuttle companies and that to make sure
10 that they're providing a good trail-ethic message so
11 that we reduce conflict. And it has been very
12 successful. There's the annual Downieville Classic
13 Mountain Bike Race that happens there. Brings a lot of
14 economic stimulus to Downieville.

15 Let's see. Now as we move a little further
16 south, we've got the Burlington area. This is what we
17 call woods riding. And it is about 50 miles of winding,
18 twisty trails that goes in between all the trees out
19 there. And the riders -- single-track motorcycle area.
20 You're not getting out of second or third gear most of
21 the time. It's a very different kind of experience,
22 very unique to this area. Travel Management, we
23 understood that there are going to be more people coming
24 to develop systems like Burlington because some of the
25 roads they used to use were not available anymore. So

1 we entered into the planning grant with the Division to
2 make that system less confusing and safer. Less
3 confusing by getting trail connections. Instead of
4 having them use the existing roads and find that
5 the next trail segment -- a lot of people got lost out
6 there. There's been some search and rescues. So --
7 also make it safer by creating a couple new trail
8 entry/exit points from the Chalk Bluff staging area to
9 better distribute the riders throughout the system.

10 We also have at the -- near the Chalk Bluff
11 staging area, a remote soil-moisture monitoring station
12 that we are working with San Dimas Technology Center to
13 try and get better information, timely information about
14 current ground conditions to measure soil moisture,
15 precipitation, takes pictures, sends it through cellular
16 connection so we can read this information on computers.
17 And so we're doing that so that we can get to the point
18 of making open/close decisions about the trail system
19 based on actual ground conditions and do it effectively
20 and reliably with scientific base data.

21 You guys had funded a Wet Weather Management
22 Report through Roger Poff, and we worked with him. He
23 came out to some of our sites and did some of those
24 measurements. And through his work and the tools he's
25 developing, we are going to actually get a chance to

1 combine his work and this remote soil-sensing
2 technology. We got a Federal Highways Grant and --
3 specifically to pull those two together to give managers
4 this on-the-ground reliable ability to open and close
5 trails to better protect the ground and to actually
6 provide more opportunity for riding.

7 As we move further to the east from about the
8 Fordyce -- could you raise -- I'm curious, could you
9 raise your hand if you've heard of the Fordyce Jeep
10 Trail.

11 (Commissioners and audience respond.)

12 USFS MR. CHAVEZ: How about the Rubicon?

13 (Commissioners and audience respond.)

14 USFS MR. CHAVEZ: Okay. Fordyce Jeep Trail is
15 actually a step higher, more difficult, challenging than
16 the Rubicon. And there's been a lot of law enforcement
17 effort on the Rubicon. And some of the people who
18 didn't want to be seen or heard by law enforcement ended
19 up coming over here. So it presented some challenges.
20 But thanks to the Ground Operations Grants, the Forest
21 Service has been able to acquire and modify two Jeeps,
22 because we need two; you have to go in pairs on this
23 kind of trail to be safe. So we can now traverse that
24 trail. Fordyce Trail is the -- you know, the Sierra
25 Track Annual Event? That happens on this trail. And

1 now because of that, we've been able to more actively
2 manage the trails out there and provide law -- we're
3 starting to provide that law enforcement presence that
4 has been missing and desperately needed.

5 And we move further east towards the Truckee
6 area, we've got the Prosser Pits. And this is unique
7 because, as far as we know, it is the only
8 motocross-style track-style opportunity on National
9 Forest system lands. And just -- and there's also 27
10 acres of open riding area in the same location.

11 Now, just further north on Highway 89 is Little
12 Truckee Summit. And the winter program is so popular
13 out here near Sierraville -- between Sierraville and
14 Truckee that the existing facilities are overwhelmed.
15 And thanks to the Division and that funding grant that
16 Quentin will be talking about in some more detail
17 shortly to look at expanding that to meet that need. As
18 we move to.

19 As move to the south, you've got the Sugar Pine
20 OHV Area near Foresthill. There's about a hundred miles
21 of ATV and motorcycle trails out there, about an hour
22 drive from Sacramento. And what's neat about this area
23 is it's family-friendly, we call it. There's a lot of
24 ATV gentle trails here for your beginners, people
25 learning, kids all the way up to advanced, challenging,

1 single-track trails to the east. And we also have one
2 of those remote monitoring stations at this location.

3 Thanks to the Division, we had recently
4 completed the Planning Grant that looked at enhancing,
5 expanding three staging areas needed: two OHV and then
6 one OSV in this area. There's also a big OSV Program
7 out in this same location. And we've recently finished
8 that. We've got the plans ready. We successfully got
9 an RTP Grant to build one of those. And we will be
10 submitting in this next round a Development Grant to
11 build one of the other OHV staging areas because we're
12 just not meeting the demand with the existing facility
13 that we have now.

14 Let's see. And then just in general with the
15 ongoing Ground Operations Grants that enable us to
16 maintain not only in these areas but all the other areas
17 in between for OHV, and we have been aggressive on the
18 restoration side, too, with the help of the Division
19 really fixing the bleeding areas that we have out on
20 the forest. So thanks to the Division, we are better
21 able to manage our SVUs that's happening, enhance it,
22 and better protect the land.

23 So the main message I want to say is thank you.

24 We'll open up for questions, and we're going to
25 have Quentin talk a little more about that Little

1 Truckee Summit Area.

2 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: I'm sorry. Is it okay if we
3 take a break before the next speaker comes?

4 USFS MR. CHAVEZ: Sure.

5 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you.

6 And before we go, for the benefit of our new
7 Commissioners, if you can define the acronyms as you
8 state them when we come back.

9 Let's do a ten-minute break. We can come back
10 at 10:05. Thank you.

11 (Brief recess, 9:53 a.m. to 10:06 a.m.)

12 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. We're back in session.

13 Okay. We just finished the report with Joe
14 Chavez. And I believe we have Quentin Youngblood.

15 Is that correct, Ms. Mick?

16 USFS MS. MICK: Yes.

17 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Okay Come on up.

18 USFS MR. YOUNGBLOOD: Good morning.

19 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Please introduce yourself.

20 USFS MR. YOUNGBLOOD: Good morning. I'm

21 Quentin --

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You've got to turn that
23 microphone on, please.

24 USFS MR. YOUNGBLOOD: Turn this one on?

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Are you going to move or

1 are you going to stay stationary?

2 USFS MR. YOUNGBLOOD: I'll stay here, yes.

3 Good morning. I'm Quentin Youngblood. I'm the
4 District Ranger on the Sierraville Ranger District,
5 Tahoe National Forest. Very glad to be here. I think
6 all of us have the wishes and desires to be out there at
7 the site at Little Truckee Summit. Unfortunately, I
8 think if we were out there today, we would be bombarded
9 by a lot of rain and a little bit of cold weather out
10 there.

11 But first off, I would just like to express my
12 appreciation to the Commission for funding the Planning
13 Grant for the Little Truckee Summit Staging Area
14 expansion. This is a project that is very near and dear
15 to our heart, and it's something that has been, you
16 know, having some very vibrant discussions with Sierra
17 County and the California Highway Patrol as well as the
18 Tahoe National Forest and the user groups at large for a
19 very long period of time. But thank you very much.
20 We're very looking -- very much looking forward to
21 getting our Environmental Assessment, our NEPA document
22 done this winter and move on to the next step.

23 But briefly, I wanted to kind of tag on Tim
24 Beals, from Sierra County. I think he said it very
25 well, a lot of the importance of Little Truckee Summit,

1 as far as to the community, to Sierra County, especially
2 in terms of the economics. Sierra County, very rural
3 county, timber, agricultural-dependent county. The
4 winter recreation here is the economic glue, so to
5 speak, to the communities of Sierraville, to the
6 communities of Sierra City, very robust level of
7 activity associated with the restaurants, purchasing
8 fuel, other sundries, as well as just the level of user
9 traffic there from the coffee shops, the restaurants,
10 all of the above. I can't emphasize that enough.

11 We did have a couple of representatives, folks
12 that are business owners that were going to be here
13 yesterday. Unfortunately -- to speak on the importance
14 of the economics of Little Truckee Summit and the
15 Over-Snow Program there at Little Truckee Summit.
16 Unfortunately, they couldn't be here. But I would like
17 to, you know, put on the table, if you're in the area,
18 give us a call at the Sierraville Ranger District, Tahoe
19 National Forest. Be glad to, you know, show this area.

20 But a little bit about the history here. Back
21 in 1986 with a Green Sticker Grant, the Little Truckee
22 Summit Staging Area, OHV Staging Area was constructed.
23 Originally it was constructed to -- for about a 40-place
24 vehicle parking area. The snowmobile industry has
25 changed to a high degree of bigger trailers. Back, you

1 know, 15, 20 years ago, it was very popular to place a
2 snowmobile in the back of a pickup truck. Nowadays I
3 think we're all seeing three and four-place snowmobile
4 trailers, bigger vehicles, RVs that are pulling
5 snowmobile trailers, as well as a lot bigger, wider and
6 longer snowmobiles. So you can imagine the -- the
7 parking area here, what was originally designed to hold
8 about 40 -- 40 vehicles with a snowmobile in the back of
9 a truck, and now it's probably less than half of that.

10 So what's happened over the years -- and I'll
11 just move right here, just for designation here, that is
12 Highway 89. And Highway 89 is the main thoroughfare
13 from Sierraville to Truckee. It's also, you know,
14 how -- the main travel way of how do you get to Little
15 Truckee Summit from either community.

16 The parking lot fills up, as you can imagine,
17 with, you know, larger vehicles, larger trailers, all of
18 the above. And folks are -- recreational users are
19 forced to park along the alignment of Highway 89.
20 Completely legal for them to do so as long as they're
21 inside the fog line, so to speak. Little Truckee
22 Summit, just as the name itself, it is a -- it's a
23 summit. And vehicles going north and south that are
24 approaching, they have limited sight distance. So it is
25 an accident waiting to happen. We worked very closely

1 with Sierra County. We worked very closely with
2 California Highway Patrol and Caltrans as far as to have
3 a high level of folks that are out there, you know,
4 communicating with the users, also, you know, Caltrans
5 and California Highway Patrol are putting up signs,
6 warning signs for the level of activity up there almost
7 every weekend.

8 Some of the holiday weekends in February, when
9 we have quite a bit of snow, it's almost about a mile to
10 the southerly direction of which there will be vehicles
11 as well as their trailers parked in the fog line. So
12 that kind of gives you an idea of how much traffic, you
13 know, how much this area is being utilized.

14 The Preliminary Site Plan, what it identifies is
15 approximately a 40-space parking area expansion. Most
16 of the reconnaissance for -- most of our reconnaissance
17 in terms of a lot of the botany work, the archeological
18 work, the wildlife work has been accomplished. So we
19 are ready to go in the throes of the Environmental
20 Analysis, putting things together in terms of reporting
21 and anticipate, you know, sometime this next spring --
22 probably in late spring coming out with a decision
23 document. But a highly used area. And, again, this
24 will abate the safety issue and place the users in a
25 very -- in a different area and make that a very safe

1 environment for them to utilize.

2 So questions? Comments?

3 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Thank you for that.

4 I'm not familiar with this area, so your project
5 is a parking lot?

6 USFS MR. YOUNGBLOOD: The project is a parking
7 lot.

8 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay.

9 USFS MR. YOUNGBLOOD: A parking lot expansion --

10 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: So that's for the
11 ability for like parking of trucks and snowmobiles?

12 USFS MR. YOUNGBLOOD: Parking of vehicles as
13 well as snowmobiles and their trailers.

14 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay. And is there like
15 a community center or is there like a facility there, or
16 is it just parking lot?

17 USFS MR. YOUNGBLOOD: It is an OHV Staging Area.

18 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay.

19 USFS MR. YOUNGBLOOD: It's a parking lot.

20 But the one thing I didn't do as far as talk
21 about the alignment of the staging areas. You know,
22 what Tim had said a little bit earlier, there's about
23 220 miles of groomed snowmobile routes that this
24 connects to. So it is -- again, it is the largest
25 groomed snowmobile routes system within Northern

1 California. And that kind of gives you a picture of the
2 importance of this parking-lot expansion.

3 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay. So we gave you a
4 Planning Grant for this, correct?

5 USFS MR. YOUNGBLOOD: Absolutely.

6 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay. And when do you
7 expect to start?

8 USFS MR. YOUNGBLOOD: With the NEPA Analysis,
9 the Environmental Analysis, we should be starting in
10 December.

11 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Of this year?

12 USFS MR. YOUNGBLOOD: Of this year.

13 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay.

14 USFS MR. YOUNGBLOOD: Of 2014.

15 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Did it have to remove
16 trees and stuff there?

17 USFS MR. YOUNGBLOOD: There is a limited amount
18 of vegetation that needs to be removed in terms of
19 trees. It also coincides with some vegetation work that
20 we did a number of years ago in preparation for
21 construction of this parking area, staging area
22 expansion. So we've done some of the preliminary
23 removal of vegetation already.

24 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay. Thank you.

25 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: I'm sorry, Commissioners, for

1 sound quality, would you please turn off your mikes
2 unless you're speaking. I think that might help.

3 Did you have a question, Commissioner Murphy?

4 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Yeah.

5 I just wanted to know, is there a significant
6 hazard with having all those vehicles staged out on the
7 highway?

8 USFS MR. YOUNGBLOOD: Yes, there is a
9 significant hazard. Very oftentimes, albeit, it's
10 completely legal to park a vehicle along the alignment
11 of Highway 89 inside the fog line, what happens is
12 you -- and like I stated a little bit earlier, you've
13 got a long length of cars, vehicles and their trailers
14 as well as their snowmobiles that are on a summit. The
15 sight distance is limited to both vehicles coming north
16 and south. Just the standard highway traffic there, you
17 know, it's very hazardous in terms of folks parking
18 their vehicle inside the fog line. Very oftentimes
19 they're walking in and out of their vehicle, they're
20 unloading their snowmobile, they're actually in the
21 highway itself.

22 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Any other questions?

23 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Yes.

24 I had a question actually going back to more of
25 the earlier presentation. I was wondering what kind of

1 volunteer program is there, if you have a robust
2 volunteer program for trail maintenance on those areas
3 that he spoke of.

4 USFS MR. CHAVEZ: Actually, the Tahoe and
5 National Parks has a very robust volunteer program.
6 Just like we couldn't do all that we do without the
7 Division's help and grants, we really couldn't do all
8 that we get done out there in maintaining the existing
9 trails, building new trails, which is their favorite, of
10 course, without the volunteer work or volunteer sources.
11 And there are all types. We've got Friends of Fordyce,
12 Grass Valley Four-Wheel Drive, Sacramento Mudsuckers,
13 Nevada County Wood Riders, Sierra Buttes Trail
14 Stewardship. There's a long list. That's just a few.
15 And they're very valued partners. Because we not only
16 ask them to help us build and maintain, we need their
17 input to find out, well, how should we do this? How
18 should we plan this? How should we put it on the ground
19 to best meet all the users? And their input is
20 invaluable. We seek it out.

21 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: With that, as far as some
22 of the criticisms, not from your forest, but I've heard
23 from different enthusiast groups that want to volunteer
24 is that the training that's necessary to use power
25 equipment and stuff -- and I'm sure you've run into this

1 often, do you guys offer a program where you have
2 regular dates that are posted or anything like that or
3 yearly? Do you do it like once or twice a year,
4 something to be able to train people on that so it could
5 have a system so they know how to put themselves through
6 it?

7 USFS MR. CHAVEZ: Yeah. We've only got two ways
8 to deal with it. We have been offering
9 volunteer-training classes in the chainsaw
10 certification. And we've done in the last couple of
11 years at least one, maybe two sessions. And we are
12 interacting with those who are seeking that and the
13 clubs, Hey, you need someone who's certified. Okay.
14 Who do you have? Who do you want to send? We've been
15 doing that.

16 The other way we're looking at it is we're
17 trying to increase our management on volunteerism.
18 We're looking at two routes: Either going pure
19 volunteerism or followed with an agreement with the club
20 where they're actually more like a contractor. And a
21 lot of them have great skills already, they're very
22 competent. And this -- some like a participating
23 agreement that will allow them to act like a partner
24 contractor and where they're not our employee.
25 Therefore, they don't have to go through those same

1 certifications. We still offer it, but they can choose
2 to go this route and do the things that they want to
3 help do without going through all of our training
4 requirements.

5 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Yeah, that sounds like
6 something -- a bit like the presentation I recently saw
7 back in Montana. They were discussing those types of
8 issues. And there was a great deal of success in some
9 of their midwestern forests when they've had that type
10 of a program. So I really encourage that. And --
11 because volunteerism is really going to be an important
12 component going forward with the National Forest to be
13 able to meet your budgetary needs. So I applaud you
14 guys for, you know, being forward-thinking and, you
15 know, working closely with the volunteers. I'm glad to
16 see that there's good groups of volunteers out there
17 that want to help, too. So thank you.

18 USFS MR. CHAVEZ: Thank you.

19 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Thank you.

20 Mr. Jeff Wiley, is he --

21 JEFF WILEY: Yes.

22 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Are you speaking next?

23 JEFF WILEY: No. I was just going to give a
24 brief history of Little Truckee Summit, but I don't know
25 if it's that important.

1 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: All right.

2 (Multiple speakers.)

3 USFS MS. MICK: If there's no other questions.

4 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Any other questions?

5 No.

6 If you wanted to wrap it up, that's fine.

7 Thank you, sir.

8 USFS MR. YOUNGBLOOD: I just wanted to just cite
9 one other thing again. I just wanted to express my
10 appreciation for the grant and to extend an
11 invitation -- a formal invitation, during --
12 unfortunately we couldn't be out there on the site, but
13 you can see we're all very passionate about the program
14 that we have out here. January, February, hopefully we
15 will get a robust level of snow, and just formally
16 extend that invitation, you know, get you out there on a
17 snowmobile. We would love to show that. Please give us
18 a call there at the Sierraville Ranger District on the
19 Tahoe so we can arrange that, to get a firsthand level
20 of experience with the level of use and what we're
21 describing here on the land.

22 So thank you.

23 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you, Mr. Youngblood.
24 Much appreciated, the invitation.

25 USFS MR. CHAVEZ: I wanted half a minute, 30

1 seconds to address further that volunteer situation.

2 I just pointed out to the person I was driving
3 with that two weeks from now on a Sunday we're
4 organizing a United Trails Day Volunteer Project to
5 build one of these OHV trails single-track in
6 Burlington. And it -- again, it's for mountain-bikers,
7 motorcyclists and equestrians to work together. And we
8 put them in mixed groups; they have to work with their
9 other user groups in the work crews. And this will be
10 the fourth year we've done that. And we're very
11 successful. People get to learn each other. They
12 all -- it's just been a great experience, and we have
13 less problems with conflict out there because of it.

14 Don't go away. Come October 12th.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: October 12th.

16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: What's the name of it,
17 again?

18 USFS MR. CHAVEZ: United Trails Day. We start
19 at 9:00 and go all day.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: That's a pretty cool
21 idea.

22 USFS MR. CHAVEZ: Sign-up is 8:00.

23 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you.

24 USFS MR. CHAVEZ: There's my contact, and I can
25 give you all the info.

1 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you.

2 USFS MS. MICK: Okay. Good morning again.

3 So just a couple of things. First, before we
4 leave the Tahoe presentation, one of the things that the
5 Tahoe staff -- they brought this beautiful map, and so
6 I'd just like you to focus on it for a minute because
7 I'm not sure all of the Commissioners and perhaps some
8 of the public understand that Tahoe has -- it's a very
9 big forest, and it has a lot of unique challenges, and
10 they obviously offer a lot of opportunity. But one of
11 the main challenges that they have is --

12 I'll try not to blind you, Kathleen.

13 -- is -- you'll notice you could play chess or
14 checkers on this map.

15 (Multiple speakers.)

16 USFS MS. MICK: And so all those little square
17 white boxes are private land. Okay? And then you see
18 the little green boxes, and that's Forest Service. And
19 so that's a huge challenge that the Forest has. They do
20 a great job with that. But I just wanted to highlight
21 that, that it's very unique. A lot of the Northern
22 California Forests have this challenge, but I think that
23 Tahoe has the greatest challenge in terms of this
24 checker-boarding and trying to manage between, you know,
25 federal land and private land and working with the land

1 owners to do that. And so I just wanted to highlight
2 that.

3 And then just something that's not in your
4 agenda report binder, but Jane Arteaga, who's part of
5 the fire team was nice enough to bring is that --
6 there's some on the back table for the public, but
7 there's a little fire update from the King Fire, as well
8 as a map. And so a couple things I just wanted to
9 highlight to you is that, of course the rain yesterday
10 and today is a godsend. It's helping to slow down the
11 fire, but it is -- and Jane wasn't sure if this number
12 is actually correct, but probably, you know, 95,000 is
13 what the paper says, but 95 to 100,000 acres, which is
14 immense. You'll also notice that it's only 55 percent
15 contained and that there's a total personnel of 8,000
16 people working on that fire. So that just gives you a
17 little bit of an understanding of what it is that, you
18 know, the Forest Service, the BLM, and the State face
19 when we have these fires. You're probably familiar with
20 the Rim Fire that happened last year on the Stanislaus.
21 And so this is -- you know, just like the tour got
22 canceled yesterday, this is something that, you know, is
23 huge obviously in the western states and in California
24 and is something that kind of throws everything that we
25 do into a tailspin when we have a fire -- any fire, but

1 a fire to this magnitude. And so I just wanted to
2 highlight that to you. And then also share with that,
3 you know, there's a couple of websites on that update
4 page that the public can go to, and you can find
5 information about the fire.

6 And I guess in terms of the volunteer theme,
7 both the Tahoe and more importantly, the Eldorado, I'm
8 sure, as they start to really understand the
9 significance of the damage that occurred to the natural
10 landscape that they'll be seeking volunteer
11 opportunities, you know, for several years and into the
12 future to help them, you know, from putting things back
13 together to planting trees. And so I would encourage
14 everyone to get involved with that.

15 So that said, I'll go back to the report that I
16 believe you have in your binder. And I want to thank
17 the Tahoe staff for being here, doing a great job with
18 their presentation.

19 And so looking at the discussion topics, I
20 just -- I'm going to go through these quickly, and then
21 if you have questions -- one of the things that I also
22 wanted to do is to thank Commissioner Pérez specifically
23 for what a great job she's done in trying to set up for
24 this meeting and working with the agencies. I don't
25 know, we had probably three or four calls before this

1 meeting, which was the most calls we've ever had with
2 somebody to set up and make sure that we're really
3 addressing your needs and really making our
4 presentations meaningful. So I really appreciate that
5 and wanted to commend her for her efforts because a lot
6 of the stuff that's on here was a direct reflection of
7 our conversations.

8 So the first topic is that the Tahoe is, all
9 things, you know, being well in the world, is going to
10 host October 28th through the 30th the Annual OHV Ranger
11 Ride and Natural Resource Discussion. And that's being
12 done in collaboration and partnership with the Blue
13 Ribbon Coalition and Quiet Warrior Racing and
14 particularly Don Amador, who over the years has been a
15 significant partner with the Forest Service in hosting
16 these Ranger Rides along with the OHV Division. Many of
17 them have been hosted on the Mendocino National Forest.
18 And so Don is trying to branch out. And Joe said, Hey,
19 I -- he went last year to Stonyford and said, Hey, I
20 want to do that. So we're going to do it out in the
21 Foresthill area. I believe Deputy Director Conlin's
22 going to try and at least hit a date.

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: I will.

24 MS. MICK: And he got trained on a motorcycle
25 last year. So it's a great agenda. And I would

1 encourage you to contact Joe or Don for an agenda and
2 look at the items that we're going to have. And if you
3 can make a day, I would encourage you. I know there's
4 rules about all of you being in one place at the same
5 time, but if you can -- as at least, I think, in two's,
6 you can go hand in hand, and we would certainly welcome
7 you to that.

8 The next thing I wanted to mention is the --
9 that the Sierra, Sequoia and Inyo are in Forest Plan
10 Revision. They are revising their Forest Land and
11 Resource Management Plans. I believe the Public Comment
12 Period closes Monday. And the Public Comment Period is
13 what we call scoping in the NEPA process. And they have
14 a proposed action out, and what you noticed in the
15 Federal Register is that there was a -- sort of a
16 general proposed action and then there was a more
17 detailed proposed action that they had a web link to
18 because it was far more information that could be really
19 put easily in the Federal Register. And you'll notice
20 in your handout that there is a website that says, tiny,
21 "url.com" and our earlier adopters. And I would
22 encourage you -- everyone in the room to find out more
23 about Forest Plans. If you like to recreate on the
24 National Forest, particularly these three, then I would
25 encourage you to inform yourself on the process and stay

1 up on the process because particularly as now they start
2 to move into the Environmental Assessment phase -- or,
3 excuse me, the Environmental Impact Statement phase,
4 EIS. There are opportunities for public comment, and I
5 would encourage you to do that. And then if you have
6 really specific questions, I would encourage you to
7 contact that local forest that you're most interested
8 in, and they'd be quite happy to help you.

9 So the next thing I wanted to mention is in our
10 discussions, Commissioner Pérez and I, there was a
11 desire for the OHV Division and Commission to learn a
12 little bit more about this bill that's a federal bill,
13 HR4886 of the 113th Congress. It's proposed
14 legislation. It was introduced on June 18th of 2014.
15 It's been referred to committee. And I checked
16 yesterday, and there hasn't been any movement in the
17 committee that was significant that I could tell.

18 But basically what this bill is, is it's really
19 in response to the GAO on it, which is the General
20 Accountability Office -- or Government Accountability
21 Office, excuse me. And they did an audit on the Forest
22 Service and particularly our trail maintenance and trail
23 system in general, and found that we have a huge backlog
24 of deferred maintenance, and that we -- of the -- the
25 national system that we have of 158,000 miles of trail,

1 that we really only have the ability to maintain about a
2 quarter of that. And so I don't want to go into a whole
3 bunch about the bill because you can certainly use the
4 website and look it up. What I can say, because it is
5 still in its process, you know, that's it's not
6 something that we really do is comment on legislation.
7 But what I can tell you is that our Washington office
8 did work with the authors. So there has been
9 communication with the Forest Service. And what I am
10 allowed to say is that there isn't anything that -- at
11 least at this time preliminarily that we would, you
12 know, generally oppose in this legislation. But I would
13 offer for you to look up the bill and look at the text.
14 I think it has, in general, some really great stuff in
15 there. And ultimately we'll -- you know, we'll see
16 where that goes.

17 OHV MS. PEREZ: Kathy, there's a copy of the
18 bill in the Leg Report, Tab 14.

19 USFS MS. MICK: Oh, is there?

20 Okay. So you have the bill in your tab. And I
21 guess for the members of the public, was that on the
22 table or they have to look it up?

23 (Multiple speakers.)

24 OHV MS. PEREZ: Yes.

25 USFS MS. MICK: Oh, there was? Okay. Great.

1 Awesome. Thanks, Vicki.

2 And so I would just encourage you to look at
3 that bill because it's a pretty interesting idea. And
4 I'm very curious to see how it manifests.

5 So the next thing I wanted to do was to talk
6 about the OSV Program and let all of you and the members
7 of the public know that, much like the Division, when we
8 were litigated on the OSV Grooming Program several years
9 ago, and, as a result of that, the Forest Service chose
10 to enter into a settlement agreement, and we've done
11 so, and I've mentioned it several times at previous
12 Commission meetings, but basically the Lassen, Plumas,
13 Tahoe, Eldorado and the Stanislaus National Forests, and
14 that these five forests are going to be undertaking NEPA
15 in the form of Environmental Impact Statements in regard
16 to the Over-Snow Program very, very soon.

17 And so coming this fall, probably in the first
18 part of November, the Forest will start to have meetings
19 in regard to their actions that they're proposing to
20 take on each forest. And if they choose to have a
21 meeting, they will, and we'll make that known to the
22 public and just move forward. So I would encourage you
23 that if you're interested in, you know, winter
24 recreation and more specifically where snowmobiles can
25 and can't go, regardless of whether you're a snowmobiler

1 or not, I would encourage people to get involved with
2 attending those meetings and be involved with the public
3 process that's offered as we move through that project.

4 And then lastly, you heard Joe mention a little
5 bit about the work they do here on the Tahoe with the
6 sensing stations that they have and some of the work
7 that -- the regional office received a grant from the
8 OHV Division, and we certainly appreciate that. And we
9 have this work contracted out to Roger Poff &
10 Associates. And probably at the next Commission meeting
11 Roger will give an overview of the report and the
12 findings that he has. And we have just a little bit
13 more work to do in terms of training to start wrapping
14 that wet-weather management strategy up. And so you can
15 look forward to the results of that.

16 And although we had sort of a dry winter the
17 last two years, Roger was able to collect enough data
18 for viable results and analysis for the study. The
19 piece that we're still having a little bit of trouble on
20 is that we haven't really had enough rain to have the
21 training for our field units. And so we'll be trying to
22 do that this fall or in the early spring.

23 And so with that, that concludes my report,
24 unless you have any questions.

25 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Any questions?

1 Yes? Okay.

2 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Oh. Thank you, Kathy, for
3 that presentation.

4 I just noticed on your last item, the Wet
5 Weather Management Project --

6 USFS MS. MICK: Uh-huh.

7 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: There's a distinction for
8 trails greater than 50 inches.

9 USFS MS. MICK: Uh-huh.

10 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: And I'm just wondering if
11 you can explain if -- trails less than 50 inches, how
12 those are being treated versus greater than 50 inches.

13 USFS MS. MICK: Yeah. Sure. The trails that --
14 the way the Forest Service manages trails is that we --
15 you know, we have trails that we call "less than 50
16 inches." Typically for the motorized world, which is
17 what we're talking about here, those are trails that
18 typically accommodate ATVs and motorcycles. We do have
19 some trails that, you know, we restrict are motorcycle
20 only. And so we manage those trails in a little bit
21 different way than we do trails that are greater than 50
22 inches. The reason is because the trails that are
23 greater than 50 inches are typically road-like and they
24 usually were roads that we adopted into the trail
25 system, but we've left them wide on purpose. Doesn't

1 mean that ATVs and motorcycles can't utilize them, but
2 it really offers that opportunity for the side-by-sides,
3 which are becoming hot and heavy on the market and are
4 increasingly being seen on the National Forests, but
5 also for that Jeep or four-wheel drive opportunity.

6 And so part of the difference in the management
7 is the experience. And we manage the trails -- the
8 reason that we distinguish the management is because we
9 don't manage them like we do roads. You know, we do
10 different things. We have different features. And so
11 we really -- we have a set of BMPs that have gone
12 through rigorous Public Comment for the smaller,
13 narrower trails, but we really don't have anything that
14 specifically talks to those larger trails. And so on a
15 lot of units, they've kind of just been managed as
16 roads. And then sometimes that's good and it's okay,
17 and at other times it's not so good.

18 So what we wanted to do is -- and Roger's
19 helping with this -- is to really get a specific set of
20 BMPs for those types of trails. And so that's kind of
21 what we're doing. I'm not sure if that answered your
22 question or not, but...

23 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Yeah, that pretty much
24 answers it. I think I'm familiar with property that is
25 managed with a Wet Weather Management System. It's

1 private property. And all of our trails primarily are
2 less than 50 inches. And we've been pretty successful
3 in using weather stations and such. And so I just
4 wanted to kind of understand if the single-track trails
5 less than 50 inches -- you know, you've already set up a
6 system for that. And I just wanted to make sure I
7 understood that.

8 USFS MS. MICK: Yeah. And, you know, as you
9 well know, Commissioner Lueder, from, you know, your
10 recreation on the Mendocino, you know, a lot of those
11 narrow trails are within the trees, different soil types
12 where the roads are harder. And so, therefore, a lot of
13 the trails that are greater than 50 inches are typically
14 more hardened. But we're still looking at differences
15 in soil types, differences in use and trying to see is
16 there -- maybe we don't have to do anything, but we want
17 to at least have a set of best management practices that
18 address some of the resource needs that would come off
19 of the utilization of those trails. And so that's kind
20 of what we're doing right now.

21 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Great. Thank you.

22 USFS MS. MICK: You're welcome.

23 Anybody else?

24 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Commissioner Cabral.

25 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Thank you for the

1 presentation, Kathy. It was very informational as
2 usual.

3 I, one, had a couple of things I wanted to
4 comment on. First was on the Forest Plan Revisions.
5 I've been attending the ones for -- down -- the meetings
6 down in Fresno, and I've really been impressed with what
7 the staff, how they adjusted on the fly by the input
8 they had from some of the local residents.

9 I attended one that was perhaps one of the most
10 uncomfortable public meetings I've been to in quite some
11 time down there at one of them. And there was --
12 basically, it got to the point where I had my head down
13 and I felt really bad for the Forest Service staff and
14 how they were being treated by the public. They were
15 trying to -- everyone was trying to outdo each other and
16 trying to make their point even more so. So Deb Whitall
17 talked to me a little bit about it and some other member
18 of the staff and other concerned people, and she came up
19 with -- they came up with a different format the next
20 time, and the format worked wonderfully. It was a huge
21 difference, and I just really, you know, want to
22 compliment them for making that adjustment.

23 With that, there was a couple things that did
24 come out in the last meeting that -- the maps didn't
25 show any of the OHV areas. So that was something that

1 was brought up and was a bit of a concern. The other
2 thing was, is that the mitigation for fire damage for
3 recreation facilities, and specifically I was speaking
4 to OHV facilities, but whether it's, you know, the
5 trails, obviously the fires, the emergency, they have to
6 go in and make a fire line; that's the priority. But
7 afterwards, putting the trail back to how it was,
8 putting in the proper blockades, we don't see like we
9 had earlier on that type of property presentation, and,
10 you know, also just the basic facilities like bathrooms
11 and stuff, just having in the base documents, you know,
12 the planning documents that there is going to be some
13 mitigation was something that was brought up. Other
14 than that, though, I thought the planning process was
15 going really well. And I thought it was a real nice
16 exchange to have between staff and also the other
17 interested parties that were there.

18 And then the Weather Management and
19 Best-Practices Policy, that -- I'm really glad to see
20 technology is being used and -- with these remote
21 weather stations. That's a wonderful thing. Also,
22 there's some mapping stuff that -- because a lot of
23 times people aren't sure when you get -- you'll get
24 partial closures and this is the direction that looks
25 like it's heading. I know technology-wise there's a

1 couple of apps available for -- whether it's Smart
2 Phones of both types, both flavors at this point,
3 whether it's the Google or Apple operating systems. And
4 rider -- Ride X is what -- one of them that I'm familiar
5 with, and that allows land managers to open and close
6 trails on a publicly available mapping system extremely
7 easy. So it's something -- so if there was a
8 rotation-type thing or if there was a weather-related
9 closure, that may only last a week or two. Like I say,
10 the Mendocino is -- we'll use that as an example, you
11 know, wet-weather closures up there, it will close the
12 whole place. But in the future, there could be where
13 there may be a partial opening. And so with that, being
14 able to have the technology available to the public so
15 we don't have people riding in areas that are sensitive
16 and they shouldn't be, I would hope that they can look
17 into using some of these publicly available, you know,
18 free at this point apps to be able to get that
19 information out to the recreationists.

20 So I just wanted to point those couple things
21 out. And thanks for your presentation once again.

22 USFS MS. MICK: You're welcome.

23 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Any other questions?

24 Okay.

25 USFS MS. MICK: Just one other -- take one

1 second to address a couple of things, if I may.

2 In terms of the match, I appreciate the
3 comments. And one of the things I can say is that I
4 know that some of the members of the OHV community have
5 been in direct contact with Al Olson in our regional
6 office in regard to some of the Forest Plan meetings, in
7 particular the one in Fresno. And so I can say that the
8 Forest Plan team is working very hard to try and adjust
9 the meeting design to accommodate, you know, all of our
10 public and be able to give everybody their voice. And
11 as you can imagine when you have hundreds of people show
12 up and everyone wants their voice heard, people do it in
13 different ways, and sometimes it's very positive and
14 other times it's maybe not so much. But I can say that,
15 you know, they're working very hard to try and
16 accommodate different methodologies and different
17 designs to do that.

18 More specifically, I'm part of the extended
19 team, as well as my colleague, who's here today and will
20 be talking about the Pacific Crest Trail, Beth Boyst.
21 And we're in the phase now where we're starting to look
22 at some of those more specific things, as you mentioned,
23 in terms of, you know, the maps and sort of resource
24 responses to different things. So I can tell you that
25 some of the things you mentioned have been talked about.

1 So I think that's some good news for you. And then in
2 regard to the wet-weather strategy, that's exactly why
3 we're doing what we're doing is because with Travel
4 Management, people did their best estimate, their best
5 guess on weather patterns using hydrologic data to make
6 closures on their trail systems. Some of them are
7 date-responded; some are data-responded. And so
8 different forests do it a different way. And so one of
9 the things that we're hoping that comes out of the work
10 with Roger and particularly with some of the work we've
11 collaborated with on the Tahoe is being able to have a
12 more field-based ground-sensitive way of closing trails
13 so that we can protect the soil resource when we need to
14 but also not lock users out of for three weeks straight
15 when the sun is shining. And so we're trying to do
16 that. You know, I think it's actually been kind of neat
17 because the government has really started to embrace
18 technology. We have a lot of use of iPads and apps and
19 different things. And so we have a lot of our maps now
20 on Avenza and other places. So I think you'll see more
21 of that utilization of apps. We just have to be careful
22 because of how the government does it. But what I can
23 say is that we are trying to embrace the technology the
24 best we can.

25 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you, Kathy.

1 USFS MS. MICK: Thank you.

2 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: I also want to say that I
3 appreciate -- I did call you three to four times, and
4 you responded promptly to my questions. And I enjoyed
5 working with you, Kathy. Thank you.

6 USFS MS. MICK: You're welcome. Thanks.

7 **AGENDA ITEM V(B) - PROGRAM REPORTS - BLM**

8 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: BLM Reports.

9 OHV MS. PEREZ: The BLM Report is in the blue
10 folder.

11 BLM MS. ARTEAGA: Good morning. Excuse my
12 voice. I've been living in smoke for the past two
13 weeks, so...

14 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Please introduce yourself,
15 Jane.

16 BLM MS. ARTEAGA: Oh. I'm sorry. My name is
17 Jane Arteaga. I'm in the OHV Travel Management Lead for
18 the Bureau of Land Management. And thank you for having
19 me Commissioners and OHV Division and the public.

20 I would like --

21 You can go ahead and start. Thank you. The
22 next page, please. Thank you.

23 I'm going to cover a few things. First off, the
24 DRECP, I know in your package, I think it's in your --
25 it's in the blue binder -- it's in there. The BLM

1 Report is in your blue binder. So in your package I was
2 going to speak on -- one of the things I said I was
3 going to speak on was the DRECP, but I don't need to
4 because Connie will be covering the DRECP later, and so
5 we don't want a duplicate, of course. And -- but I do
6 want to say that we anticipate and I hope our community
7 will actually -- would comment on the DRECP and the
8 issues related around recreation and the OHV.

9 So the next thing I wanted to cover is Johnson
10 Valley. We're on our way of implementing Public
11 Law 11- -- 113-66, which we just finished the charter,
12 the Public Resource Management Committee -- for the
13 Public Resource Management Committee. And what we --
14 the information we have received from the Marines that
15 they will not -- for 2015, they will not be doing any
16 excursions -- I'm not sure what you -- I'm not sure what
17 they call it, but they will not be doing anything. And
18 they are actively signing the boundaries right now. We
19 will be issuing permits for the activities this year.
20 We've already started that process of working with our
21 partners on that. So...

22 And I brought -- just so you know, I -- for my
23 presentation, I did bring support because I don't know
24 everything. So I just want to introduce Jennifer Tripp
25 from the PCTA. And of course you guys know Beth Boyst

1 from the U.S. Forest Service. So when it comes to OHV,
2 you know, there's no colors. We're blind, we're
3 colorless, you know, and we all work together. And this
4 PCT project is a perfect example of that. And then also
5 Este Stifel, and so I'm going to bring her up to talk
6 about Clear Creek. Thank you.

7 BLM MS. STIFEL: Good morning, everybody. I was
8 requested to speak for a couple of minutes.

9 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Please introduce yourself.

10 BLM MS. STIFEL: Oh, I'm sorry. Este Stifel,
11 Central California District Manager, BLM.

12 And I was requested to speak to the Protest
13 Resolution. So there's a Director's Protest Resolution
14 Report. The Commission submitted a protest during the
15 protest process, and I just wanted to speak very quickly
16 to that.

17 So the protest process is a Washington office
18 process. So all of the protests went back to the
19 Washington office. They have a five-step process they
20 go through to resolve protests. If you're all
21 interested in that, I can certainly touch on that here.
22 But for the sake of time, I wasn't planning to do that.
23 I was just going to speak to the actual protest
24 submitted by the Commission and the results from the
25 Washington office.

1 So the Commission's letter was reviewed, and the
2 protestable pieces from it were -- the recognized pieces
3 were dropped into Restrictional and Recreational
4 Opportunities. All the protests -- there were a number
5 of protests, about 15, and they were parsed out into
6 similar areas. And so that's where the three
7 protests -- protestable pieces from the Commission
8 letter were placed.

9 And there were three different issues that were
10 recognized as part of the Protest Resolution Process
11 from the Commission. One was, in very quick summary,
12 the Commission presented the concept that BLM could
13 limit access to wetter winter months rather than closing
14 the area off completely -- the ACEC off completely.

15 Issue No. 2 that they submitted was that
16 management actions could reduce risk sufficiently to
17 allow OHV use on the property.

18 And the third issue that they submitted -- that
19 you all submitted was that wetter winter months provide
20 ideal riding conditions, and risks are minimized during
21 those periods. So those were, in a very nutshell
22 summary, the issues that you presented that were
23 recognized as protest issues.

24 So the BLM response was that the BLM focuses on
25 safety, best available science, resource protection and

1 visitor use. So those were the areas they were looking
2 at in their response. And the goals of the R&P were
3 minimize asbestos exposure, reduce asbestos emissions,
4 and designate areas in the CCMA for motorized
5 mechanized, and non-motorized non-mechanized
6 recreational opportunities. So those were the goals at
7 least that were related to the protest issues that you
8 all -- that the Commission was referencing.

9 So in a very quick nutshell, how the protest
10 resolution came out was that the protest resolution was
11 that BLM focused on prudent resource use allocations to
12 protect natural and cultural resources and to provide
13 for safe public access. And then route designations
14 would be designed to minimize user impacts to the
15 environment and public health. And that the BLM would
16 use the best and did use the best available data to make
17 our decisions in the R&P. And then finally, that there
18 is an opportunity for adaptive management and that we
19 will work with information as information goes forward
20 and that will lead to re-evaluations of and possible
21 changes in routes and area designations down the road.

22 So that's, in summary, the results of the
23 Director's Protest Resolution Report.

24 Any questions?

25 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Deputy Director

1 Conlin, if I'm correct, I think the December Commission
2 Meeting, we're going to have a more in- -- Clear Creek
3 will be on the agenda, is that correct, for December?

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: I think so. And we can
5 put it on there.

6 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Thank you, Este.

7 BLM MS. STIFEL: Thank you.

8 BLM MS. ARTEAGA: All right. I just have a
9 couple more topics. Just want to announce, November
10 4th, this year, we'll be having our third annual Youth
11 Conference at Sacramento State University. We're
12 anticipating somewhere around 500 youths participating
13 from junior high to college age, obviously. OHV
14 Division will be participating, and we really enjoy
15 them. And the Recreation Division actually will be
16 bringing a trailer, I believe. Kind of shows you how to
17 camp outdoors and those kind of things. And we'll have
18 multiple workshops, and we're pretty excited about it.
19 I'm kind of -- I'm one of the leads on the project. And
20 so a lot of my time has been dedicated to getting this
21 youth project off the door, but -- off the ground.

22 One of the -- but one of the main things we
23 want -- this is just a starting point for us, and that's
24 how we think. And the idea is to get not only youth
25 outdoors but actually to present opportunities within

1 the natural resources community and the recreation
2 community as far as potential careers. So that's what
3 we're trying to introduce to youth. It's just not -- we
4 don't want to stop here as -- at the workshop; we want
5 to also develop where there's a session in the afternoon
6 where we could actually develop projects. So that's why
7 one thing I'm excited about the OHV Division
8 participating and the Recreation Division because we
9 actually can develop projects to bring youth and show
10 them the types of work we do. And, actually, work would
11 make -- maybe create some internships and stuff like
12 that within the -- within the State and also within the
13 federal government. So -- and the Forest Service will
14 be participating, too. So...

15 So let's go to the next page.

16 I thank you very much for doing a moment of
17 silence earlier for Jim Keeler, my predecessor. It's
18 been difficult, hard shoes to fill because he was just
19 so knowledgeable. His passion for the desert carried
20 through after his retirement and continued working on
21 many of the issues. El Mirage is -- the last trip --
22 meeting you had, is a product of Jim's work that he has
23 done.

24 One of the other products, as you know, as
25 he's -- passions he had is for the PCT. So he

1 applied --

2 And go ahead and go to the next --

3 In 2011 he applied for a project to identify the
4 locations of OHV illegal use on the PCT and surrounding
5 areas. So this -- the project consisted of a 110-mile
6 survey, and we have -- that has since been completed in
7 2012.

8 Go ahead and go to the next screen.

9 We went into phase -- or we identified the
10 actions of Phase 2. Phase 2 they had decided to --
11 or -- okay. So we met with the OHV Division, the Forest
12 Service and PCTA and other partners, and in that meeting
13 they identified to prioritize the segment of the PCT
14 from the Tehachapi to Willow Springs -- of the
15 Tehachapi/Willow Springs to Highway 138 for closures
16 and/or restorations of illegal OHV use to regionalize
17 the project because we just can't take on the whole
18 area. So if we regionalize it -- and you'll see the
19 regions in a bit, we'll address the issues from region
20 to region. And identify OHV access points on private
21 lands and work with landowners to support the
22 restoration efforts.

23 Go ahead, the next.

24 Here's an example of the regions. I think got
25 the numbers right. So region -- to give you an example,

1 Region 1, if you -- if we put all the dots and --
2 Region 1, there weren't very many areas that -- where we
3 had illegal use. It was pretty minimal. But Region 2
4 was very concentrated. So Region 1, how we looked at
5 that is like, well, it's small enough projects where
6 either the field office or in cooperation with the PCTA
7 that we could just go in there and work on the
8 rehabilitation fairly quickly and without major planning
9 going on. So it's just part of regular trail
10 maintenance that we could do on that.

11 Let's go ahead and go to the next page.

12 This is an example of how the maps look with --
13 with the various regions. The Region 2 is our priority
14 area for our first area. And the reasons why, we
15 collected -- it was kind of the most concentrated points
16 of intrusions along the PCT. So -- and we also thought,
17 well, there's also one landowner that we'll have to work
18 with on the private section. And I can't remember the
19 landowner's name, but it's actually -- it's a gravel
20 site, a gravel pit. So in that matter it would be
21 fairly easy to work with one landowner. And so then
22 also in our Reno Plan, it's not in the draft right now,
23 but we have identified that we're going to look at some
24 opportunities outside of the area and provide OHV -- or
25 look at it in a Travel Management sense in possibly

1 creating new OHV opportunities.

2 Go ahead and go to the next one.

3 So the key components in moving forward, plan
4 and implement Region 2 with the PCTA and private
5 landowner. Develop an overall Strategic Plan for the
6 whole PCT and adjacent lands including law enforcement,
7 education, rehabilitation.

8 So as you -- as Commissioner Pérez said earlier,
9 that, you know, it's a tough subject. And all of us
10 need to work together to create the Strategic
11 Rehabilitation Plan. I mean it's not going to be an
12 easy process for us, as you saw in the last meeting.
13 And the different sides from the public and -- but I
14 believe that we can work through this and we can solve
15 these issues one step at a time. But it's going to take
16 more than just the BLM or the Forest Service or the
17 federal agencies. Actually, we're looking for
18 assistance from the OHV Commission to outreach and
19 educate the private landowners and businesses. I mean
20 you have those relationships established a little better
21 than we are -- we do. And we look forward to working
22 with you on that.

23 So, Jennifer, do you have anything else you want
24 to present? I knew there would. We're about done with
25 our presentation.

1 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

2 USFS MS. BOYST: My name is Beth Boyst. I work
3 for the U.S. Forest Service, and I'm the Pacific Crest
4 National Scenic Trail Program Manager.

5 And I just want to acknowledge that we have
6 broad support here in the audience as well with
7 the Commissioners for resolving these issues. And I
8 want to thank the Commissioners for the attention that
9 you've already put to this. And I want to acknowledge
10 that we have Kern County Sheriff's Office here, which is
11 heart and center of the issue. And I see Doug Farder,
12 who's a private landowner in the area here.

13 Have I missed anyone who's also a private
14 landowner in Kern County?

15 So thank you all for taking the time to support
16 this effort, and we look forward to the questions that
17 you may have.

18 VICE CHAIR PEREZ: Thank you.

19 **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

20 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: I'm going to keep to my word.
21 It is 11:00 a.m. And I'm going to open for Public
22 Comment on non-agenda items.

23 So, Vicki.

24 And then -- yeah. Yeah, we'll pick up back
25 where we left off. Thank you. I just --

1 USFS MS. BOYST: I'm done with my presentation.

2 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Don't go too far in
3 case we have some questions.

4 USFS MS. BOYST: Okay.

5 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: We'll come back to you, if we
6 need to.

7 Commissioners, I just want to make sure that we
8 have some members of the public who want to make some
9 comments. I want to -- like I said, I want to keep to
10 my word that it is 11:00 a.m.

11 So let's see. So we're open to Public Comment
12 on non-agendized items. You have three minutes. Please
13 state your name for the record. We're going to start
14 with Tyson Davis, followed by Diana Mead.

15 Three minutes. And, Vicki, would you give me
16 like the 30-second -- or how do we want work this?

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: She's got the ball.

18 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Oh, you do? Okay. Thank
19 you.

20 Welcome.

21 TYSON DAVIS: Good morning, Madam Vice Chair and
22 Members of the Commission. My name is Tyson Davis. I'm
23 with the Kern County Sheriff's Office. I'm a sheriff's
24 commander assigned to manage and oversee the Off-Road
25 Vehicle Operations through our organization. I've been

1 involved with off-road vehicle operations or enforcement
2 and education since about 1997. So I have a lot of
3 history of what's going on throughout Kern County over
4 the years.

5 I'd like to tell you a little bit about some of
6 the activities that the Sheriff's Office is involved
7 with as a (unintelligible) off-highway vehicle
8 enforcement and education. We're actively involved with
9 all of the stakeholders who have identified in Kern
10 County. Some of those are the Off-Road Vehicle Watch of
11 Kern County; Kern County Recreational Landowners
12 Association; Friends of Jawbone; coming soon, Friends of
13 the Timpu; BLM; U.S. Forest Service. I've worked
14 extensively with Beth Boyst, who was just speaking
15 regarding the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail;
16 California State Parks and all other local law
17 enforcement agencies.

18 Over the years, we've kind of changed our focus.
19 Many of you in the room may recall that back in the boom
20 of the economy, everybody was taking out loans on their
21 homes and going out and buying toys. We saw a
22 tremendous influx of off-road activity in Kern County.
23 And what came along with that was people were not
24 registering the vehicles. So we would go out on a
25 weekend and write hundreds of tickets for green-sticker

1 violations. And that became our focus was tickets.
2 Well, when the market dropped and people couldn't afford
3 to go out anymore, we started noticing that there less
4 people were coming out with unregistered vehicles and we
5 were seeing more land-use issues, more people
6 trespassing or riding in closed areas.

7 So over the last couple of years, we've
8 continued to focus on tickets, but we've also started
9 focusing on more land-use issues and reaching out to the
10 individual stakeholders, landowners, the groups who are
11 concerned about those issues, and specifically over the
12 last year with the Pacific Crest Trail.

13 Some of the issues that we've dealt with there
14 are access to the Pacific Crest Trail, access on and off
15 of private property. We've worked with local county
16 planners over the last five years putting up signage,
17 and more recently we've been working with the California
18 State Parks to put up some kiosks in some strategic
19 areas around the area. That's something that's ongoing
20 right now.

21 We're hoping that those kiosks will help add to
22 the education efforts. Some other education efforts
23 that we've worked with is through the Friends of
24 Jawbone. The mapping system that they've been using
25 since about 1999, over the last couple of years, we've

1 worked with them to get some applications for Smart
2 devices so that now that users can download the maps
3 onto their Smart device from the Jawbone website. And
4 what this does is it helps riders or land users to know
5 where they need to go and where they shouldn't be. So
6 those are some of the things that we're working with.

7 In closing, I'd just like to emphasize that Kern
8 County Sheriff's Office is actively involved in both
9 enforcement and education. And I'd like to thank your
10 Commission for the continued support.

11 And if your Commission has any questions for me,
12 I'd be happy to answer them.

13 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Thank you for your
14 report.

15 Do we ask questions now? No, not at this time.
16 But thank you. Thank you.

17 TYSON DAVIS: Thank you.

18 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: We appreciate your efforts.
19 Diana Mead, followed by Dave Pickett.

20 DIANA MEAD: I was afraid I'd have to stand up
21 here and wouldn't be able to see over, but it's actually
22 not that bad. I'm Diana Mead. I represent CORVA.

23 Nearly two years ago I stood before the
24 Commission and made a comment about Senate Bill 234
25 about the -- having helmets and the UTVs and my concern

1 for how implementing that law would perhaps impact the
2 riders and the passengers in these vehicles. I don't
3 have a lot of awful things to report. The law's been in
4 effect since July of 2013. Out and about riding, I do
5 see an awful lot of abuse of the law, a lot of people
6 not wearing helmets. But I will tell you anecdotally
7 that I did some pretty severe damage to my neck on a UTV
8 in the Jawbone area over New Year's. And it was exactly
9 as I described it to you. I was a passenger in one of
10 these vehicles, and because you're passive, unlike a
11 quad where you're actively anticipating the terrain,
12 you're passively sitting there going like this. And
13 helmets are heavy. There is no cushion, the -- the
14 headrests are made to have direct contact with the back
15 of the skull. So you've got that two to three-inch,
16 depending on the size of your head, piece that doesn't
17 allow you to actually fully extend. I'm thinking that
18 eventually, you know, they're going to have to increase
19 the odds on this thing to include a LEAT (phonetic) so
20 you stop doing a lot of this, or they're going to have
21 to reconsider this because I suspect there's going to be
22 some damage, and it's going to be long-term. Most --
23 the biggest concern I have, too, is for car-seat kids,
24 because, there again, they're saying car seats with
25 helmets in these vehicles. And they were designed for

1 families. They're designed for passengers.

2 The skull contact with the back of a car seat is
3 absolutely critical to the way they were designed. And
4 a helmet with an infant, it's only a matter of time.
5 And there's going to be some damage to a toddler, and
6 there's going to be a huge lawsuit, and then we're going
7 to lose the right to use these vehicles for a while.

8 So I just want to say I'm still worried about
9 this. I know we've got a law in place. And I know
10 people are supposed to wear helmets.

11 Thank you.

12 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you.

13 Dave Pickett, followed by Don Amador.

14 DAVE PICKETT: Good morning. Dave Pickett,
15 District 36 Motorcycle Sports Committee.

16 It was very difficult to come up with some
17 topics because the agenda is so packed with stuff. But
18 I want to acknowledge Jim Keeler from the BLM, also. He
19 was a friend, confidante. And I remember when he called
20 me and said, Dave, they've made the decision to close
21 Clear Creek, and what a tough phone call that was for
22 him. Our heart goes out to him and his family.

23 And then Barbara Greenwood, I just wanted
24 publicly say thank you for your years of efforts,
25 especially when I had a lot of questions that I could

1 pick up the phone and call her, and if she didn't have
2 the answer, she got back to me. That was very
3 important. I hope the new staff that's going to replace
4 her will have the same enthusiasm, dedication, and
5 professionalism.

6 Last thing is Visitor Appreciation Days,
7 Carnegie, Prairie City and Clay Pit, the public really
8 enjoys these. And please move forward on this to all
9 the SVRAs, if you can. They're well-received. They're
10 good information centers, and it gives staff some
11 one-on-one time with the public in a comfortable
12 environment.

13 Thank you.

14 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you.

15 Don Amador, followed by John Stewart.

16 DON AMADOR: Don Amador of Blue Ribbon Coalition
17 and Quiet Warrior Racing.

18 I want to welcome the Commission and
19 particularly new Commissioner Erin -- let me get this --
20 Hafkenschiel.

21 Was that pretty close?

22 COMMISSIONER HAFKENSCHIEL: (No audible
23 response.)

24 DON AMADOR: Very good.

25 And then also thank Commissioner Lueder for

1 re-upping for another term of service. Really
2 appreciate it. I know it's a lot of work and just
3 appreciate your service.

4 Also want to say godspeed to Jim Keeler. He was
5 a friend, and he will be missed.

6 The tour yesterday, we had a mini tour with
7 Kevin of the Boca and Prosser OHV area. Just want to
8 say that the Tahoe National Forest does a great job in
9 designating their routes and protecting natural
10 resources with their signing, trail delineators and
11 vehicle-width restrictors and everything, a really good
12 program.

13 With the fire still burning behind us about 15
14 miles, I just wanted to give the Commission an update on
15 Fire-scape Mendocino. It's a -- part of a national
16 effort to bring stakeholder groups together,
17 environmental groups, recreation groups, the Forest
18 Service, timber, and see if we can find zones of
19 agreement on trying to do vegetative management
20 treatments on federal land, private land so we don't
21 have these catastrophic fires that occur seemingly every
22 summer.

23 Want to thank Division for sending staff to
24 this, too. We have Cal Fire there, but it's also nice
25 to have recreation staff there because oftentimes, like

1 with the Mill fire in 2012 on the Mendocino, 82,000
2 acres, can burn up a lot of trail infrastructure that
3 the Division paid for that a lot of us were putting in.
4 Now we have to do it again. So we don't have these
5 continual Ground Hog Days repeating themselves
6 destroying our infrastructure.

7 And then lastly, an update on Clear Creek.
8 HR 1776 was a bill to re-open Clear Creek to
9 essentially -- its management prescription in the 2005
10 Travel Management Plan. It had its sub-committee
11 hearing this summer. It passed that, and it's waiting
12 for a markup in the House Resources Committee. Don't
13 know whether it will happen this year, but want to
14 assure the Commission that we will work with Congressman
15 Sam Parr and others to see that it gets re-introduced
16 next year. And we are not going to give up on trying to
17 get Clear Creek re-opened.

18 Thank you.

19 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you.

20 John Stewart, followed by Amy Granat.

21 JOHN STEWART: Good morning, Commissioners,
22 Deputy Director. John Stewart with the California
23 Association of Four-wheel Drive Clubs.

24 For 35 years the Kingsburg Four-Wheelers have
25 been hosting a Snow Day or Snow Run in the Hume District

1 of Sequoia National Forest. This run is held on a
2 blacktop road, asphalt road, that is snow covered, and
3 it is unplowed road. It is not maintained during
4 wintertime. Like I said, 35 years it's been going on.
5 This past year that over-zealous law enforcement, while
6 people were lined up and getting ready to begin their
7 run through their little tech inspection, law
8 enforcement was issuing citations for such meaningless
9 issues as fender flares and mud -- lack of mud flaps.
10 This is on vehicles that are duly registered for
11 street-legal use. They're daily drivers for people.
12 And these are sites that -- it's just something that the
13 local law enforcement, the CHP, and no other law
14 enforcement has really paid attention to with this kind
15 of deal. And yet the law enforcement on the Sequoia
16 took this opportunity on a permitted special event on
17 this unmaintained or, essentially, closed to the public
18 unless you had four-wheel-drive road, to take the
19 advantage to each issue these citations.

20 The club brought this to the attention of the
21 district ranger during their after-event meeting. The
22 district's comment, the ranger's comment was very
23 dismissive to the point of saying, Oh, well, go to
24 another ranger district, go to another forest where
25 you'll have better opportunity.

1 With these two factors taken into account, the
2 Sequoia Forests receives a lot of green-sticker which
3 is -- goes for OHV opportunity. Here you have one
4 specific ranger district within the forest that is
5 actively pushing to remove OHV recreation. And at this
6 point, Cal Four-Wheel can no longer support green
7 sticker grants that go to Sequoia National Forest.

8 Now, one final thing is that, and it will apply
9 to the entire Sequoia National Forest is they have yet
10 to finish their Travel Management Plan. When they
11 provided their initial Travel Management Plan it was in
12 the midst of a fire that severely took -- damaged the
13 Piute Mountains there in the southern Sequoia Forest
14 Area. That area was carved out of the Travel Management
15 with the promise to finish it up. Well, their last
16 chance and go-around in Public Comments on that fire was
17 four years ago. When questioned about when they're
18 going to start that, they said, Oh, we don't have the
19 money. We don't have the personnel. And this is on top
20 of \$14 million the Forest Service was given to complete
21 Travel Management. So until Sequoia comes up and comes
22 clean and actually completes their requirements in
23 providing for a recreational opportunities, I do not
24 believe that, and this is Cal Four-Wheel's position,
25 they should no longer receive green-sticker funding.

1 Thank you.

2 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you, Mr. Stewart.

3 Amy Granat, followed by Nick Haris.

4 AMY GRANAT: Hello, Commissioners.

5 Is it on? Did I break it or is it working?

6 (Multiple speakers.)

7 AMY GRANAT: All I need is to be louder.

8 Welcome, Commissioners. Amy Granat, Managing
9 Director of the California Off-Road Vehicle Association
10 or CORVA. Nice to see you again in Northern California.
11 Southern California is nice, but Northern California is
12 better. I'm biased. I like trees.

13 I wanted to make you aware of a program I bet
14 most of you aren't aware of, and it's affiliated with
15 the Sierra/Nevada Conservancy, and it's called the
16 Healthy Forest Initiative. And I'm very pleased to be
17 appointed to the Regional Council -- Regional
18 Coordinating Council as part of the Healthy Forest
19 Initiative. And it's the first time they've ever had a
20 recreation person on there, either motorized or
21 non-motorized. So along with Defenders of Wildlife,
22 Sierra Club, Nature Conservancy, they have me. And
23 they're a contingent -- a very nice contingent from PSW,
24 the Pacific Southwest Research Station of the Forest
25 Service, number of Forest Service personnel and Este.

1 So I get to see a friendly face at the meetings.

2 It has to be understood that OHV recreation is
3 not only a sustainable part of a healthy forest, but
4 it's integral to the health of a forest. And who knows
5 the situation on a forest better than an OHV enthusiast?
6 We ride the roads. We see the conditions. We are
7 familiar with the conditions. We understand the
8 overgrowth of trees, and the capacity of the forest to
9 sustain growth. We understand it actually better than
10 some of these other organizations, and yet up to now
11 we've been excluded from all of these conversations.
12 These are conversations where policy gets made. So when
13 Travel Management issues come down, these are
14 conversations we've never had a part of before. And it
15 took a lot of showing up, being there, arguing with them
16 and telling them that they weren't considering the
17 average person on the ground, whether motorized or
18 non-motorized. So I'm very pleased to be part of it.
19 It's a lot of work, but I'm excited about the future.
20 Invite -- there are four meetings a year. I invite all
21 of you to come. It's a pretty knowledgeable group of
22 people, and I'm trying to keep up as best as possible.

23 I would like to also invite any of my colleagues
24 in the audience to collaborate. We need more
25 knowledgeable people involved in processes like this. I

1 recently wrote an article about the value of
2 collaboration. And Commissioner Patrovsky was talking
3 about bringing together disparate groups. I know
4 Commissioner Pérez has also been involved, and all of
5 you have been. We need conversations with Defenders of
6 Wildlife, Nature Conservancy, and on an even playing
7 field. And this is what the Sierra/Nevada Conservancy
8 is giving us. It is a State agency, so they have to
9 allow us in. And I have found actually that they have
10 been extremely accommodating. So with that, I invite
11 any of you who would like more information on the
12 Healthy Forest Initiative to please contact me. And
13 look forward to hearing what the rest of the meeting is.
14 It's been a great meeting so far.

15 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you, Amy.

16 Nick Haris.

17 NICK HARIS: Is that better.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's better.

19 NICK HARIS: Good morning, Commissioners, in
20 particular, and others. Nice to see Eric back.

21 And nice to meet you this morning. I didn't
22 realize you were the new Commissioner at the time.

23 So welcome to everybody.

24 And I also want to say I didn't know Jim Keeler
25 as well as some of you, but I actually had a really nice

1 opportunity to spend some time with -- during a
2 Commission meeting, we actually did about a four-hour
3 drive, and it was just to get to know him. And he
4 already had been sick and had come back. And he was
5 definitely an enthusiast and a nice, you know,
6 knowledgeable, honest, hard-working guy. And I think
7 we -- you know, we all miss him. So I just wanted to
8 mention that.

9 I did also want to mention, I went to the Fresno
10 meeting that was talked about, the Forest Service
11 meeting. And I thought it was a very good meeting, and
12 I thought that the format was really nice. But I did
13 express my disappointment at the time that it seemed
14 like the maps had every other thing you could want to
15 know, and I'm standing there with someone who lives in
16 the area and they were having trouble identifying the
17 actual recreation areas. And so I thought that was a
18 bit of a disappointment.

19 It's been mentioned a little bit, but the NOHVCC
20 meeting for next year, I'm actually going to meet with
21 Russ in about two weeks and we're going to go out and
22 look at a couple areas. And so if anybody has any
23 ideas. I know we're going to look at --

24 I know you do.

25 We're going to look at the hotel near Natomas

1 where we've had Commission meetings before. We're going
2 to go look at something by Expo Center, and we're going
3 to probably look at Asilimar. But if there's anywhere
4 else that has both the airport as well as an SVRA or
5 riding area that people can go out to, I think that will
6 be great.

7 I wanted to mention two things that were already
8 mentioned today. There's a BLM Planning meeting coming
9 on October 7th in Sacramento, and they're also having a
10 session in Denver. But most of us, of course, the one
11 is Sacramento -- it's from 1:00 to 5:00 on October 7th,
12 and I've got more information if people are not aware or
13 interested. And then also I received an email that the
14 Water Board is supposed to be having a hearing about the
15 cleanup and abatement order being rescinded on the
16 Rubicon, and I believe it's on the 10th. So either of
17 those, I think, could be important for folks to either
18 find out more about or consider attending.

19 Thank you very much.

20 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you.

21 Okay. I'd like to get back to BLM Report.

22 Is there any questions from the Commissioners
23 before I move on to Public Comment agenda items?

24 Okay. I'm going to go ahead and -- is this
25 correct, I'm moving on to agenda -- okay. Great.

1 Perfect.

2 **PUBLIC COMMENT ON USFS AND BLM REPORTS**

3 All right. Diana Mead, followed by Dave
4 Pickett.

5 Okay. Pass.

6 Dave Pickett?

7 DAVE PICKETT: Pass.

8 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Pass.

9 Amy Granat, followed by John Stewart.

10 John Stewart, followed by Don Amador.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Pass.

12 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. JOHN STEWART.

13 JOHN STEWART: Good morning, Commissioners,
14 Deputy Director. John Stewart, California Association
15 of Four-Wheel Drive Clubs.

16 I appreciate the Forest Service explanation and
17 information about the things going on. And I know it's
18 been mentioned and it may sound like a broken record,
19 but the Forest Plan Revisions, I would encourage
20 everyone to become involved, become knowledgeable and to
21 get the word out to people that you ride with and
22 recreate with and deal with because these plans are
23 going to be the framework. And right now it is Sequoia,
24 Sierra, and the Inyo, and whatever happens on these --
25 within these frameworks, this is going to roll out to

1 the rest of the forests in California, and this is going
2 to establish the framework of how recreation is moved
3 forward for the future.

4 Now, under the terms of recreation after
5 spending a couple, three years in the collaborative
6 meetings leading up to this to figure out what is going
7 on and providing a lot of comment as to the process to
8 this point, I still find and am very displeased that the
9 Forest Service is not giving top billing to one of their
10 most important points that they provide, and that is
11 recreation. They talk a lot about Pacific Crest Trail,
12 they talk a lot about quiet recreation, but they are
13 also very silent on motorized recreation, and that is
14 the fastest effort and the fastest growing demographic
15 in the forests, and it's something that I encourage the
16 Forest Service to really move forward with addressing
17 that in an adequate manner.

18 And the issues about the Pacific Crest Trail and
19 the system that both the agencies brought up, it just
20 keeps -- you know, it just bears repeating is that we
21 have a recreation public out there that if they do not
22 have a place to go, they will create where they want to
23 go. No amount of law enforcement is going to stop
24 people. And a continued use of penal actions and
25 negative actions is not going to really help cure the

1 situation. It has got to go back to an education. It's
2 got to go back to finding out what the riders, what the
3 people want, and then creating them or guiding them to
4 areas and places where they can get the recreation
5 experience they so desire.

6 Thank you.

7 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you, Mr. Stewart.

8 Does staff have any response to any of the
9 Public Comment? No?

10 Okay. I will now close Public Comment.

11 Okay. It is -- let me just double-check my --
12 the time here. It's 11:27. So I think we're doing
13 good. We're doing lunch at maybe about 12:00.

14 So we're going to move on to the next agenda
15 item, State of Nevada OHV Program. I would like to
16 introduce -- I'm sorry, did I miss --

17 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Oh. Yes. I was hoping
18 to -- we were going to go back to -- with Jane Arteaga
19 as far as the Pacific Crest Trail --

20 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Why don't --

21 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: -- because I have some --
22 I have some comments on that.

23 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Let me back track.
24 And Jane's coming up.

25 ///

1 **AGENDA ITEM V(B) - BLM REPORT (CONTINUED)**

2 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Go ahead, Commissioner
3 Cabral.

4 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: I'm sorry, I may have
5 gotten out of line there, but I just -- I have some
6 comments on the Pacific Crest Trail situation. And I
7 want to go back and look at history and talk about
8 planning because we are discussing some planning stuff
9 here.

10 And this is an example of bad planning because
11 that was an historic OHV Area that the Pacific Crest
12 Trail was put through, and there was no thought at all
13 put into that fact. So now here we are many, many years
14 later on having an issue that's been festering and been
15 happening for a long period of time.

16 Now, with that, there's new talk about not
17 having motorized trails crossing the Pacific Crest Trail
18 throughout the State of California. There's been some
19 rumblings about that type of situation. Yet we have
20 highways, freeways, whatever else crossing the Pacific
21 Crest Trail. What needs to happen now is we need to
22 have -- the management practices that you guys are
23 talking about can be effective, in my opinion. And also
24 the presence of law enforcement is going to be
25 effective. But I really applaud the fact that the

1 communications that people are trying to do now and
2 working forward is -- that's going to be the key thing
3 is to be able to communicate and agree on things that
4 people can agree on and then disagreements. But, you
5 know, that area in Kern County, that was -- I mean that
6 was a training area for professional racers in the early
7 seventies for a long period -- for ten years it was
8 known as that being their training spot. So there's a
9 history of riding in that area that's been overlooked
10 with this. And the private property owners in that area
11 were both for recreation and against motorized
12 recreation. I think everybody needs to establish their
13 property lines and stuff a little better, which is not
14 really common in Southern California.

15 BLM MS. ARTEAGA: Especially in the desert.

16 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Especially in the desert
17 where -- you know, where I'm from, we have fences and
18 signs and people will shoot at you with salt rock or
19 something if you go across them. But the point being
20 is, is that because of this bad planning that there's
21 all this other stuff that we have to deal with down the
22 line. So the can's been kicked down the road and kicked
23 down the road. So I hope this is an example of what not
24 to do in the future. And I think as all these groups,
25 we can try to work together and discuss issues to begin

1 with and then be able to come out with better plans that
2 will better serve the community down the road.

3 So I just want to say that. But I do appreciate
4 very much the efforts everybody's making trying to
5 resolve this situation. I know it's difficult, and
6 it's -- I'm sorry you're in that position.

7 BLM MS. ARTEAGA: Well, that's why I'm my job
8 and my position. I'm a public servant. And I could
9 pretty much say with -- both with Jennifer and Beth that
10 their dedication to the project is outstanding. I mean
11 they understand the needs of the OHV community and the
12 natural resources out there.

13 Can you hear me? I'm not sure --

14 (Multiple speakers.)

15 BLM MS. ARTEAGA: Okay. And I agree with you, I
16 think BLM's been working hard on being very transparent
17 on their planning, I could say, definitely within the
18 last twelve years what I've noticed and some of the
19 plans. And this is -- you know, reaching out -- that's
20 why we're reaching out to you for help to reach out to
21 the public. I mean you have a little better
22 relationships than we do, and we're developing those
23 relationships, as you can see, around Johnson Valley
24 we're working closely, and also Jawbone, El Mirage, and
25 some of those areas we're working strongly in developing

1 those relationships. But we definitely need your help
2 to be able to do that and the communication -- because
3 it goes both ways.

4 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Sure.

5 BLM MS. ARTEAGA: As you say, we can learn a lot
6 from the OHV community and -- to help us do better
7 planning in the long-term. So...

8 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Okay.

9 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: And I just wanted to --
10 Are you finished, Ted?

11 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Oh, I'm -- on the Pacific
12 Crest Trail, I am, yes.

13 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Okay. I just wanted to
14 trail onto what you were saying.

15 It seems like a couple of topics we addressed
16 here today, you know, there's the issue of OHV incursion
17 into areas that they're not supposed to be in and -- you
18 know, that sort of thing should be discouraged in every
19 way with signage and fencing and law enforcement.

20 But just as the other gentleman said, this shows
21 a greater demand for OHV opportunities. And as
22 populations grow, as there's more and more demand for
23 use and shared use of the public properties that we do
24 have, we need to go beyond fencing each other out and
25 having this animosity between groups and we need to

1 figure out ways that we can work together and share the
2 trails.

3 And the Pacific Crest Trail, I know it's insane
4 to even suggest that because some people would back flip
5 in their chair just to hear that. But, you know,
6 there's places where it can be managed and off limits
7 and OHV's can be kept out. But if there are places
8 where there's traditionally been OHV use, the general
9 public is not going to know. It's going to take a sea
10 change for people to realize that they cannot go where
11 they traditionally have been able to go.

12 So I know it's crazy to say, but we need to
13 figure out ways that we can work together, share the
14 trails, figure out what people can agree to, try to get
15 communication and cooperation between all groups.
16 Because there's no way we're going to be able to law
17 enforcement everybody out of every trail in California.
18 It's just going to be something that we're just going to
19 go around and around with and waste time, money, energy,
20 and just have a general animosity in the OHV community
21 with this ongoing. So, you know, I know it's kind of
22 pie in the sky, but we just need to figure out ways that
23 we can work together and share trails in certain areas.

24 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Well said, Kevin.

25 Ted?

1 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Yes.

2 The other thing is I wanted to address the
3 Johnson Valley issue with the Marines that you brought
4 up earlier. And I'm glad to see that they're
5 negotiating the boundary and make -- putting the signs
6 up. That's great. I was wondering if the negotiations
7 between the Marines and the BLM, if that was a public
8 process with public meeting, public noticing, or was
9 that something that was being done just on a like
10 business-type problem?

11 BLM MS. ARTEAGA: They just had a public meeting
12 on the 6th of this month. So there is outreach to --
13 with -- if you go to the Marine website, there's
14 actually a link in the BLM website. They announced all
15 the public meetings, and I believe there's another one
16 coming up. So it's very much a public process and
17 input. You know, it's a development plan, and we do --
18 you know, by law, we had to form a committee. And that
19 -- like I said, the charter's just being completed on
20 that committee. So it -- like I said earlier, it's very
21 much a public process and you -- and our -- like this
22 week, I think, we're having a RAC meeting down in the
23 desert, and that will be presented as one of their
24 projects that are being worked right now. And, again,
25 that -- the RAC is a Resource Advisory Committee for the

1 BLM. It's a public process. So...

2 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Now, I've been led to
3 believe that the King of the Hammers' event's going to
4 be able to proceed this next year with the routes that
5 the promoter was hoping to run. It looked like it was
6 going to run like it had traditionally in some way.

7 His safety concerns were being addressed by the
8 Marines in that he was going to get the possibly
9 suggested route. Can you comment on that?

10 BLM MS. ARTEAGA: We are pursuing the permit,
11 and we are trying to figure out how to issue the permit
12 on -- or the Marines are trying to figure out how to
13 issue the permit on their portion of the property of the
14 race. So I have heard that they're trying to do the
15 same route as they have traditionally. I can't
16 guarantee, yes, that's going to be it. Because we're in
17 the permit process, and as we're in the permit process
18 and approving the permit, because it's a yearly thing,
19 that's always looked at.

20 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

21 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: And then lastly is the
22 youth summit.

23 Thank you.

24 I know we had that conversation when I got all
25 wound up and called it the "UPS" and everything but --

1 BLM MS. ARTEAGA: Yeah.

2 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: But no, that -- I'm
3 great -- I'm glad to see the participation from the OHV
4 Division, and I'm looking forward to attending the
5 event.

6 BLM MS. ARTEAGA: Well, I'm glad you are.

7 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Yes. So thank you, and I
8 appreciate you bringing us information on that.

9 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you, Jane.

10 BLM MS. ARTEAGA: You're welcome.

11 **AGENDA ITEM V(C) - STATE OF NEVADA OHV PROGRAM**

12 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. I'd like to introduce
13 Greg McKay, who is the Chair of the Nevada OHV
14 Commission.

15 Welcome, Greg.

16 GREG MCKAY: Thank you. Can you hear me?

17 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Yes. Yes, we can.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We're good.

19 GREG MCKAY: Thank you for the opportunity to be
20 before the Commission. My name's Greg McKay. I've just
21 been chairman of our commission for three whole months,
22 a member of our commission for six whole months. I
23 think everybody took one step backwards instead of
24 forward as far as when a new chair came about.

25 I've been watching the California Off-Highway

1 Vehicle Commission for many years. I started recreating
2 in the mid-nineties. I've been a member of the
3 California/Nevada Snowmobile Association. Since then,
4 past Central Region director. I attend a lot of your
5 meetings. I think the last one was when the California
6 Treasury was taking money out of your trust fund to
7 balance the budget. And I encourage them to spend all
8 your balance and deal with it that way. Probably not
9 the best advice.

10 But the Nevada legislature, after deliberating
11 for a few years, passed an OHV law a couple years ago.
12 Its mission statement was to promote responsible OHV
13 riding in the State. It's estimate that we have between
14 4 and 500,000 OHVs in the State of Nevada with a
15 population of a little more than 3 million.

16 In their infinite wisdom, they estimate we'd
17 have 200,000 stickers sold a year now; we're a third of
18 that. There's several reasons, I believe. We are --
19 just now have our draft regulations under review by the
20 Legislative Council Bureau. So we'll have adequate
21 regulations to be able to disburse the grant money
22 legally. My predecessor tried to do it without those
23 regulations. It cost us a few months in getting things
24 done. We're mandated, 60 percent of our money is to be
25 spent on trail construction, rehabilitation, et cetera;

1 20 percent on law enforcement; 15 percent on public
2 education and outreach; 5 percent for administration.

3 We were the last state in the Union to have an
4 OHV Program. We are independent-minded in our state.
5 Actually, our off-highway vehicle dealers pushed the OHV
6 law in the State of Nevada. We were getting a lot of
7 competition from other states that could sell vehicles
8 and people weren't paying taxes on it. And Department
9 of Taxation thought it was a good idea to close that
10 gap, too. So with that combination, they got a law
11 passed.

12 We're dealing with a few issues with the new
13 program coming up. We right now require a VIN
14 inspection on all vehicles. It's pretty easy. If you
15 go online, you can do it. You can have your local
16 sheriff come by, any peace officer; they can do an
17 inspection. You can send in a form of 20 bucks and you
18 have it.

19 The law gave OHV dealers authority to do this,
20 too, but granted them the generous fee a \$1.50 to do
21 that service. So they lose money on it, and many of
22 them choose not to do it. They have to do it,
23 obviously, with new vehicles, but used stuff is a little
24 different.

25 We don't have -- since we haven't been able to

1 award grants, we haven't been able to effectively have a
2 program for public education and outreach and law
3 enforcement. I believe when those components are funded
4 we'll start to do better as far as registration goes.

5 And, also, a lot of people buy the non-resident
6 California sticker. You don't have to go through any
7 vehicle inspection. Many people like myself have done
8 it for 20 or 30 years. It's -- and with reciprocity,
9 they don't get bothered.

10 Let's see. Basically, we have probably -- we
11 have to go through our administrative process with the
12 legislature, also. They have to make our temporary
13 regulations permanent. And we'll have to do some
14 lobbying in the legislature for a couple changes we
15 think may improve our program. However, nothing's
16 guaranteed in that process either.

17 So I just wanted to give you a brief update.
18 And other than we do have a lot of contiguous areas
19 between our two states. If there's ways that we can
20 cooperate with you or regionalize something or leverage
21 something, I think we'd be all ears to you. And I
22 appreciate what you're trying to do for the state and
23 the off-highway vehicle users.

24 And with that, I'll take any questions you have.

25 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: Thank you, Greg. I'm

1 temporarily filling in for Commissioner Pérez until she
2 gets back.

3 Does staff or any of the other Commissioners
4 have any comments?

5 Diana is back. So...

6 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Yeah.

7 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: I had a question for
8 you -- a couple questions.

9 Just wondering, I know the program's very new.
10 I'm wondering if there's any thoughts of State OHV Parks
11 being set up, you know, similar to what California has
12 where if your folks -- primarily on the federal lands,
13 which, of course, in Nevada are pretty abundant.

14 GREG MCKAY: Sure. Ninety percent of our land's
15 federally owned. So BLM and Forest Service are good
16 partners. Nevada State Parks uses RTP funds, and they
17 do have a couple of state parks that are OHV funded and
18 used. We'd like to work with them and do more of those
19 in the state. So yes.

20 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Okay. Great. Thank you.

21 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Ted?

22 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Yeah.

23 And then I was wondering if you guys were
24 engaging in the process with the designation of the
25 sage-grouse.

1 GREG MCKAY: I'm sorry, I shouldn't laugh.

2 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: No, that's okay.

3 GREG MCKAY: But --

4 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: The desert shaking.

5 Excuse me.

6 GREG MCKAY: Yes.

7 Our mandate isn't specifically to lobby or
8 influence that; however, it's safe to say that our user
9 population is very concerned about that process. And
10 hopefully more reasonable men will prevail in this.
11 We're not sure. It could be an awfully big problem if
12 it is listed. And we'll just have to see if they're
13 wise enough not to.

14 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Okay.

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Let me just thank you
16 very much for coming on out here. It's great to share
17 back and forth between the two states.

18 GREG MCKAY: My pleasure. Hopefully by the end
19 of the year we'll have our administrative regulations
20 approved and the proper public hearing process
21 completed, and we'll advertise for grants and be able to
22 award them. So hopefully next year we'll have projects
23 on the ground being done, and we can justify the sticker
24 fee that we charge our users.

25 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Okay.

1 GREG MCKAY: Thank you.

2 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Thank you.

3 Deputy Director, CARB Report.

4 **AGENDA ITEM V(D)(1) - DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORTS -**

5 **CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD RED STICKER REGULATION**

6 **UPDATE**

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah. I'd like to go
8 right into the CARB Report. I've got a little thing I'm
9 going to do at the beginning of my report. But in the
10 interest of time, because these gentlemen came out for
11 cycling, I'd like to get them up and going.

12 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay?

14 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Go ahead.

15 Please introduce yourself.

16 CARB MR. WATSON: Good morning. My name is Jim
17 Watson. I'm a manager with the Air Resources Board.
18 I'm here today to provide you with an update on CARB's
19 Red Sticker Motorcycle Assessment.

20 To begin, in July 2013, our board directed staff
21 to conduct an assessment and evaluate ways to
22 effectively control exhaust and evaporative emissions
23 from the category. They asked staff to conduct an
24 assessment and report back to the board by December of
25 2015.

1 The objective of the assessment is to evaluate
2 exhaust and evaporative emissions from red-sticker
3 motorcycles, including criteria pollutants and
4 greenhouse gases.

5 Slide 2, please.

6 I would now like to take the opportunity to
7 recap CARB's May 2nd Commission update. In our May 2nd
8 Commission update, we provided an overview of the Red
9 Sticker Program, detailed California's Off-Highway
10 motorcycle population -- excuse me -- and described
11 testing and survey elements of our red-sticker
12 assessment, including test objectives, vehicle test
13 matrix, procurement and survey objectives and
14 development.

15 Slide 3, please.

16 Today's update will focus on procurement,
17 preliminary test results, the status of the survey, and
18 our revised timeline for completing the assessment.

19 Slide 4, please.

20 With regard to procurements of new OHMCs, we
21 contacted 17 dealers and solicited 14-day rentals. Only
22 two dealers agreed to offer services. In spite of a
23 lack of interest from dealers contacted, CARB was able
24 to procure five new red sticker OHMCs for exhaust
25 emissions testing. Dealer apprehension with

1 participation involved liability, inventory, perception,
2 and timely payment concerns.

3 Slide 5, please.

4 This list identifies the five popular
5 red-sticker OHMCs procured and tested. The exhaust test
6 results will be covered later in this presentation. The
7 models tested came from four of the five top-selling
8 OHMC manufacturers.

9 Slide 6, please.

10 This list shows the remaining models of new
11 OHMCs CARB would like to procure and test. The list
12 contains both red and green-sticker OHMCs. CARB will
13 continue to work with dealers to procure these specific
14 models for exhaust testing.

15 Slide 7, please.

16 With regard to procurement of in-use OHMCs, CARB
17 mailed rental solicitations to owners within a
18 hundred-mile radius of our test facility in El Monte.
19 CARB offered owners between \$600 and \$1,500 for 16-day
20 rentals. Approximately 3,000 rental solicitations were
21 mailed, and 63 responses were received.

22 Slide 8, please. Models of In-use OHMCs
23 Procured. This list shows the four in-use OHMCs that
24 have been procured to date. All models will be tested
25 for exhaust and evaporative emissions. Two in-use

1 models have already been tested for exhaust emissions.

2 Slide 9.

3 This table summarizes information in slides 5
4 through 8 and shows the times and characteristics of new
5 and in-use green and red-sticker OHMCs that CARB would
6 like to test or has already tested. The new and in-use
7 OHMCs will be a mix of engine types 2 and 4-stroke and
8 fuel systems carbureted and fuel-injected. Please note,
9 models and red color represent red-sticker OHMCs, models
10 in green color represent green-sticker OHMCs, models in
11 bold font have already been tested, and models in
12 regular font have already been tested.

13 Slide 10, please.

14 Preliminary Emissions Testing Results.

15 Slide 11, please. Slide 11, please. This is
16 slide 32.

17 MANJIT AHUJA: No. No, the numbering's wrong.
18 Slight error.

19 CARB MR. WATSON: So it's Overview of Emissions
20 Testing. Okay. To date, the focus of -- has been on
21 exhaust emissions testing as CARB has already performed
22 extensive evaporative testing in support of
23 green-sticker rule making adopted by CARB in 20- -- in
24 July of 2013. However, to support this assessment,
25 further emissions testing of in-use motorcycles is

1 scheduled.

2 The primary purpose of exhaust testing is to
3 compare red-sticker emissions to CARB's existing
4 green-sticker exhaust emissions standards for
5 hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide. However, staff will
6 also measure and evaluate other emissions of criteria
7 pollutants, including nitrogen dioxide and potentially
8 particulate matter. In addition, greenhouse gases, such
9 as methane and CO₂, will be measured. It is very
10 important for CARB to avoid strategies that reduce
11 hydrocarbons to carbon monoxide but result in air
12 quality dis-benefit for other pollutants such as nox and
13 greenhouse gases.

14 All testing is being performed on a chassis
15 dynamometer following the federal test procedure.
16 Manufacturers and stakeholders have been actively
17 observing testing.

18 Next slide.

19 CARB's current exhaust standards for
20 hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide are 1.2 grams per
21 kilometer and 15 grams per kilometer respectively and
22 applied to OHMCs registered as green sticker.

23 Two-stroke hydrocarbon results for one
24 two-stroke tested were 6.4 times the standard.
25 Four-stroke hydrocarbon results range from 1.3 to 2.1

1 times the standard.

2 Two-stroke carbon monoxide results for the one
3 two-stroke tested were 1.1 times the standard.

4 And four-stroke carbon monoxide results range
5 from 1.3 to 1.8 times the standard.

6 Next slide, please.

7 These two graphs show emission -- emissions test
8 results for hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide from five
9 new and one in-use red-sticker OHMC. The horizontal bar
10 on each graph highlights CARB's regulatory standard. To
11 date, not shown, is one red-sticker OHMC has been tested
12 and met CARB's standards. However, these charts --
13 these charts also show a number of four-stroke models
14 tested to date are close to achieving green-sticker
15 exhaust standards.

16 Four-stroke results also compare well with
17 previously published competition OHMC data contained in
18 a 2012 U.S. EPA Report.

19 Once we have completed -- once we have completed
20 all of our testing, we'll have a better sense on whether
21 any currently available red-sticker bikes meet the
22 current exhaust standards for hydrocarbons and carbon
23 monoxide. We also will gain insight on the feasibility
24 of having future models meet the existing exhaust
25 standards. In addition, criteria pollutants and

1 greenhouse gas data collected will provide us with
2 emission factors which are credible in evaluating
3 opportunities for potential emission reductions for
4 currently regulated pollutants.

5 Next slide, please.

6 The Status of Owner Survey.

7 Next slide.

8 The progress of the survey has fallen behind the
9 estimated milestones in our May 2nd Commission update.
10 The primary reason for the delay had to do with CARB's
11 contract with the Department of Motor Vehicles regarding
12 the proper use in handling the DMV data. As a result,
13 CARB's staff responsible for handling sensitive DMV data
14 were trained by our Legal Department on how to properly
15 handle and safeguard DMV data. In addition, CARB has
16 changed the vendor that will perform the -- from
17 CSU Sacramento to UC Davis in order to establish an
18 interagency agreement.

19 Another noteworthy item regarding the survey is
20 that all invitations mailed to participants will be
21 co-branded with Parks and CARB logos to maintain
22 transparency. As an incentive for fully completing the
23 survey, participants will receive a free OHRV Day Pass.

24 Next slide.

25 Revised Assessment Timeline.

1 Next slide.

2 With regard to CARB's updated timeline, we now
3 envision the survey will begin this November. We also
4 project the exhaust testing will complete by January
5 2015. In March of 2015, we plan on conducting a public
6 workshop to discuss available testing and assessment
7 results. We plan to update CARB's Board in April 2015.
8 And finally, we are expecting the owner survey will end
9 in July of 2015.

10 The data collected as part of this assessment
11 will form CARB's eventual emissions-reduction strategy
12 for off-highway recreational vehicles which will
13 consider existing emissions standards as well as
14 opportunities for reduction of currently unregulated
15 pollutants.

16 Next slide, please.

17 This concludes my presentation. And this slide
18 contains contact information for staff involved with the
19 red-sticker assessment.

20 Next slide, please.

21 So right now I'm available for any questions.

22 Yes?

23 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: I have a question.

24 On your procurement process, you have a list of
25 OHMCs yet to be procured.

1 CARB MR. WATSON: Uh-huh.

2 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Do you believe that those
3 vehicles are close to being procured, or are you just at
4 a standstill?

5 CARB MR. WATSON: Well, with regard to new --
6 new purchases, the -- we're kind of limited by the State
7 Administrative Manual. And -- but we are actively
8 pursuing dealers in Southern California. We have two
9 participating dealers, and we're looking for -- to
10 expand our outreach, looking not only in Southern
11 California, but potentially Northern California as well.
12 And we're offering up to \$5,000 for testing of a new --
13 of red-sticker motorcycles. So that's pretty -- quite
14 a -- above that level, it has to go up to,
15 unfortunately, the Department of General Services.

16 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Sure. Thank you, now.

17 MANJIT AHUJA: If I could add -- good morning.
18 My name is Manjit Ahuja. It's a difficult name, so I'll
19 give you --

20 THE REPORTER: Oh. Thank you.

21 MANJIT AHUJA: I just want to clarify, we do not
22 purchase; we lease the vehicles.

23 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Yes.

24 MANJIT AHUJA: We don't want to purchase them
25 because, you know, budget takes time, and if we've got

1 allocations or not, you're going to pursue regulating --
2 procuring those new vehicles.

3 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Okay. Thank you.

4 CARB MR. WATSON: Yes.

5 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: You know, I wanted to --
6 for educational purposes or context, why are you doing
7 this? And you talked a little bit -- too much in your
8 jargon --

9 MANJIT AHUJA: Sorry.

10 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: -- which is fine. Yes,
11 most can keep up. But I wanted for you to also go
12 back -- I don't know what's --

13 CARB MR. WATSON: Let me --

14 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: -- maybe it's --

15 CARB MR. WATSON: Let me step back at little
16 bit --

17 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Yeah.

18 CARB MR. WATSON: -- and give you a little
19 history.

20 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Yeah, just for context.

21 CARB MR. WATSON: Okay.

22 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: And then my follow-up
23 question is, because it's important, the information
24 that you're providing us, on slide 12, you gave an
25 overview of the preliminary testing results. If you can

1 go through those again and explain what "HC" and "CO"
2 means. And maybe it's a preliminary question on our
3 end, but if you could just put that into context.

4 CARB MR. WATSON: Just to put it in context, as
5 I was the manager responsible for developing an
6 off-highway recreational vehicle rule statewide, and we
7 initially proposed to include both red sticker and green
8 sticker, it was an evaporative-only rule.

9 At our board hearing in July 2013, the board
10 adopted the rule but with an amendment to exclude -- to
11 continue the exclusion of red-sticker motorcycles. This
12 is important -- evaporative emissions was important
13 because statewide, including red sticker and green
14 sticker resulted in 9.9-tons-per-day reduction in
15 reactive organic gases.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: South coast.

17 CARB MR. WATSON: In particular, was counting on
18 those emission reductions for them to help attain ozone
19 standards. Based on a lot of input from South Coast and
20 the San Joaquin Valley, the board directed us to
21 re-visit the red sticker and evaluate where there --
22 what were the emissions from those bikes, where they
23 ridden at, and come up with a strategy for potentially
24 regulating those emissions.

25 So does that answer your question on that

1 history?

2 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Uh-huh.

3 CARB MR. WATSON: Okay. So in terms of the
4 preliminary test results, hydrocarbon's a carbon --
5 hydrocarbons are reactive -- reactive organic gas that
6 are precursors for ozone. Carbon monoxide is also a
7 criteria pollutant that's regulated federally and in the
8 United -- in California.

9 And so the emission results, CARB has only
10 standards for hydrocarbons, which is 1.2 grams per
11 kilometer, and we have a carbon monoxide standard of 15
12 grams per kilometer.

13 And the emission test results, at our last
14 assessment we showed the results from a federal survey
15 or study that showed that red-sticker competition
16 motorcycles for hydrocarbons were about 2.4 grams per
17 kilometer and -- that's for hydrocarbons, and the
18 two-stroke motorcycle results were about 54 grams per
19 kilometer. So very high emissions for two-stroke and
20 kind of very low -- not -- much lower emissions from
21 four-stroke but not near our standard of 1.2.

22 So in terms of the hydrocarbon results, you
23 know, two-stroke hydrocarbon results for the bike that
24 we tested was not 54; it was about five -- about five
25 times our standard or about 7 grams per kilometer. And

1 the four-stroke hydrocarbon results, you know, they were
2 very close. One of -- one of the results -- our
3 standard is 1.2. One of the results came in at 1.5. So
4 close, but not meeting the standard.

5 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay.

6 CARB MR. WATSON: Okay. A more recent result
7 for an in-use registered bike showed emissions that were
8 half our standard for carbon monoxide and half our
9 standard for hydrocarbons.

10 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: And I have a follow-up
11 question.

12 CARB MR. WATSON: Uh-huh.

13 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Just because some --
14 obviously the bikes are made by private entities and
15 you're testing those like Kawasaki or Honda. They're
16 obviously very involved with this process. What is the
17 end goal? And is your end goal to get them at a State
18 standard? Is your end goal to find -- is your end goal
19 to hold the State accountable? What is end goal?

20 MANJIT AHUJA: If I can make an attempt to
21 answer that question.

22 The first goal is just to collect data. After
23 we collect data, we will do an assessment and see where
24 we can make a difference. End goal is to -- the end
25 goal is to overall reduce emissions. That's the --

1 that's the goal for the agency. That's what we're all
2 about. It's premature for us to exactly specify what
3 we're going to do after we collect the data. But what I
4 can tell you, at the end when all the data is collected
5 and we look at the data and see where it can be -- where
6 can we make a difference in terms of reducing overall
7 emissions.

8 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay.

9 MANJIT AHUJA: Okay? I also have one more
10 comment. Sorry.

11 Jim mentioned that we went to the board in July.
12 We did not have an opportunity to work with the Division
13 prior to that, and maybe it was our shortcoming. I will
14 compliment that it's -- it's -- we enjoy working with
15 the Division -- with the Division, Deputy Director, Tom
16 Bernardo, and Ted has been coming to our workshop. So I
17 just want to thank the Commission for that.

18 CARB MR. WATSON: I just want to add on to our
19 strategy.

20 We -- we're conducting the survey to define
21 where the bikes are ridden because it's important when
22 we evaluate our emissions where the bikes are ridden in
23 terms of are they ridden in ozone non-attainment or
24 attainment areas, and what are the emission factors.

25 But just speaking in layman's terms, these

1 competition red-sticker motorcycles, they actually run
2 very rich. They have high hydrocarbon and high CO
3 emissions, and they consequently have very low nox
4 emissions. It's almost like a toothpaste: You squeeze
5 one end and it gets larger on the other. So a reaction,
6 if we regulated these -- this category, might be that we
7 reduce hydrocarbon and CO emissions to -- to our levels
8 that are -- the 1.2 and the 15-grams-per-kilometer
9 standard, but we inadvertently increase the nox
10 emissions. And that could have impact especially in the
11 south coast where nox is an important criteria
12 pollutant, that they're looking for future control
13 measures for. So -- and then, also, the greenhouse gas
14 perspective. So any eventual strategy that we're going
15 to come up with is going to thoroughly evaluate the
16 pollutants, greenhouse gases, and criteria pollutants
17 and come up with a solution that actually benefits
18 California and causes no dis-benefit because that's
19 something we want to avoid.

20 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Thank you.

21 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Any other questions?

22 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Yeah.

23 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

24 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Kevin, do you want to --

25 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Yeah, I have a question.

1 This might be a bit off topic, but you seem like
2 you would be a good person to make this estimation. In
3 the State of California, when you take into account all
4 of the polluting vehicles between diesel trucks, jet
5 airplanes, every other polluting vehicle that there is,
6 in your estimation, what percentage do these off-highway
7 vehicles present in that broader picture of polluting
8 vehicles? Is it 10 percent? Is it 1 percent? Is 1
9 million? Where -- where would you put it?

10 CARB MR. WATSON: Well, I don't have an exact
11 percentage for you, but I can tell you that our Air
12 Quality Almanac, in 2007, off-highway recreational
13 vehicles were ranked 5 in the category. So they were
14 the fifth largest polluter in California at that time.

15 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Now, is that ranked as
16 just in vehicles, or is that ranked in --

17 CARB MR. WATSON: Total -- total tons per day,
18 yes.

19 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Okay.

20 CARB MR. WATSON: So --

21 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: What -- what are the
22 numbers between No. 1 and No. 5?

23 CARB MR. WATSON: I don't have an exact -- you
24 know, I don't have any information with me.

25 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Uh-huh.

1 CARB MR. WATSON: But they were -- they were a
2 significant source of emissions, and they were a
3 priority for the Air -- you know, to pursue. That's why
4 we went after the -- the off-highway recreational
5 vehicles starting in 2007. We anticipated
6 9.9-tons-per-day reduction in reactive organic gases
7 with what we presented to our board last year and they
8 adopted. By excluding the red-sticker emissions, we
9 lost out on 3.3 tons per day. There was a shortfall
10 that --

11 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Uh-huh.

12 CARB MR. WATSON: -- that San Joaquin Valley and
13 the South Coast Air Basin were counting on to make
14 attainment for their air basins.

15 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Yeah, that is very
16 shocking to me --

17 CARB MR. WATSON: Yeah.

18 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: -- because when you think
19 of these vehicles as recreational vehicles, that it's
20 something that's used on a weekend or a few hours, you
21 know, a month by certain people, and then you watch one
22 of these jets take off, which take off by the minute at
23 any number of these airports, I find it very difficult
24 to believe that an off-highway vehicle would have that
25 big of an impact.

1 CARB MR. WATSON: Yeah. It's -- it's a
2 difference between exhaust and evaporative emissions.
3 And I just want to educate you a bit, exhaust emissions
4 occur when the vehicle's operating; so those are
5 tailpipe emissions. Those occur where the vehicles are
6 ridden. Evaporative emissions, on the other hand, occur
7 during normal daily temperature variations, and they
8 occur when -- where the vehicle is stored. The bikes
9 are stored with no sealed gas caps; they don't have
10 carbon canisters. They emit large quantities of
11 reactive organic gas emissions. If you had several
12 motorcycles in your garage, you've probably opened the
13 garage door and smelled gas before. And so reducing
14 those evaporative emissions was our focus of our rule
15 making last year.

16 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Uh-huh.

17 CARB MR. WATSON: And right now the exhaust
18 emissions -- the standards for green sticker don't
19 currently require a catalyst. That's something that
20 we're looking at. But in perspective is -- so it's
21 really complicated on how you evaluate the emissions.
22 Evaporative emissions occur where their emissions --
23 where the bikes are stored. Exhaust emissions occur
24 where they're ridden. And that's the purpose of the
25 survey, to determine -- when we make an overall

1 determination of is it an impact in South Coast if the
2 bikes are ridden, both emissions or exhaust emissions,
3 than they're ridden in the desert, we may make a
4 conclusion that it's not worth pursuing.

5 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Uh-huh.

6 CARB MR. WATSON: But evaporative emissions,
7 those occur where -- where they're stored, and those are
8 occurring in highly populated urban areas.

9 MANJIT AHUJA: I want to answer the question --
10 the specific question that you're asking, whether
11 airplane taking off every --

12 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Yeah.

13 MANJIT AHUJA: And you're right about that.
14 California Air Resources Board does not have any
15 jurisdictions on airplanes; whereas, the automobiles we
16 have jurisdiction on that. We have authority on that.
17 Federal government has authority on planes, and that's
18 out of our -- out of our control.

19 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Uh-huh.

20 MANJIT AHUJA: So that's the answer.

21 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Okay.

22 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Thank you.

23 Okay. And if I could just put a pause just for
24 a second.

25 Deputy Director Conlin, it's lunch hour. Do we

1 want to come and back continue to ask questions, or do
2 we want wrap up this particular agenda item? What's
3 your suggestion? I think it's, well, just about 12:10.

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah, I think what we'd
5 like to do is wrap it up so that we can get them on the
6 road.

7 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Sounds good.

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: But I think we have one
9 more question --

10 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: One more question.

11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: -- and then we'll do
12 Public Comment --

13 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: -- and then we'll get
15 them out on the road.

16 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. A couple more
17 questions.

18 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: I'll be as brief as I can.

19 Jim -- well, first off, I want to -- to the new
20 Commissioners, I want you to know that I'm on the Ad Hoc
21 Committee for this red-sticker issue. So if you
22 understand my involvement, I have observed the testing
23 procedures in person down in El Monte, and I've been
24 involved with this since the early workshops.

25 With that, a couple things. The two-strokes, I

1 wanted to explain a two-stroke motor briefly to the
2 people that don't understand it. The difference between
3 a two-stroke and a four-stroke motor is, is the -- it's
4 the actual motor itself, how it operates. A two-stroke
5 motor fires every second stroke. So it doesn't have a
6 controlled exhaust. So it basically -- the piston
7 controls exhaust, and it spits its unspent fuel and
8 spent fuel out the exhaust system. The four-stroke
9 is -- it happens -- it's four combustion cycles. So it
10 has more of -- and it's controlled as far as the
11 exhaust. So it can't be just put out. It's a
12 mechanical device that keeps it in the combustion
13 chamber before it goes out. So inherently the design of
14 a four-stroke is cleaner than a two-stroke. Two-strokes
15 are very popular with people that ride tight,
16 single-track trails. They're a preferred motorcycle.
17 So that's -- that's the difference we have here.

18 Now, to go forward on this, a couple of
19 questions. First off, can you speak about the standards
20 that you have compared to the possible -- not you, but
21 the State -- and the proposed European standards, the
22 differences on those, please.

23 CARB MR. WATSON: Well, currently California has
24 a standard of 1.2 grams per kilometer for hydrocarbons,
25 and the Euro standard right now is .55 grams per

1 kilometer. So it's much, much lower than what
2 California has.

3 Europe's eventual goal is to set a standard -- a
4 very clean standard of .16 grams per kilometer. So
5 we've been tracking Europe's efforts very closely,
6 especially with regards to ongoing diagnostics and the
7 requirements they may have for consideration on applying
8 those to motorcycles in California and how we could
9 detect specifically tampering. So the standards in
10 Europe are much, much lower than what they are in
11 California.

12 We -- you know, nox standards -- you know, one
13 of the questions that South Coast is going to have for
14 us is, Why aren't we controlling the nox emissions? Why
15 don't we have a nox standard? Particulate matter is
16 also a concern. You know, why don't we have a
17 particulate matter standard? So in addition, you know,
18 greenhouse gases, any eventual strategy that we come up
19 with, you know, is there opportunities for lowering an
20 overall standard for a fleet and creating opportunities
21 where a fleet average is very, very low compared to the
22 existing standard, but yet you still have opportunities
23 for niche products that may be higher-emitting but the
24 overall average is much, much lower, so it's a total net
25 benefit for California.

1 So we're not -- we're not -- we don't have a
2 strategy yet. We're waiting to get all the emissions
3 data. We're waiting to conduct the assessment of -- and
4 a survey for UC Davis. Once we get that data, we're
5 going to work closely with -- with manufacturers and the
6 stakeholders to come up with a strategy that's going to
7 be of benefit for California.

8 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Okay. So I -- I
9 personally think it's a wonderful project to be able to
10 have us to have cleaner vehicles because air quality's
11 an issue in our state. And also I believe it takes away
12 some of the ammunition for the anti-access people when
13 they're saying that we're using our vehicles out in
14 pristine areas. So I would prefer that we have cleaner
15 vehicles, personally.

16 Some of the testing procedures and stuff that I
17 was going to ask you questions, I'm just going to bypass
18 that stuff because of time. And we'll discuss those
19 privately. But what I would like to talk about is the
20 bigger-picture stuff that you just mentioned. I --
21 after kind of being involved with this and observing it,
22 I'd just like to have this on public record that I
23 really would like to see you guys emulate what's going
24 on with the auto industry where you do the fleet
25 averaging and you do it throughout the vehicles that the

1 manufacturer makes so they can offer zero-emission
2 vehicles that would be aimed towards the street-type
3 stuff. So you have a lot of concentrated urban areas in
4 the State of California where a two-wheel motorcycle
5 product that had -- that was the zero-emissions electric
6 or hybrid-type stuff that we have seen from the
7 motorcycle industry, they've showed these at the Tokyo
8 Motor Show repeatedly over the last ten years. So this
9 is something that's on their -- you know, it's on their
10 radar. So those types of vehicles, if you had a program
11 that offered incentives and stuff -- so, you know, I'm
12 familiar with the San Francisco Bay Area, San Francisco
13 specifically, that's a market where a lot of
14 zero-emission motorcycles could be introduced if there
15 was the incentive to do that, both on the manufacturer
16 and on the consumer end. So seeing, basically, an
17 emulation of what you're doing in the autos, if that
18 could be something that could be presented to your
19 board, I would support that 100 percent.

20 CARB MR. WATSON: Yeah. Yeah, I -- but
21 there's -- there's an issue here with what you
22 described, is that we have two distinct categories: We
23 have off-road and on-road. But I don't think we're
24 limited by -- you know, I think we could be creative as
25 we seek solutions to where, you know -- Kawasaki, for

1 example, they make both on-road and off-road
2 motorcycles. So looking at the total manufacturer's
3 fleet, I think that's something that we could look at
4 and not be beholding to, Hey, if we have a specific
5 category, we can't consider on-road motorcycles, for
6 example, because we're only looking at off-highway. So
7 I think -- I think fleet average is something that we're
8 going to be looking at when we develop a strategy that
9 we're willing to take forward, yes.

10 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Yeah, because I would
11 really encourage that because that's going to give all
12 of us as members of the State of California -- as
13 citizens here, we're going to be able to have cleaner
14 air by then. Because the amount of zero-emission
15 off-road vehicles that would be sold, you know,
16 projecting, is going to be -- let's just say they picked
17 up 10 percent of the market; you're looking at a number
18 of vehicles -- I mean how many off-road vehicles are
19 sold in California yearly: About 3,000 or something?
20 So you're talking about a pretty small number. So where
21 if you start getting into selling -- when you do it
22 fleet-wide and then you can look at bringing the street
23 numbers into it, then you're looking at taking a lot
24 of -- you're taking automobiles, you're taking all kinds
25 of different things off the road. So the impact overall

1 in air quality is going to be much more significant than
2 a handful of OHVs.

3 So I think it would -- this is an opportunity
4 for the Air Resources Board to really make an impact on
5 our air quality on the road because this can dovetail
6 with Metropolitan Transportation Agency's planning so
7 they could have more in their concentrated urban areas
8 or have more of a focus for motorcycle transportation,
9 and they could plan ahead to have plug-in
10 zero-emission-type stuff, you know, both parking and
11 charging stations for electric vehicles that would
12 really -- it could all be an all-encompassing thing.

13 So I don't want to go much further on that. I
14 just want you -- I'm hoping that's the direction they'll
15 be looking at. So -- okay? Thank you.

16 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

17 MANJIT AHUJA: Good comment. Thank you.

18 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you, Commissioner
19 Cabral.

20 Excellent questions from the Commissioners, and
21 excellent report.

22 Deputy Director Conlin, is there anything you
23 want to add before we break for lunch? Comment?

24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Just -- we're going to
25 do Public Comment, right?

1 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Do you want to do that now?

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah.

3 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: While these gentlemen
5 are here.

6 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: We'll do Public
8 Comment.

9 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Yes. Thank you.

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: And then -- and I
11 just -- again, I want to thank you for your work with
12 us. You've been very cooperative. I appreciate the
13 effort. And we're not only working with CARB on this,
14 we also work with them on Oceano Dunes. And in both
15 cases the relationship has benefited both parties
16 greatly.

17 Thank you.

18 MANJIT AHUJA: Thank you.

19 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Excellent.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay.

21 **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM V(D)(1)**

22 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. We're opening it up to
23 Public Comment.

24 Nick Haris, followed by Dave Pickett.

25 NICK HARIS: I'll make it quick. Nick Haris,

1 American Motorcyclist Association.

2 I wanted to also say that I've pleased with
3 CARB's response. I -- I've attended some of the public
4 meetings. I've submitted comments, and I have found
5 that they have been very receptive, number one, to
6 breaking red sticker out of the green stickers and --
7 and -- and looking at them as two separate vehicles,
8 which -- which we feel have, you know, two distinct use
9 patterns. And so I thought that was a -- right away was
10 a very important step.

11 I still want to say that we're still looking at
12 the numbers and we're still a little concerned that the
13 use, in my mind, is exaggerated. And I think Dave can
14 talk better about that. But think about when you go to
15 Prairie City, the Hangtown Motocross, you know, they run
16 two 30-minute motos with two extra laps. So that's --
17 that's the best riders in the world and -- I -- I can't
18 report the mileage that they do in that time, but
19 it's -- it's -- it's stunningly low from what you would
20 think.

21 I like the fleet average idea. I -- I've kind
22 of thought about that myself, and not only with the
23 scenario that Ted outlined, but also the idea of all
24 these electric vehicles that are coming on line.
25 There's lots of good off-road electric vehicles that

1 we're seeing. And who knows what we're going to have in
2 five years. So I think there's a lot of options there.

3 An issue that had come up at the public meeting
4 in Sacramento that was interested is the concern about
5 storage and the particle emissions as opposed to the
6 tailpipe emissions. We talked about is there a way to
7 properly store this vehicle that wouldn't do that.

8 Either -- either a collar that's not permeable, a
9 one-way valve, you know, fill the tank, empty the tank,
10 you know, what do you recommend? And CARB did talk
11 about -- some of the staff talked about trying to come
12 up with some good guidance, which I think would be a
13 great opportunity for all of us to -- when you get your
14 registration, when you go to an SVRA, whatever the case,
15 another piece of information to give to the public to
16 say, Here's something you could do that isn't a big
17 deal, won't make your -- your -- your garage smell like
18 gasoline, et cetera, et cetera, and whatever the proper
19 procedure that's outlined.

20 And then the last thing just to remember in our
21 mind is the cost concerns, not necessarily for the guy
22 buying the \$10,000 brand-new competition vehicle, but
23 the potential of losing some youth models. So youth --
24 you know, size-appropriate, age-appropriate models. If
25 we see a \$500 increase in the price of every one of

1 these vehicles, that could be a substantial percentage
2 on a vehicle that's \$3,000.

3 So thank you.

4 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you.

5 Dave Pickett, followed by Amy Granat.

6 DAVE PICKETT: Thank you.

7 Dave Pickett, District 36 Motorcycle Sports
8 Committee.

9 I have a number of things here that I want to
10 throw out. A comment was made by Mr. Watson, refers to
11 something called a shed test. And the reason that I
12 bring this up, it's a parked vehicle not operating in
13 your garage or in a shed. And as the temperature
14 changes, cold/hot, hot/cold, a tank will act like a set
15 of bellows. This is, you know, not, you know, that
16 fast, but like a set of bellows where it escapes. Most
17 people that own red-sticker race bikes drain their fuel
18 and their carburetor post use because the fuel quality
19 is so poor that the ethanol that's in there is actually
20 damaging and eating the metal of parts on the vehicles.
21 So they drain it out. So, basically, all that's left in
22 the fuel tank is just the residual that evaporates. I
23 don't know quantity there. But that's one point.

24 I have a question on the 9.9 tons per day. It
25 hasn't been clear of where that figure came from. So

1 I'm going take that it's just an estimate only; it's not
2 exact science.

3 There was discussion about percentages per
4 kilometer. I have talked to CARB and made comments
5 specific to the red sticker and of the four stricter --
6 four-strokes with the red sticker status concerning
7 mileage use versus hours of use. And Nick alluded to
8 it's likely with Hangtown. You go to like a special
9 event and you might ride for 15 minutes or 30 minutes
10 and cover nine or ten miles depending upon the terrain.
11 If it's off-road, there's sections in our forests you
12 can't go over ten miles an hour in some of these areas.
13 So that question needs to be asked also. I brought this
14 up in the very first meeting that CARB folks offered to
15 the public back sometime late 2013, early 2014.

16 There's also the current standards that we
17 saw -- a comment made of 6.4 times higher than the
18 standard. Standard is 1.2. There hasn't been clarity
19 on where that standard came from, to my satisfaction.

20 Also, a comment on the Powerpoint was solicited
21 owners with a hundred-mile radius of their L.A.-based
22 area. I don't know how they contacted the folks for
23 the used bikes. I don't know if it was through DMV
24 records or -- or how they solicited those bikes.

25 What else do I got here. Socioeconomic impacts

1 not being discussed early on. And then the individual
2 Air Quality Management Districts in relationship to
3 where the vehicle is operated. Emissions in Modoc
4 County is substantially different than in Southern
5 California. It was pointed out -- I think it was
6 Commissioner Murphy that pointed out --

7 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Yeah.

8 DAVE PICKETT: -- the airplanes, LAX.

9 Was that -- you mentioned that --

10 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Yeah.

11 DAVE PICKETT: -- or was that Ted?

12 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: It was me.

13 DAVE PICKETT: Anyway's, I learned something
14 here. I didn't realize that California did not have any
15 jurisdiction over that and it's a federal -- I know I'm
16 almost out of time here. Sorry.

17 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: You're over it.

18 DAVE PICKETT: I think that's a significant
19 issue that we have an industry in California where their
20 emissions are not being regulated. Are we using a
21 hammer to go after a fly?

22 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you, Dave.

23 DAVE PICKETT: Thank you.

24 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you, Dave.

25 Amy Granat, followed by Don Amador.

1 AMY GRANAT: I'm going to give my time to my
2 colleague Diana.

3 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

4 DIANA MEAD: Actually, you'd be calling me next.

5 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Diana Mead followed by
6 Don Amador.

7 DIANA MEAD: Diana Mead, California Off-Road
8 Vehicle Association.

9 I'm also going to speak to you from the
10 perspective of a race team manager. My son is a
11 professional hill climber. There are three -- or,
12 actually, four racers on the team. One of the little
13 facts about these professional racers is all the fuel is
14 always drained out right after the event. You never
15 leave your bike sitting out there because of the
16 evaporative factor. Now, granted, when you're draining
17 and putting fuel in, you're -- there's -- there's
18 obviously some more fumes and things like that coming
19 off of it. But when we're talking about two-strokes,
20 which are the popular mode of racers -- that's -- that's
21 the bike we're all going to be using in some form --
22 way, shape or form -- the fuel is often specially
23 blended as well. So you're pulling this stuff out.
24 You're not -- it's not sitting in a garage. For
25 instance, I could go home right now and there's five

1 race bikes lined -- lined up in our garage, but none of
2 them have fuel in them. So that -- that -- I kind of
3 want to pull that away from the equation, not for your
4 average user, but certainly for these two-stroke guys
5 that are out there really -- really burning up the fuel.

6 Also, every one of our bikes has an hour meter;
7 it's not a mileage meter. We're -- we're measuring use
8 in hours. So this goes back to this kilometers. This
9 is not -- this is not a car except on the road -- the
10 road bikes, it's a different story.

11 Thanks for the opportunity to talk about this
12 because this is -- watching the seasonal difference in
13 the red and green and how we've arbitrarily decided it's
14 October 1st, yet we didn't get rain until December and
15 we had plenty of red sticker bikes out there beginning
16 October 1st last year at Carnegie. I don't know that
17 that's an answer.

18 Thank you.

19 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you.

20 John Stewart.

21 JOHN STEWART: John Stewart, California
22 Association of Four-Wheel Drive Clubs.

23 I find this whole discussion very interesting
24 and then -- you know, and each -- every time I hear it,
25 I come up with more questions. And some of the

1 questions may be premature now, but I think they're
2 worth asking them. Is this a one-time certification?
3 What -- what and how is a re-certification going to be
4 done and on what time basis? Is it going to be based on
5 miles or is it going to be based on hours of operation?
6 There are a lot of "to be determined" questions about
7 what is the final real risk to air quality, and what is
8 the number of bikes really looking at in realistic
9 numbers.

10 So I -- I look forward to more information. I
11 think Dave Pickett mentioned about a socioeconomic
12 impact. Yes, there is going to be an economic impact.
13 As mentioned, there's five race bikes. What is the cost
14 to re-certify and at what -- you know, what frequency
15 range? So -- and more important is, is a
16 re-certification test, if it is done, is it going to be
17 easily obtainable for the average consumers?

18 Thank you.

19 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you.

20 Okay. Deputy Director Conlin, is there anything
21 else you'd like to add?

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: No. I think we're
23 good.

24 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Okay. So my question
25 is, we're going to go ahead and go on to lunch. Is 45

1 minutes enough if we return at 1:15, or do we need a
2 full hour? What do you guys think? Do we need to --
3 are we eat -- are we having lunch here? I wasn't sure.

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Why don't we try for 45
5 minutes --

6 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: -- but realize that'
8 it's probably going to take an hour.

9 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. All right.

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay?

11 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: So either 1:15 or 1:30
12 we'll -- we'll be back. Just come on back.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. Thank you.

14 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Thank you.

15 (Lunch recess, 12:27 p.m. to 1:20 p.m.)

16 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. We're back in session.
17 Thank you, everyone who's come back after lunch.
18 That was a great lunch.

19 I'm going to turn the Commission meeting back to
20 Deputy Director Conlin.

21 If you could continue the meeting, thank you,
22 and your report.

23 **AGENDA ITEM V(D) - DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Thank you very much.

25 So I didn't get a chance to kick it off earlier.

1 I just wanted to give a special thanks to Kings Beach
2 State Recreation Area for hosting us here. They've been
3 doing a tremendous job. Thank you very much. I know it
4 takes time out of your day and all that, but what a
5 great venue, beautiful area up here.

6 Also to Sierra District, you know, we're in
7 their district. We're in their playground, and what a
8 beautiful playground it is.

9 Obviously, we would not be here if it was not
10 for Tahoe National Forest and our friends in the Forest
11 Service. So thank you very much for hosting us as well.
12 I appreciate it.

13 And just to really emphasize here, you know,
14 several of the people that you saw today that came in
15 and presented, especially from the Forest side, were
16 actively out on the fire line not 12, 24 hours ago. And
17 the same even for Jane Arteaga, who just went back out
18 on the fire line. She's out at the camp -- at the fire
19 camp right now, so -- at Fort -- so it kind -- it kind
20 of tells you that -- that as important as these issues
21 are as we talk about recreation and everything, there
22 are some major impacts going on in the State of
23 California right now. And we have to understand that.
24 I mean we have a drought; the wildfires are a symptom of
25 that and -- as well as, you know, some inability to

1 manage the way that people wanted to manage. And our
2 partners in this, from the national to the federal side,
3 and even the counties in areas like this, that's a way
4 of life for them, is dealing with these fires, dealing
5 with some of the national issues that are going on. So,
6 again, it's good that we're up here and it's good that
7 we get a little bit of a sight picture on it. Obviously
8 no one wants a fire, but in some sense it is good to
9 bring us to reality that this is kind of the area we
10 have to play in and what we have to deal with in this
11 particular part of the State.

12 We've got a lot of exciting things that are
13 going to be talked about today. You're going to hear in
14 the Director's Report about loan paybacks, which I know
15 are always a big concern. You'll hear about some
16 acquisitions that are going on that are pretty exciting.
17 And you'll also hear about the General Plan. A lot of
18 these things are coming to fruition. Many years people
19 have been waiting to see these things happen. So
20 there's some good news out there. So I encourage you to
21 listen up and probably enjoy some of that, yeah.

22 On the Johnson Valley, I just want to make a
23 quick point on that, that that issue was brought up.
24 I'm in close communication with the parties that are
25 involved with that. They have had a couple of very good

1 public meetings. It took a while to get their RMG up
2 and working. But now that they're -- and that's the
3 group that is mandated to meet between the Department of
4 Interior and Department of Navy to discuss long-term out
5 there what's going on. But they are now meeting
6 regularly. The last meeting they had, they actually
7 went out into the area and they toured the areas that --
8 what the Marine Corps is calling the Company Objective
9 Areas, but basically the areas of contention and the
10 shared use. And the Marine Corps has committed to doing
11 the permit with -- or approving from their side so that
12 friends -- so that the Hammers Competition go this year.
13 The only thing that really they can't do, and I think we
14 can understand why, they cannot do what the promoters of
15 the King of the Hammers wanted, which was to tell them
16 carte blanche for the next five, ten years we can
17 approve it. They just don't know. But they're still
18 working out the issues on the shared-use land, and I
19 think it's coming to some good resolution. So that's
20 all good news.

21 DRECP just got their release. At the last
22 meeting we talked about that. We had a very good brief
23 by Connie Latham, who talked about what the DRECP was
24 going to mean and how it was going to affect us. The
25 report has now been released for public review. So what

1 I would like to do, if it's okay with the Commission, is
2 have Connie jump up and just give us a real quick what
3 is happening about the last week so that we know what's
4 going on with that. Okay?

5 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Connie.

7 STATE PARKS MS. LATHAM: Morning -- or good
8 afternoon. Excuse me, Commissioners. Connie Latham of
9 California State Parks. And Deputy Director, and staff
10 and visitors, thanks for allowing me to be here today.

11 Also, I just want to welcome you to Lake Tahoe.
12 I am so fortunate, so blessed to have a summer cabin
13 here on 17 acres over in South Lake Tahoe. So welcome
14 to my back yard.

15 All right. As a reminder, as the Deputy
16 Director just mentioned, State Parks has been involved
17 in the DRECP since its early inception in 2009. We are
18 considered a cooperative stakeholder and agency in that
19 process. And as you may recall during the overview
20 briefing that I gave in May, the DRECP is a multi-agency
21 collaborative planning effort that streamlines renewable
22 energy permitting within development focus areas while
23 planning for the conservation of threatened species
24 along with other intrinsic resources and values,
25 including recreation. Okay. And this occurs on

1 approximately 22 1/2 million acres in the California
2 Desert.

3 The DRECP is led by four key, what we call the
4 REAT Agencies -- Renewable Energy Action Team Agencies.
5 On the State side, the CEQA component of this plan is
6 the California Energy Commission and the Department of
7 Fish & Wildlife. On the NEPA federal side is the Bureau
8 of Land Management, big brother out there, along with
9 U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. A little reminder of the
10 background

11 So yes, this is a key week, monumental week for
12 everybody here involved in this process. On Tuesday,
13 the Department of -- the Department of Interior
14 Secretary Jewel, along with the California Natural
15 Resources Agency Secretary Laird, and some dignitaries
16 State BLM Kenna, Energy Commission, Commissioner
17 Douglas, formally announced the release of the DRECP.
18 And, again, this has been five years in the making here.
19 So it's a huge accomplishment.

20 Just today, the DRECP was formally released in
21 the Federal Register, NEPA side, as well as the Notice
22 of Availability was released through the State Clearing
23 House on the CEQA side.

24 Debbie, could you throw up slide 1 for me.

25 Okay. So starting today, the 26th, begins a

1 106-day Comment Period that will end January 9th. Okay?
2 And the reason for the 106 days is 90 days would have
3 put it in the middle of the holiday season, and they
4 didn't want to do that.

5 Also, starting today on the DRECP website, at
6 drecp.org website, there is an informational webinar
7 that viewers, stakeholders can view that will help them
8 navigate this document. This document is over 10,000
9 pages. Okay. Huge. And even though they've cut it
10 down, the exact summary itself is over 50 pages. So
11 yes, lots to take in.

12 The informational webinar will really be very
13 helpful. It kind of explains to the viewer, the reader,
14 you know, how the document is laid out, the six volumes
15 and appendices, you know, where they might find areas of
16 interest. If you are interested in BLM's Land Use Plan
17 Amendments, you know, that will help direct you there.
18 Where to find the SRMAs, especially for this group, you
19 know, that webinar will be very helpful. If you're
20 interested in the conservation strategy, you know, same
21 thing.

22 Also, following that, that third bullet should
23 actually say "October 9th." On October 9th there will
24 be 15 -- there will be an informational webinar, I
25 should say, at 15 different locations throughout the

1 plan area and in Sacramento, including Ocotillo Wells
2 SVRA and Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. They're
3 offered up their visitor centers to this public viewing.
4 And, again, they'll be showing that informational
5 webinar you can look at online now, but folks will be
6 able to ask questions. This is not a public meeting,
7 but there will be a facilitator there to answer
8 questions for you.

9 Following that -- I'm trying to go quick here --
10 there will be numerous public meetings. Right now
11 there's at least ten. A couple of those may have
12 redundancy in the same day.

13 The week of October 20th, more -- down south at
14 El Centro and San Diego and then at Sacramento, which is
15 headquarters for BLM and the Energy Commission and a lot
16 of the REAT Agencies.

17 The week of October 27th will be Lone Pine,
18 Ridgecrest, Barstow, more the upper west side of the
19 plan area.

20 And then in early November, they'll be in the
21 Ontario, Lancaster, Palm Desert and Blythe, more of that
22 Riverside east and the west Mojave area.

23 During these public meetings, they will do
24 probably a Powerpoint presentation, and folks will be
25 able to provide not only ;oral comments -- they'll be a

1 recorder there -- but also written comments. So please,
2 if you're interested, you know, attend one of those
3 public workshops and provide comments.

4 Okay. Debbie, next slide, please.

5 Okay. On the back table I have provided for the
6 Commissioners and also the folks here some fact sheets.
7 These facts sheets you can also find on the drecp.org
8 website, but I wanted to bring you some that I thought
9 were key to this group. There's actually, I think, over
10 ten different facts sheets. One I brought the FAQ
11 document that talks about the when, where, how, who of
12 the DRECP. And then I brought secondly, which refers to
13 this slide, the Public Participation Fact Sheet. It
14 contains information on how to access the DRECP, to
15 access the DRECP Gateway, which is that web-based
16 mapping tool. So if you're interested in really looking
17 at the maps, specific SRMA or ACEC, as an example, or
18 antagonist layers, you want to know how to navigate the
19 Gateway. It will also talk about the webinars I just
20 mentioned, the public meetings, and also it will give
21 some guidance, some new information on submitting
22 comments. Where to submit comments? That's the email
23 address there. All this information, again, is on the
24 drecp.org website.

25 What they've asked that we convey, as we talk to

1 folks, is, if you're going to comment -- or submit
2 comments, which please do, please do, that don't just
3 say you don't like something in the document; explain
4 why you don't like it, how could it have been better,
5 you know, what are we missing. Is analysis missing?
6 Was there data missing? You know, let us know. That's
7 really what they're trying to get across here.

8 All right. Lastly on the back desk, I left a
9 fact sheet on the alternatives, a sheet that kind of
10 Summarizes the five action alternatives, one of which is
11 the proposed preferred, along with the "no action"
12 alternative.

13 Then also, kind of -- is a -- sub to that, I
14 provided the fact sheet on the preferred alternative
15 itself, some of the key points on that preferred
16 alternative -- the proposed preferred alternative, along
17 with the map of the preferred alternative. So those you
18 can get off the back table.

19 And if -- there's numerous other facts sheets,
20 as I mentioned earlier. If you're interested in BLM's
21 LUPAs, climate change, conservation strategies, just to
22 name a few, online there's a lot
23 of different fact sheets for you; they include that.

24 Okay. Debbie, next slide. Moving quickly.

25 All right. I've mentioned the websites here.

1 If you forget all the others, the one website you want
2 to remember is just the drecp.org. It can direct you to
3 all the other websites that are out there, how to access
4 the Gateway, how to get on the Listserve. So if there's
5 any updates on the DRECP you'll be sent a notification.

6 What I did not mention -- I ran over here -- in
7 my haste is with those meeting locations, they have not
8 yet set the exact venue within those cities. Those will
9 be coming out very shortly, and they'll posted on the
10 DRECP website. So hence the reason to be on that
11 Listserve or really just keeping checking back on the
12 DRECP, also.

13 Lastly, I was told it was okay also to mention
14 Jane Arteaga's name up there. But if anyone has any
15 questions about the DRECP, navigating that document,
16 State Park's role in this process, please feel free to
17 email me or give me a call. And Jane, of course, has
18 offered up the same. If you have some specific
19 questions on BLM and their LUPA, you know, if she can't
20 answer it, I can't answer it, we can certainly direct
21 you to the person who can. So, again, sorry for rushing
22 through, but I know time is important.

23 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you, Connie.

24 Any questions?

25 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Yes. I have one.

1 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Commissioner Cabral.

2 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: I was just looking through
3 the website here briefly, and the same thing has popped
4 up with this as has with other government documents I've
5 seen recently, and that is, in this day and age where I
6 can pull up on my phone a very detailed aerial map of
7 about everything I want to see, the mapping is very
8 vague, and it doesn't really -- it's -- I'm looking at
9 the preferred alternative, and as far as the OHV areas
10 and whether designated, and what's open right now, it
11 looks -- it's very hard to see what's what. And it
12 would be nice if it was a little more specific.

13 STATE PARKS MS. LATHAM: Yeah, sorry for
14 interrupting you.

15 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: That's fine.

16 STATE PARKS MS. LATHAM: Yeah. There are so
17 many layers and so many levels of complexity in this
18 document --

19 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Uh-huh.

20 STATE PARKS MS. LATHAM: -- different agencies,
21 different underlain Land Use Plan Areas for BLM, the --
22 let's say the legally protected areas, which would be
23 State Parks, Department of Defense, just to name a few,
24 that they can't put them all in one map. So hence, if
25 you go into the document or you go into that DRECP

1 Gateway, then you can look at individual layers. If you
2 want to look at a SRMA, you want to look at only LUPAs
3 for BLM, it's there.

4 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Okay.

5 STATE PARKS MS. LATHAM: You want to overlay it
6 with any -- any type of shape files you have, you can do
7 that. That's what's so unique and pretty cool about the
8 Gateway. I've used it for applications not just for the
9 DRECP. It's really user friendly as well.

10 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Well, I got what you're
11 saying --

12 STATE PARKS MS. LATHAM: Okay.

13 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: But I'm -- most of the
14 community is used to using like -- when you go to a
15 Cal Fire website to check on the King fire around
16 here --

17 STATE PARKS MS. LATHAM: Uh-huh.

18 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: -- they overlay it over a
19 Google map. And that's like their base map --

20 STATE PARKS MS. LATHAM: Uh-huh.

21 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: -- for everything, and
22 that's what I think most of the community's used to
23 looking at. So like I just think a lot of times these
24 detailed or layered maps and stuff are great for what --
25 the document --

1 STATE PARKS MS. LATHAM: Uh-huh.

2 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: -- but as far as for the
3 general public to just to kind of educate themselves,
4 they're not that great. So I mean for people that want
5 to just kind of look at it and start learning about it,
6 they just want to see this -- you know, how it is --
7 relates to their community or their favorite riding area
8 or driving area or whatever their recreation is. I'm
9 just looking at it from a recreation perspective. So I
10 just think it would be helpful to have that type of a
11 map. I don't need to drag you out any more than that.

12 STATE PARKS MS. LATHAM: No, I will take that
13 back. That being said, if they go onto that
14 informational webinar, it will show them how to get to
15 that specific map for that area that they would be
16 interested in looking at.

17 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Okay.

18 STATE PARKS MS. LATHAM: Okay.

19 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you.

20 Budget update?

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah. And just before
22 we get off on this particular subject, 22.5 million
23 acres affected by this, and it is -- even if you were
24 not in Southern California, you will be affected by it
25 because the entire energy grid of the State, in fact,

1 the entire energy grid of the southwest of the
2 United States will be affected by it. So don't be one
3 of these "I should have done that" kind of guys. Get on
4 there and take a look at it. You know, as Commissioner
5 Cabral mentioned, it is not extremely easy to see all
6 the layers; it's going to take you a little bit of
7 effort, not because it's not designed to allow you to
8 see it, but it just takes you a couple of minutes.
9 That's primarily because of liability issues because
10 this document -- this is it. This thing is like down to
11 square centimeter. So they have got to do the data
12 basin with it. And the data basin is an amazing tool.
13 I mean this is like Google Earth on steroids. So it is
14 a good tool, but understand that like anything else, I
15 mean it's a highly complex deal. The best thing to do
16 is to break it down to your component part. But I would
17 say for all the user groups and everybody else, please
18 get on this thing and look at it. It's important that
19 we all understand it. Okay?

20 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Perfect. Thank you.

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Go to the budget now?

22 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Yes. Thank you.

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Maria.

24 **AGENDA ITEM V(D)(2) - BUDGET UPDATE**

25 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: Good afternoon. Maria

1 Mowrey, Admin Chief, here to provide the budget update,
2 which the report can be found behind Tab No. 8

3 June 20, 2014, the Governor's 2014/15 budget was
4 approved. The main goal was to have a balanced budget
5 that paid down the wall of debts. And a special note
6 for us is all the special loans to the General Fund over
7 the past few years would be paid back by 2016/2017.

8 On the list of the loans can be found a report.
9 And I want to point out that there is a correction on
10 the list of the 2009/10 loan of \$22 million. A
11 repayment date is not specified. We got information
12 from the Department of Finance that half of that loan
13 would be paid back by June 2015 -- in the '14/'15 fiscal
14 year, and the rest of it would be paid back by June 2016
15 of the '15/'16 budget year. So this is good news for
16 us.

17 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Where is that exactly so I
18 can update my copy?

19 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: Oh. On the report,
20 page 1, if you go up to Loans, under Discussion -- keep
21 going, right, go back one more -- in the report under
22 Loans, there's an item that says "not specified" --

23 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Oh. Okay, then.

24 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: Half will be paid this
25 fiscal year, and the rest will be paid next fiscal year.

1 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Maria, I have a question for
2 you. So these funds that are going to be repaid,
3 they're going to be in addition to the regular fiscal
4 budget. And is there plans for these funds, or what --
5 how -- once they start rolling in --

6 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: Once they start rolling
7 in, if you look at the bubble chart that's on the second
8 piece of paper, you can see that our revenue is about
9 \$73 million annually. Our expected expenditures for the
10 '14/'15 budget year is \$102 million. So we've been
11 spending, and we're hoping these loans would be able to
12 take us -- our funding condition back to the point where
13 we can afford what we're planning to spend.

14 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: So are you basically saying
15 that we're in the red? I mean so these loans are going
16 to help us --

17 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: Correct.

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: We're not in the red
19 yet.

20 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: Not yet.

21 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Were we not to get
23 repaid the loans, we would start going into the red. So
24 we're at that fine line. So this is actually very good
25 timing for us.

1 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: All right. So in the future
2 when these loans are paid back and then we're back to
3 the regular fiscal year budget, then, we'll start --
4 we'll be in that same predicament.

5 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: Right. We would have
6 to start either finding other sources of revenue or
7 change our expenditures.

8 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Which is why the 2018
10 sunset becomes all the more important.

11 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Yes.

12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Because by that time,
13 we have to either rethink our revenue-generation
14 strategy on how we're doing things -- and there are a
15 lot of factors that are involved in that. I mean there
16 is less use of gasoline because we are getting
17 more-efficient cars. There is the \$10 million annual
18 take-back that's going on in re-direction. There are a
19 lot of factors involved there. And at one time when the
20 OHV Trust Fund was particularly large, you were actually
21 getting interest that was sustaining us. So that's
22 where we get a little bit of a help.

23 Again, by -- this will get us through 2018. But
24 definitely by 2018 we have to think about how we want to
25 do revenue generation, a continuation program.

1 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: So, Chris, is it of concern
2 when we're doing additional land acquisition and -- it
3 kind of seems -- it appears that we're growing and not
4 necessarily cutting back.

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Right. That money was
6 already allocated.

7 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: It was already planned
9 for. So that's above and beyond all of this.

10 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

11 Commissioner Villegas.

12 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I just had a comment.

13 I think some of these, you know, projects that
14 we have in the capital outlay, I think that we're -- you
15 know, part of our General Plan. Once that's done, that
16 cost won't be annually incurred.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Right. We had a --

18 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: We'll be in a different
19 place --

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Right.

21 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: -- but we won't be
22 needing necessarily our continued allocation of budget
23 because those projects will have been done, and expenses
24 will already have been incurred.

25 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: That's part of the

1 idea. So like the General Plans, we went through and we
2 did basically all our General Plans. We're coming to
3 the end of that. So we should be fit and in pretty good
4 shape for that. This big acquisition we're doing at
5 Onyx Ranch, we don't foresee doing any other big, major
6 acquisitions like that. So we should be in a fairly
7 sustainable situation. But, again, it just does beg the
8 requirement that by 2018 we need to really think about
9 how we want to do revenue generation.

10 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I had another kind of
11 comment. And it dovetails with the legislative report
12 that we'll have later, but I just wanted to bring up the
13 SB 853 where we have to give that narrative of how we
14 spend our money. And I think we probably have to
15 include any kind of anticipated projects or anticipated
16 expenses that we could foresee to include in that.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Correct.

18 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: 853, that's the --

19 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Yeah.

20 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: -- Cal Trans Study.

21 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Yeah.

22 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: That doesn't --

23 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: That will not be --

24 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: That does not specify
25 how we can spend our money; legislation from SB 742

1 specified that.

2 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: All right.

3 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: There's new legislation
4 changing our program. That study is just a study.

5 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay.

6 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: There's nothing --

7 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: It won't be a hindrance
8 of how we get our allocations or --

9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: The interesting thing
10 about that, this particular rider when it went on, was
11 originally written so that -- with a moratorium on any
12 acquisitions of properties. And then when the
13 moratorium fell off, then all that was in here was that
14 there would be a gas -- that the -- Cal Trans would have
15 to redo the Gas Tax Study. However, it doesn't say that
16 there'd be any changes due to that study -- redoing
17 the study; it just says that the study will be redone.
18 What's actually dictating the amount or the percentage
19 of funds that's coming into the OHV Trust Fund from the
20 motor vehicle tax is SB 742, which set it at the 2007
21 level and set it there and stuck it there. So we don't
22 use that formula -- that Cal Trans formula to derive
23 those funds anyway.

24 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay. Thanks for that
25 clarification.

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah.

2 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

3 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Just a quick question.

4 So am I to understand that when these loans are
5 repaid, they also come with authorization to use those
6 funds for either -- no?

7 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: They're loan
8 re-paybacks. So every year when the governor signs his
9 budget, that's when we get appropriated our spending
10 authority.

11 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Okay. So in order to
12 spend the funds, then we have to go back to the
13 legislature with budget proposals?

14 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: Correct.

15 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Okay. All right.

16 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: All right.

17 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: I just wanted to clarify
18 that. Because there's always a string. Right?

19 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: Uh-huh.

20 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: And I think it's
21 important -- obviously you guys are anticipating these
22 and probably starting to look at what budget proposals
23 need to be attached to them so that that money doesn't
24 go away at some point before somebody else grabs it. So
25 that's -- that's my concern having sat here and watched

1 that money go away. I'd like to see when it comes back
2 that it gets spent quickly.

3 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: Understood.

4 So just to clarify, so the Onyx acquisition,
5 that funding was made available in 2010. And later on
6 we'll get an update on the acquisition process. But I
7 also wanted to bring up the fact that we do have a new
8 district. San Andreas District was formed this year.
9 It combines the two districts formerly known as
10 Hollister Hills District and Hungry Valley District.
11 Those two districts are now considered sectors of the
12 San Andreas District. And the new properties down in
13 eastern Kern County will become part of that San Andreas
14 District.

15 There were three Support Budget Change Proposals
16 that were approved in the '14/'15 budget year. That
17 included the Hollister Hills Trails Project, the Hungry
18 Valley Special Use Area at Quail Canyon, and then some
19 support funding for the Onyx acquisition.

20 So that concludes the report. If there are any
21 other questions.

22 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Go ahead.

23 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Thank you.

24 (Audio interruption in the proceedings.)

25 OHV MS. PEREZ: It's your phone, Teresa.

1 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Oh, it's my phone.

2 Okay. Is that better? I guess.

3 (Multiple speakers.)

4 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I have a little bit of
5 thick skin there.

6 Okay. So back to this. Is the allocation that
7 was done for this district, is that going to be enough?
8 How did you derive that -- the amount?

9 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: So under San Andreas
10 District we have \$11 million. It's a combination of
11 both the former allocation for Hungry Valley and
12 Hollister and then the three BCPs that we got this
13 fiscal year. It should be enough. There aren't going
14 to be any changes to the operations at Hungry Valley and
15 Hollister. We do not have the acquisition yet. And
16 so -- but we are planning, hopefully, that it will
17 happen soon, which then we will need to start doing
18 conservation and enforcement work on the new lands if
19 that happens.

20 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: So that budget amount
21 was what was already --

22 (Audio interruption in the proceedings.)

23 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Do I have to have it
24 off?

25 (Multiple speakers.)

1 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: So the amount that was
2 budgeted is -- not any changes to what was existing.
3 That's what I'm trying to get out. You didn't have to
4 like lose staff, you didn't have to -- there was no
5 changes.

6 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: For the combination of
7 the district?

8 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Yeah.

9 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: Right, there was no
10 change in staff. With the BCPs, we would be adding
11 staff.

12 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay.

13 OHV ADMIN CHIEF MOWREY: But if we didn't have
14 those BCPs, Hungry Valley and Hollister would have been
15 able to continue with their normal operations as they
16 are as of last fiscal year.

17 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay. Thank you.

18 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. No further questions?

19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Just -- just a further
20 explanation on that. So the concept behind standing up
21 the San Andreas District is we needed the infrastructure
22 to start up a new park. And we also, these two
23 districts, we had looked at for a while joining them
24 anyway. But by now having them together, you now have
25 the supporting infrastructure so that you can bring up

1 Onyx and make that into a park.

2 Just like any new park -- and we haven't done
3 this for a while, but when you start a new park like
4 this, especially one of this size, it takes a while to
5 create the General Plan and then create a Master Plan
6 based on that General Plan. So initially what you'll
7 see is like we have eight staff that are in the BCP, and
8 those eight staff are environmentalists and the
9 maintenance folks and a couple of enforcement folks
10 primarily to go out and survey the land, make sure that
11 we're taking care of the things we need to take care of,
12 putting it into a good maintenance standard, working an
13 MOU, Memorandum of Understanding, with the BLM so that
14 we become complementary land managers until we get a
15 General Plan in place. And then once we get that
16 General Plan in place, then effectively we start
17 building it into a park.

18 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay.

19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay?

20 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Thanks.

21 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: I hate to ask this, but
22 I've had many people ask me. So is there any update on
23 the \$10 million redirection on what's going on with that
24 situation?

25 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Still in legislation.

1 Hasn't been changed. I think that probably that, again,
2 is something that we need to really look hard at for
3 2018.

4 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Okay.

5 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Thank you.

6 Grants Program Update.

7 **AGENDA ITEM V(D)(3) - GRANTS PROGRAM UPDATE**

8 OHV MR. MacDOUGALL: Good afternoon,
9 Commissioners. George MacDougall, OHMVR Division Grant
10 Administrator.

11 I'm here today to talk to you about the Grants
12 Update. The Grants Program Update sheet is where the
13 table is showing the final award as located in Tab 9 of
14 your binders, and also on the back table for the public.

15 This year's awards became final on June 2nd,
16 2014. A total of 34,000 -- \$34,986,607 was awarded,
17 which is a record amount for the Grants Program to date.
18 It's quite phenomenal.

19 Grants staff is currently working with the
20 successful applicants to complete Project Agreements to
21 start their projects. And, additionally, we're
22 beginning preparation for the '14/'15 grants cycle,
23 which will begin on January 5th of 2015.

24 In November, Grants staff will again be
25 attending the annual conference of the California

1 Association of Resource Conservation Districts to
2 promote the OHV Grants Program.

3 We're continuing to receive phone calls from
4 prospective applicants wanting to know more about our
5 program and how we can help them. And we're handling
6 those calls as needed.

7 There are two projects that are discussed in
8 your Grants Program Update sheet on the development and
9 restoration projects in the Baldy Mesa Area in the
10 San Bernardino National Forest. These two projects have
11 been approved pending further CEQA. Our environmental
12 consulting firm TRA has been tasked to do this.

13 This concludes my report. Thank you.

14 Questions?

15 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Yes, we have a
16 question from Commissioner Villegas.

17 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Yeah, I had a quick
18 question and just a point of clarification.

19 You said that we had about \$34 million in
20 grants?

21 OHV MR. MacDOUGALL: (No audible response.)

22 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Right?

23 OHV MR. MacDOUGALL: Yes.

24 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: That's what the table's
25 showing. You know, in the budget information that we

1 got, it said we had some support of \$26 million of
2 grants and local assistance. So I just didn't know how
3 to reconcile that.

4 OHV MR. MacDOUGALL: Yes. Beginning with last
5 year -- up until last year, we actually spent the money
6 a year old. We allocated money that was one year old.
7 There's a five-year life to the appropriation from the
8 legislature to the grant -- for the budget for the
9 Division, which part of that is the Grants Program
10 appropriation. So we were starting the program with
11 four-year-old money previously on the awards. Because
12 of that one year with the \$10 million allocation, we
13 decided to start -- we rolled that forward and added
14 the -- as needed, the 26 million for the current year.
15 So we have two different project budget codes that are
16 charged to the different projects. So the biggest
17 evidence of that running forward is the extra money that
18 was spent on restoration. There was a huge increase in
19 restoration money we spent this last year.

20 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Thank you.

21 OHV MR. MacDOUGALL: Okay.

22 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I have one more
23 question. You know, you broke it out into like
24 groupings, right, of the --

25 OHV MR. MacDOUGALL: Yes.

1 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: -- you know, funding.
2 At some point can you break those down further for us
3 and tell us actually who got the grants?

4 OHV MR. MacDOUGALL: That would be a -- already
5 on our website. I can get you the sheets, also. But
6 it's on our --

7 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I'll go to the website.

8 OHV MR. MacDOUGALL: -- our 10/2 Award sheets by
9 category.

10 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay.

11 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Commissioner Cabral.

12 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Yes.

13 I just wanted to compliment you on my experience
14 of when we went to the Eureka County Supervisors
15 Meeting.

16 I thought that -- that the information you provided
17 them, how you presented it and stuff was very helpful
18 and really helped them understand the Grants Program and
19 made them look at the program differently, so -- as the
20 program actually exists. So I just wanted to say, you
21 know, I thought -- as someone observing, I thought you
22 did a really good job, and I just wanted everyone to be
23 aware of that. So...

24 OHV MR. MacDOUGALL: Thank you.

25 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Any other questions?

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Just a quick -- couple
2 of quick comments.

3 First off, as was mentioned, we've spent about
4 \$12 million this year on restoration grants. In
5 previous years, we could never get to the point where
6 we're actually spending the percentage amount we're
7 supposed to be giving out in restoration. This year we
8 put out much more than we usually do. Big thanks to
9 many of the people in this room because we were helped
10 by a lot of the groups and community organizations, and
11 by Forest and BLM to line up programs so that we could
12 spend that money finally and get some things running out
13 there. As a result, we had a massive amount of people
14 applying. In some cases, this is the first time they
15 did apply. So there was kind of a sharp learning curve
16 for some of the organizations. But I think the
17 important thing was we got the money out there, and
18 people are doing some good stuff now out in our State to
19 take care of things.

20 The other thing is, you know, \$34 million pumped
21 back into the State of California based on this program,
22 and that's huge. I mean that's not just the Park
23 system, that's the entire State of California. So
24 that's -- and much of that money, quite honestly, goes
25 into the places that needs it the most, the economically

1 oppressed areas which are rural, which is where we do a
2 lot of the riding, but they benefit because it goes into
3 their law enforcement and that law enforcement
4 professional does the work for us but at the same time
5 also that means more patrols out of them. They're not
6 just doing the off-highway vehicle protection when
7 they're out there; they're getting some vehicles that
8 allow them to go off-road, that allow them to do search
9 and rescue much more effectively. So it's a big
10 beneficial program. And, you know, I can't say enough
11 about the staff that works through it. But I also
12 really appreciate the help you get from the community on
13 this. Thanks.

14 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Excellent.

15 Thank you, George.

16 **AGENDA ITEM V(D)(4) - PLANNING AND ACQUISITION**

17 **UPDATE**

18 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Planning and Acquisition
19 Update. I guess we're going to cover A, B and C, then?

20 **AGENDA ITEM V(D)(4)(a) - PLANNING AND ACQUISITION**

21 **UPDATE - SVRA GENERAL PLANS**

22 OHV MR. CANFIELD: At your pleasure.

23 Hello, Commissioners. Dan Canfield, OHMVR
24 Division Planning Manager.

25 I'm presenting a report on the status of the

1 State Vehicular Recreation Areas, or SVRAs, General
2 Plans. You have a report in your binder behind Tab
3 No. 10. I also made it available to the public on the
4 back table.

5 A General Plan serves as the primary guiding
6 planning document for a unit of California State Parks
7 like our SVRAs. A General Plan establishes a purpose
8 statement and a vision for the SVRA as well as goals and
9 guidelines for long-term resource management and
10 recreation management. These documents provide a
11 framework for future land-use decisions such as
12 motorized recreation facilities development, restoration
13 efforts, interpretive programs, and acquisitions. So
14 these are very important documents, as you can see.

15 The report includes an attachment. The first
16 attachment is a table that summarizes the status of the
17 SVRA General Plans. The chart shows that three of the
18 SVRAs are currently in the process of updating their
19 General Plans, and that would be Carnegie SVRA, Ocotillo
20 Wells SVRA, and Prairie City SVRA. The report that's in
21 your binder provides more detailed information on the
22 progress and status of those three active projects.

23 In particular, I wanted to focus my comments on
24 the Ocotillo Wells SVRA General Plan and attachment
25 No. 2 to the report, which is a 32-page document that

1 summarizes the public input that was received on the
2 Draft Planning Alternatives for Ocotillo Wells. These
3 Draft Planning Alternatives were circulated at multiple
4 public workshops and online exercises back in the winter
5 and spring of 2014.

6 The content of this report and the analysis is
7 being used by the Ocotillo Wells General Plan Team along
8 with the public input and the agency input we received
9 to craft a Preferred Alternative. It's anticipated that
10 this Preferred Alternative will be available for public
11 review and comment later in 2014. My hope is that it
12 will be -- coincide with the next Commission meeting in
13 December. That's my goal as I work with the General
14 Planning Team. So that your next Commission meeting
15 will be a great vehicle for us to get the word out on
16 that Ocotillo Wells Plan.

17 All three of the active General Plans are
18 progressing and moving ahead. Oftentimes they don't
19 move ahead as quickly as I would like or as other people
20 would like, but I can report that they are moving ahead
21 and we're making progress.

22 That concludes my report on the SVRA General
23 Plans. And I'll turn it back over to the Commission for
24 any questions.

25 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Any questions.

1 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Yes.

2 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Commissioner Villegas.

3 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I'll be quick.

4 I was impressed that you guys do online feedback
5 for these General Plans. And I saw that you have a lot
6 of -- you know, for the Ocotillo Wells, I think you had
7 about over 80 folks participating online or giving
8 comments, right?

9 OHV MR. CANFIELD: That was the Prairie City
10 numbers. The Ocotillo Wells input that is summarized in
11 this document is closer to 400 --

12 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Prairie City.

13 OHV MR. CANFIELD: -- comments.

14 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Yeah.

15 OHV MR. CANFIELD: Which is great. And what we
16 -- one of the biggest components of our General Plan
17 projects involve a contractor called AECOM. They've
18 testified before the Commission before.

19 One of the main services they provide is the
20 creation and maintenance of the project website, which
21 is the portal for the public to provide input. We also
22 do in-person workshops. We're out at the SVRA providing
23 information. But in this day and age, it's that online
24 component that seems to be the most powerful. So folks
25 that are living elsewhere in the country who aren't able

1 to attend our public workshops are still able to provide
2 input on the proposals, even if it's from their living
3 room.

4 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Thank you.

5 One other question. Since you get a lot of
6 feedback online, is there any way -- and you can shoot
7 my idea down, but is there any way to get a survey, you
8 know, that's included on that just to see if this is,
9 you know, effective? And I was even thinking of
10 possibly, you know, seeing what kind of users are
11 actually participating in this. You know, is it that
12 they are interested in that specific park because they
13 use it all the time, or are they avid users anywhere, or
14 what is their like -- you know, what's their background.

15 OHV MR. CANFIELD: Sure. Sure. And I think
16 you'd find that -- all three of the active projects have
17 a dedicated website, and they're usually -- it's
18 prairiecitygeneralplan.com, planocotillowells.com, and
19 carnegiegeneralplan.com.

20 And all three projects were in this concept
21 phase where we've put forward proposals, and now we're
22 kind of, you know, narrowing it down to preferred.
23 Earlier on during scoping, we did, indeed, have surveys
24 of that nature that informed our alternatives. And I
25 think to your point and for future General Plans,

1 there's room to expand that. Whereas our survey, we
2 were asking for, What's your ZIP Codes of residence? We
3 were trying to get an idea of where the people are
4 living that are providing comments, and it was pretty
5 fascinating, you know, what we were learning from that.
6 But I definitely think there's room to expand that
7 survey component so we can -- I will say we have eight
8 SVRAs, and we're currently doing three of the General
9 Plans. So I don't have a whole lot more of General
10 Plans, but we do have some more coming online. But I
11 think there's definitely room to improve the survey
12 component of that.

13 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Thank you.

14 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you.

15 Any other questions?

16 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Yes.

17 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Eric.

18 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: And thank you very much
19 for your presentation.

20 Specifically on Carnegie SVRA, so you report
21 that the Draft EIR General Plan is due this fall. So
22 with that draft being published, will there be
23 additional Public Comment Period and then possibly
24 revisions, or is this the final step before it goes to
25 the Commission? And when do you anticipate it will come

1 to the Commission?

2 OHV MR. CANFIELD: Those are good questions.
3 Carnegie General Plan is -- of the three active projects
4 is the farthest along. As the chart indicates and
5 summarized in the report, currently we're constructing
6 the Environmental Impact Report. We're doing the Impact
7 Analysis. So for Carnegie, we actually have a real firm
8 concept that's been the product of many workshops and
9 online exercises. And I've presented it before the
10 Commission before.

11 And as the report indicates, we are targeting
12 fall of 2014, which I think we're about a week into now,
13 to publish the Draft General Plan and the Draft EIR.
14 And we're looking good on that. That will come with it
15 a 45-day Public Comment Period, which is part of the
16 CEQA review, minimum 45-day. Oftentimes we receive
17 input from folks and stakeholders that the complexity of
18 the documents, because these are programmatic-level
19 documents, not building a trail but setting forth a
20 vision for the next 30 years for a facility. Oftentimes
21 we get feedback from stakeholders that a 45-day Comment
22 Period is not sufficient, and we do strive to
23 accommodate, when we can, if needed, expanding. So that
24 may well come into play here. It's a very popular SVRA.
25 But with that said, we will come to an end of that

1 public review period, whether it's 45, 60, what have
2 you.

3 And then the Planning Team takes the comments
4 that were received on the General -- Draft General Plan
5 and the Draft EIR and then we respond to all of them.
6 We create -- that's part of the Final Environmental
7 Impact Report is our responses. And so that's a fluid
8 time frame. I can't nail that down because I don't know
9 how many comments I have or the complexity of the
10 comments.

11 With that said, I feel very strongly that in the
12 spring of 2015 we will have a good handle on the
13 comments that we received. We will have great progress
14 towards responding to those comments. And assuming that
15 we didn't receive a comment that substantive to the
16 extent that it requires a re-circulation, which is a
17 potential and allowed for in the process, that would
18 have it coming to the Commission mid calendar year 2015.

19 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Thank you very much.

20 OHV MR. CANFIELD: Okay.

21 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Dan, to Eric's questions, so
22 the Carnegie General Plan does include the Tesla parcel.

23 OHV MR. CANFIELD: Sure. The Carnegie General
24 Plan Project Area is Carnegie SVRA, which is about 4,000
25 acres, and it does encompass the historic Tesla Mine

1 Complex, which is on the western end of the facility.

2 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Thank you.

3 Any other questions?

4 Okay. Dan, are you continuing with Hungry
5 Valley and --

6 OHV MR. CANFIELD: That's it for Hungry Valley.

7 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

8 **AGENDA ITEM V(D)(4)(b) - HUNGRY VALLEY PROPOSED**

9 OHV MR. CANFIELD: Next report I'll be
10 presenting on is a proposed land acquisition at Hungry
11 Valley SVRA. And this report is in your binder by Tab
12 No. 11. Also available to the public on the sign-in
13 table.

14 For this project, the subject property is
15 approximately 845 acres of privately owned land in
16 southern Kern County directly contiguous with the
17 northern border of Hungry Valley SVRA near the
18 communities of Gorman and Frazier Park, California.

19 You have an attachment to your report, which is
20 a Vicinity Map, showing the proposed acquisition lands
21 in the upper left-hand corner. And can also kind of get
22 an idea from that map of the relative size of the
23 acquisition compared with the existing Hungry Valley
24 SVRA.

25 At the last Commission meeting back in May of

1 2014 the OHMVR Commission appointed an Ad Hoc Committee
2 to host a public hearing in the vicinity of the
3 acquisition to gather public input on the proposed land
4 acquisition.

5 Then on June 25th, that Ad Hoc Committee, which
6 was comprised of Chair Paul Slavik and Commissioner
7 Teresa Villegas, along with OHMVR Division staff and
8 Hungry Valley SVRA staff hosted a public hearing in
9 Frazier Park, California, at the library. It was a
10 wonderful venue. We had approximately 20 members of the
11 public -- 20 members of the public in attendance. We
12 presented a report on the proposed acquisition, much
13 like I'm doing today, and received valuable public input
14 from that group and -- which was largely in support of
15 the acquisition.

16 As a follow-up to that Frazier Park public
17 hearing, Paul Slavik, along with Hungry Valley SVRA
18 staff attended a local school district meeting, and that
19 was towards the end of July. And -- because the local
20 school district operates a high school in very close
21 proximity to that proposed acquisition. So you might
22 imagine they were real interested in the proposal. So
23 Paul attended along with Hungry Valley staff and, again,
24 received valuable public input and comments that were
25 largely in support of the acquisition. So we have a

1 real comfortable feeling of support from the local
2 communities.

3 This acquisition is moving ahead. And, in fact,
4 since my report was published, this acquisition has been
5 scheduled for the October Public Works Board meeting,
6 which is -- in California is the official body that
7 approves acquisitions of this nature. So we're looking
8 really good on this acquisition, and we're coming to
9 the completion of it.

10 Thank you to the Commission and members of the
11 Ad Hoc Committee that stuck with us.

12 That was all I had on the Hungry Valley
13 acquisition.

14 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Any questions?

15 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: I have one.

16 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

17 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Yes. I don't know why
18 this was in my head on this one, but would this piece of
19 property possibly give us access to some federal
20 properties through here, as that was one of the benefits
21 of this acquisition?

22 OHV MR. CANFIELD: The subject property is
23 bordered on the western side by the Los Padres National
24 Forest. There is no current authorized motorized
25 access --

1 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Right.

2 OHV MR. CANFIELD: -- but the potential does
3 exist being neighbors.

4 COMMISSIONER CABRAL. Okay. Thank you.

5 OHV MR. CANFIELD: That would be subject to a
6 future environmental analysis. Maybe part of the
7 General Plan.

8 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. No further questions:
9 Okay. Dan, the next item.

10 **AGENDA ITEM V(D)(4)(c) - EASTERN KERN COUNTY PROPOSED**

11 **ACQUISITION**

12 OHV MR. CANFIELD: Next up. The next report is
13 a report on the Eastern Kern County Acquisition. The
14 report in your binder now behind 12 -- Tab 12. And also
15 available to the public on the back table.

16 This acquisition is approximately 25,000 acres
17 of privately owned land in eastern Kern County. And
18 this is near the Jawbone and Dove Springs BLM OHV Areas.
19 There's an attachment to your report that shows the
20 subject properties.

21 The parcels in question that we're looking to
22 acquire are indicated on pink on this map. And as you
23 can see from the map, the parcels are arranged in a
24 checker-board fashion, primarily the BLM lands. As we
25 heard earlier from the Tahoe National Forest, who also

1 have checker-board land ownership, that comes with some
2 interesting challenges from a landowner's position.

3 Currently the State is engaged with the property
4 owner -- property owners -- it's a group of people -- in
5 a discussion of the fair market value for the property.
6 And as you might imagine, the people that own the
7 property have a pretty high opinion of the value of the
8 property, and the State of California has something of a
9 different opinion. But I can say that we are working to
10 get closer together, and that's moving along. And we're
11 making, again, good progress on that project, good
12 progress on that acquisition. And to tail into some of
13 the comments from the Budget Report, once acquired, the
14 acquired properties -- which are commonly referred to as
15 the "Onyx properties" -- would be managed as part of the
16 new San Andreas District. And as Admin Chief Maria
17 Mowrey mentioned, support funding has been provided
18 through the current State budget to care for the
19 properties for law enforcement, environmental
20 scientists. And I can say, after working on a lot of
21 these projects that it's great to have the support of
22 the Administration and the Legislature to the point
23 where as we're coming to the end of a proposed
24 acquisition, at the same time we're receiving funding to
25 help care for the land. Oftentimes that's not the case.

1 Oftentimes you get the land and then you don't have the
2 bodies to care for it or vice versa. So this project
3 seems to be garnering a little synergy at the State
4 level. And as Deputy Director Conlin mentioned, we have
5 a great relationship with the BLM Field Office which is
6 working -- we're working towards a formal agreement with
7 those groups on how we're going to share the management
8 of the lands, which will lead to efficiencies in the
9 long run, which will help us in the budget long run as
10 well.

11 And that was all I had on the Onyx acquisition.

12 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Any questions? No?

13 All right. Thank you, Dan.

14 OHV MR. CANFIELD: Thank you.

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: So the significance of
16 this acquisition, you can see by the map, I mean
17 basically you've got Red Rock State Park off there on
18 the east; you've got Sequoia National Forest to the
19 west, and essentially this will give us public lands
20 that stretch from Sequoia National Forest all the way
21 through Red Rock.

22 And the other reason why this is important to us
23 is BLM's had some challenges on the enforcement out
24 there, this particular area. By this turning into an
25 SVRA, you basically got, as we used to call it in my

1 last career, a combat outpost where you can really shore
2 up the law enforcement out there and help not only our
3 SVRA but it helps the surrounding public lands from BLM,
4 from the National Forest and the Red Rock side just by
5 virtue of us being there. So that -- yeah, that
6 presence is everything, as well as the environmental
7 side of it, as well as the maintenance side of it. So
8 we see this as being a real linchpin once we have
9 purchased and acquired it.

10 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: I have a quick question.

11 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Go ahead.

12 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Deputy Director Conlin, I
13 remember a number of years ago Red Rock Canyon State
14 Park embarked on a General Plan Update. And I'm just
15 wondering if that ever came back to life? Because there
16 are OHV routes through Red Rock Canyon which I would
17 imagine if we pick up this group of properties, you
18 know, that whole system will be transformed into
19 something more cohesive.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Funny you should
21 mention that. Yeah, we've actually -- right around the
22 time of the last Commission meeting when we were down
23 south in Victorville, I went out to Red Rock, and we
24 helped them make some decisions on the green-sticker
25 trails out there that was the -- holding them up,

1 basically, from getting their General Plan up and
2 running again. So by virtue of helping them make those
3 decisions now, they are back in the General Plan
4 process. Now that we are looking at acquiring this land
5 next to them, that only helps them in the General Plan
6 process because, as a general-fund park, they're going
7 to be challenged regardless on maintenance and upkeep.
8 They need to get the General Plan done so that they can
9 at least get the bare basics out there, and they don't
10 have that even now. They still have the infrastructure
11 to care for a park that's a third of the size of what
12 Red Rock is. So by doing the General Plan, they'll get
13 more of the infrastructure they need, more maintenance,
14 more environmental, we hope. But, again, they're going
15 to have us next door to them. And I've already told
16 them again and again, you know, if we have assets there,
17 you can borrow them. I mean that's what they're there
18 for. They're there to enrich all of the parks that are
19 out there. So if they need a blade to go in and improve
20 those green-sticker trails, we're there. Right now it's
21 much more problematic.

22 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Right.

23 And that -- one more thing. Assuming that these
24 properties get picked up by State Parks, Friends of
25 Jawbone obviously is an instrumental piece of the

1 puzzle, I'm just wondering how if your discussions with
2 include, you know, factoring in their efforts in the
3 future.

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: We've been in close
5 communication with them throughout. So I'll leave it at
6 that because we still have to sort through an MOU and
7 acquisition and everything else to make decisions on how
8 we're going to maintain the land ultimately. But, you
9 know, we've been in conversation with them about -- Ed
10 Waldheim has done an amazing job down there with his
11 team. He is stretching every dollar we give to him
12 through the grants process and we respect that. You
13 know, he has a vested interest down there, and we're not
14 kicking him off to the side.

15 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Great. Thank you.

16 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. We're going to move
17 onto the Outreach Update. And after that item, we're
18 going to take a short break and -- for our transcriber.
19 Okay?

20 So Outreach Update.

21 **AGENDA ITEM V(5) - OUTREACH UPDATE**

22 OHV MR. SCHUMAKER: Hi. My name is Greg
23 Schumaker. I'm the OHV Training and Safety Coordinator
24 for of the State. I'm filling in for Natalie Lohi, who
25 unfortunately couldn't be here today. So I get to sing

1 her praises here on all the good work that they've been
2 doing.

3 Basically, the team's been doing an outstanding
4 job in 2004. The State Parks director challenged the
5 Outreach Team for the 150th anniversary to increase
6 public contacts. And our biggest venture so far this
7 year --

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Here, I'll just --

9 OHV MR. SCHUMAKER: Okay. So if I point, then
10 this --

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.

12 OHV MR. SCHUMAKER: Okay.

13 -- was at the California State Fair. The
14 Outreach Team made 90,282 contacts during the 17-day
15 fair. And that's not just people walking by and saying,
16 "Hey, how's it going"; they had to actively participate
17 in one of the hands-on activities or be in direct
18 conversation with one of the staff members there. And
19 because all of our hands-on activities, we stood out in
20 the 150th anniversary exhibit.

21 I know a few of you got a chance to walk by and
22 check out the exhibits. If you're not familiar, we had
23 our RC cars, our RC jeeps up there doing the Tread
24 Lightly Program.

25 And did any of you get a chance to see Natalie

1 Lohi being interviewed on the news? I sent that to
2 Axial, the people who originally donated the RC cars to
3 us, and they put it up on their Facebook site. And the
4 last time I checked, they had 65,000 "likes" on their
5 Facebook site for her exhibit there. So that got a lot
6 of public attention, too.

7 We had our computer games, our computer ATV
8 activities out there, our ATV simulator, and our Skins
9 and Skulls out there. So it was a huge undertaking.

10 And you can see our numbers have gone up, and
11 this is why they did an outstanding job. We're up to so
12 far from the Division 114,143. And the bulk of that was
13 made up at the State Fair. But without that, we still
14 increased our numbers upwards to about 24,000.

15 Another one of our ventures to help broaden our
16 base was the Division Outreach Team participated in the
17 Little League Intermediate World Series in Livermore.
18 And that event usually brings in about 20 to 40,000
19 people. And we set up an ATV skills station there and
20 we took out -- that's a copy of the full-page ad in
21 *Sports Stars* magazine.

22 From some of our SVRAs, they're staying pretty
23 active. This is up north -- or Clay Pit. They've been
24 doing a lot of Junior Ranger Programs, ATV trainings,
25 and Tread Lightly Programs. Hollister's been branching

1 out to a lot of school programs. For their local
2 community this year, they were able to offer a free
3 week-long science camp for kids to learn about geology,
4 fire diversity, water quality and more. So that was
5 just to help out with the local community there.

6 Hungry Valley was showing their community
7 spirit, participated in the 47th Annual Fiesta Day
8 Celebration and their float won Best in Show.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's pretty impressive.

10 (Multiple speakers.)

11 OHV MR. SCHUMAKER: Oceano Dunes participated in
12 the California Mid State Fair. And they were able to
13 make another 20,000 contacts there at the Mid State
14 Fair.

15 Ocotillo Wells, you guys are all familiar with
16 all of their -- their great interpretative programs down
17 there. One that they're most proud of now was entitled
18 "Hot Stars and Heavenly Bodies," that they've started to
19 do astronomy programs out there, too.

20 And then Heber Dunes has developed an
21 after-school Education and Safety Program.

22 So -- that was the last one. Sorry.

23 So all totaled, we've talked to a little over a
24 quarter of a million people this year, 250,000 people.
25 It's definitely been a record year, and they've done a

1 great job.

2 And then onto training. We continue to provide
3 ATV, dirt bike, and ROV classes for the public, our
4 staff, various county, State, and federal agencies. And
5 if they can't come to us, we'll find a way to make it to
6 them. Earlier this week I was up in Eureka at Samoa
7 Dunes doing an ATV training up there. Our contract with
8 the SVRA Speciality Vehicle Institute of America, that
9 includes MSF -- sorry, Motorcycle Safety Foundation;
10 ASI, the ATV Safety Institute; and ROVA, the ROV --
11 Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association. So this
12 winter we're going to be focused on examining ways to
13 improve on our hands-on contract -- or our hands-on
14 training to make it even more successful.

15 So far this year we've had 140 classes, and
16 we've taught about 440 students. We're still moving
17 forward with the Division Training Officer position to
18 oversee the Training Program, and we're still exploring
19 every possible way to update our training fleet.

20 That's all I have. So if you have any
21 questions.

22 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Kevin.

23 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: I just want to make a
24 comment. Looking at all this, I think this is one of
25 the best things that we could do. Going back to my

1 comments earlier, as far as integrating different
2 groups, you know, we need -- we have a PR problem as OHV
3 users, and we need to show the public and let people
4 know that OHV can happen in an environmentally sensitive
5 way and it's something that's sustainable. So I mean
6 the fact that you guys have upped your game is just
7 awesome. I think that's one of the best things that we
8 can do, and I'm really glad to see you. Thank you for
9 what you do.

10 OHV MR. SCHUMAKER: Thank you.

11 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Commissioner Cabral, and then
12 Commissioner Villegas.

13 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: I was fortunate enough to
14 drop by at the State Fair to see the -- you know,
15 everything laid out there and -- the booth, the exhibit.
16 And I just wanted to kind of relay to everyone that I
17 saw something that was really cool there, and that
18 was it was packed, okay, first off. Secondly, there
19 wasn't one kid in line to play the computer game, but
20 there was a line to go to the RC cars and to go to get
21 on the ATV. So they were all engaged with those things
22 in what nowadays will -- the criticism of the youth is
23 that they've always got their nose in a phone or some
24 kind of computer game, whatever have you. They were
25 completely ignoring it. So I thought it was really

1 great. It put a big smile on my face. And you guys did
2 a great job, and you had a lot of happy people there.
3 So thank you. I appreciate your efforts.

4 OHV MR. SCHUMAKER: Thank you.

5 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: I'm sorry, remind me your
6 name. I don't want to call you "Natalie."

7 OHV MR. SCHUMAKER: Greg Schumaker.

8 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Greg. Okay. Greg.

9 Greg, on the 140 classes -- ATV courses, my
10 question was, are these being done by ASI instructors or
11 the Park staff?

12 OHV MR. SCHUMAKER: It's a bit of a mix. But
13 the bulk of these were Park staff.

14 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. All righty. No, I'm
15 also very impressed with all the outreach. Thank you.

16 Okay. Thank you for your report.

17 Okay.

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: And we'd like to thank
19 the Commission on support on that. You know, ultimately
20 we do all of this for the public. But if the public
21 doesn't know who we are and they have no idea what we're
22 trying to do, then it's lost. It's the tree falling in
23 the woods. And this allows us to get the word out.
24 We're not out there to turn people into avid OHV
25 recreationalists. I mean they'll make that choice on

1 their own. That's a personal choice. We are out there
2 to tell them that there's the opportunity, and, oh, by
3 the way, here's all the really cool stuff to do for the
4 environment at the same time. And here's how we create
5 responsible riders so that if mom and dad -- you know,
6 the kid comes home and says, "I want to go riding," they
7 understand that there's a responsible way to do it so
8 that the kid is safe and gets out into that woods.

9 So we really, really appreciate the support that
10 we've gotten from the Commission and the support we've
11 also gotten from all the communities, because we do a
12 lot of this via the -- a lot of the community groups,
13 and we do it via a lot of the volunteers, and we do it
14 in a big partnership with our federal partners. Quite
15 often we'll plant ourselves right next to Forest or
16 we'll park ourselves right next to BLM and do a joint
17 endeavor, and it really helps us out a lot.

18 Yeah, it was a great time out at the State Fair,
19 but -- you know, we just did -- you all remember we went
20 to Sand Sport Super Show, and last week Oceano Dunes and
21 Ocotillos Wells were again at the Sand Sport Super Show
22 and again were one of the most popular exhibits. So it
23 all works out well.

24 Thanks.

25 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: All right. Perfect.

1 Okay. We're going to take a short break.

2 Please return at 2:45.

3 (Brief recess, 2:37 to 2:52.)

4 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. We're back in session.
5 Legislative Update.

6 **AGENDA ITEM V(D)(6) - LEGISLATION UPDATE**

7 OHV MS. WILLIAMS: Good afternoon. Tina
8 Williams, OHMVR Division, Public Relations. And I'm
9 here to give you a legislative update both California
10 and federal legislation.

11 Let's see. Hopefully you have the report which
12 was updated on the website on September 17th. I believe
13 the latest report was put in your blue binders. You
14 might want to take those out and place them behind Tab
15 14. For the public --

16 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Is it different? Is it
17 different?

18 OHV MS. WILLIAMS: It is not different.

19 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Okay.

20 OHV MS. WILLIAMS: The date at the top should
21 say "September 16th."

22 Okay. For the public, we have some copies at
23 the back table.

24 Ready to begin? All right?

25 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Yes.

1 OHV MS. WILLIAMS: The presentation includes
2 legislation from the California State Legislature
3 with -- all of the bills have landed on the Governor's
4 desk, and the Governor has until September 30th to act.

5 I'll start with Senate Bill 853, and that's the
6 Fuel Tax Initiative. It was signed by the Governor and
7 became law on June 24th, 2014. This legs requires
8 Cal Trans, in consultation with DPR and DMV, to conduct
9 a new Fuel Tax Study during the fiscal year of 2014/15.
10 This study will be used to determine the appropriate
11 percentage of funds transferred to the OHMVR Trust Fund.
12 The report is due to the California State Legislature on
13 January 1st, 2016.

14 Currently, the Division staff has had several
15 meetings with Cal Trans, and they're fully engaged in
16 this assignment. As this project moves along, the
17 Division hopes to provide you updates. I would like to
18 say one note is that we do have a staff person here that
19 has been engaged with Cal Trans, and his name is Tom
20 Bernardo.

21 Tom, can you wave your hand for us.

22 OHV MR. BERNARDO: (Complies.)

23 OHV MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you.

24 Next bill is 1289. This is legislation that
25 would have allowed the State-owned parcels adjacent to

1 Johnson Valley to be transferred to the OHMVR Division.
2 This bill failed to meet Legislative Committee
3 deadlines.

4 Next we have Senate Bill 1450. This was a bill
5 that was going to make minimal changes to the OHV Act of
6 2003. And, again, this bill failed to meet Legislative
7 Committee deadlines.

8 Next, but not the least, we have Assembly Bill
9 1835. This is the ROV Helmet Exemption law. This was
10 signed by the Governor September 16th, 2014. This bill
11 clarifies that a driver or a passenger operating an ROV
12 on public lands must wear a safety helmet.

13 Moving on, we've already heard a little bit
14 about this particular bill -- or this legislation. This
15 is the federal legislation for the Clear Creek National
16 Recreation Area. The last major action has probably
17 already been reported that they had committee meetings
18 back in May. So that's still pending.

19 Let's see. Last, but not least, we have
20 HR 4886. This is the National Forest System Trails
21 Stewardship Act. This legislation would significantly
22 increase the role of volunteers and establish priorities
23 for trail maintenance, thus addressing a serious backlog
24 of federal trail maintenance.

25 This concludes my report. Like to answer any

1 questions.

2 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Yes, Commissioner Villegas.

3 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I had a question, and
4 maybe we can talk more off-line just on SB 1450 as to
5 the reasons why it failed.

6 OHV MS. WILLIAMS: Well, I can report what was
7 posted, public knowledge, in that --

8 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I can get that.

9 OHV MS. WILLIAMS: Excuse me?

10 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I can get that.

11 OHV MS. WILLIAMS: Okay. That's pretty much all
12 the details that I have.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: So you just wanted to
14 share more information on the --

15 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: No. I mean if the
16 information is readily available is what's for public, I
17 can get that information.

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay.

19 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I wanted to know the
20 back story.

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah, we don't --

22 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: There's always a back
23 story.

24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah, we don't get the
25 back story on that one. So...

1 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Is it you don't know if
2 it's the messenger? You don't know if it's --

3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: No. No, not on this
4 one, no.

5 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I mean -- okay.

6 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Sorry, Teresa.

7 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I'll get the...

8 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Any other questions?

9 Yes.

10 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Yes.

11 With reference to Senate Bill 853, the Fuel Tax
12 Study, at a future meeting, will we have a presentation
13 on what this means to the OHV Program and -- you know, I
14 know that the wheels are just getting put on this
15 vehicle at this point with Cal Trans trying to get set
16 up and figure out what they're going to do. So I would
17 imagine at a future meeting we'll have a little more in
18 depth on this. Is that correct?

19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: That's on the helmet
20 law?

21 (Multiple speakers.)

22 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: No, the --

23 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Fuel tax.

24 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: -- Fuel Tax Study.

25 (Multiple speakers.)

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: I'm sorry. On the fuel
2 tax, we're working with them. Right now --

3 And, Tom, if you want to add anything, please
4 do.

5 But, essentially, they're just going to do a
6 data call on the data. They've already got the formula.
7 So they're using the same algorithm; it's just updating
8 the information in it. We're helping them with a
9 provision that, but nothing beyond that right now.

10 Tom?

11 OHV MR. BERNARDO: Yeah, Tom Bernardo, Division
12 staff.

13 Yeah, we've met twice with Cal Trans on the Fuel
14 Tax Study. What we've come up with so far is they're
15 not happy that they've been told to do the study, but
16 they're going to do the study and they're going to fund
17 it themselves. So there won't be money coming out of
18 the Division to fund this study.

19 The other part of it is gathering data, which is
20 an important part. And we have -- in years past had an
21 interagency agreement with the California Energy
22 Commission because that's where we get our best data
23 from DMV, and it's kind mined through the Energy
24 Commission. And that interagency agreement is going
25 forward right now. It should be completed in the next

1 month or so. So Cal Trans will have that information
2 available for them to do this study. So we're engaged
3 and attending the meetings. DMV has not been invited
4 yet, so they'll be invited soon, too, so they can also
5 participate in the process.

6 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: All right. Thank you.

7 And then I have one other question on another
8 piece of legislation, federal legislation 4886. So this
9 is something that obviously we're all interested in
10 encouraging volunteerism. And I was hoping at some
11 future date, not at this meeting, that we could consider
12 a support letter for that legislation. Not at this
13 meeting; I understand it's not a business item, but I
14 just want to bring it up.

15 So that's it. Thank you.

16 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: And Commissioner Murphy.

17 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: I just had a question.

18 As we're moving forward with the Senate Bill
19 853, is there going to be somebody from Division or is
20 some mechanism to just kind of oversee what's going on
21 there and check the numbers as they go, or how does that
22 work appropriately?

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Well, again, we're
24 working with them. So a lot of the information that
25 they're requiring, we're helping them to get the stuff

1 that -- you know, attendance records and all that.
2 We're working with the other partners. So our input is
3 helping them to get to the right number. And they're
4 sharing that with us. You know, they're not doing
5 this --

6 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: In a vacuum.

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah, in a vacuum.

8 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Okay.

9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: So it's all an open
10 process to date, and that's good. You know, where it
11 leads us, again, as I alluded to, there were issues that
12 were found with the formulas and the algorithm that they
13 used to do it last time. It's the same formula, the
14 same algorithm; all they're doing is updating the data.
15 So I'm not sure where this gets us, but, you know, they
16 have a requirement and they're trying to meet the
17 requirement.

18 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: So is there a possibility
19 that we could see a take-away as well as possibility
20 that we could see a gain?

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Well, in order for
22 anything to happen with this, there would have to be a
23 change to the legislation, which is SB 742, because
24 SB 742 basically dismissed this study last time.

25 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Uh-huh.

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: So without any changes,
2 SB 742, really nothing can be done with it. So this
3 comes out -- I think timing is important. If you look
4 at the timing on this, this comes out in '16 -- early in
5 2016, which is about 18 months prior to when we'd be
6 looking at the sunset and trying to develop new
7 legislation for the sunset. So I think one will fold
8 into the other, you know, by that time. So we just need
9 to be aware of it, need to be cognizant of it. We'll
10 help with it. But this should all be part and parcel of
11 developing whatever the new legislation will be.

12 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: All right. Thank you.

13 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Great. No further
14 questions?

15 Thank you, Tina.

16 OHV MS. WILLIAMS: All righty.

17 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you.

18 Okay. Legislate -- no, I'm sorry, Law
19 Enforcement Update.

20 **AGENDA ITEM V(D)(7) - LAW ENFORCEMENT/SAFETY UPDATE**

21 OHV SUPT. HOWARD: Good afternoon, Commission.
22 Mike Howard, Out of Class -- or Acting Superintendent II
23 for OHV Division. Here to give a report -- or a Public
24 Safety Update which is under Tab 15.

25 This summer we again deployed to the Rubicon

1 Trail. We patrolled nearly every weekend between
2 Memorial Day and Labor Day. We -- in June of this year,
3 we built a shed up there at Rubicon Springs basically to
4 facilitate our storing of belongings up there. Yeah,
5 it's a pretty labor -- I mean equipment-intensive
6 deployment. So transferring items back and forth just
7 didn't make that much sense. So anyway's, the shed's
8 intended to be used by us, El Dorado County Sheriff and
9 Placer County Sheriff. And it's bear-proof. We
10 actually -- our tents got investigated by a bear. And
11 he ran off with about half of one of our walls. So you
12 don't have to worry about that anymore.

13 During the deployment we did -- I actually
14 personally responded to the helicopter crash up at Buck
15 Island -- yeah, Buck Island Dam. That was probably the
16 most interesting thing we did up there this summer. We
17 ended up writing about two citations. So it was largely
18 uneventful from a law enforcement standpoint.

19 One of the things we do while on the trail is
20 we're -- El Dorado County has a grant from us, and with
21 that grant they purchased an oil enzyme, which basically
22 cleans up oil spills. I applied this enzyme to that
23 spot on the left May 23rd, and on August 14th, after a
24 couple of heavy rains, the spill is gone. You really --
25 I couldn't see it at all there anymore. So it's very

1 effective. This is an interesting thing. That's one of
2 the several things that we do there.

3 Moving on to the Pacific Crest Trail Sign-up
4 Date, we have -- the panels themselves have been sent to
5 the vendor and they're in production right now. We
6 should have them, I think, in the next couple weeks. We
7 just sent out 17 letters along with MOUs to 17
8 landowners in the area requesting permission to put our
9 signs on their land. That was just early this week, so
10 we haven't had any response yet. I just haven't had
11 time to check.

12 We're hoping to install these signs in about the
13 next two months. It could happen faster. It just kind
14 of depends on landowners at this point. Our law
15 enforcement staff completed eight site -- eight law
16 enforcement grant site visits in the last -- it was
17 about the last month -- or a little bit more than that,
18 mostly in central California. We have plans to do, I
19 would say, a couple dozen more by the end of the
20 calendar year.

21 And lastly, we are in the final stages of review
22 of the Law Enforcement Code Book, which we'll disburse
23 hopefully by -- I would say by the end of the year, but
24 it could be even sooner. We've been waiting for laws
25 like AB 1835 to pass or not pass so that we can keep the

1 ROV laws especially current.

2 And that concludes my report. I'd be happy to
3 take any questions.

4 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Any questions?

5 Okay. Eric.

6 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Yes.

7 Just a question. I know a number of staff
8 members have left recently, and I'm just wondering how
9 that's affecting your operations, and if you guys are
10 going to be hiring some new law enforcement people soon.

11 OHV SUPT. HOWARD: Well, Mark Hada is the new
12 Superintendent III. He's joining us in -- I think
13 October 1st is his first day. And beyond that, we have
14 four retired annuitants. They're helping us out, which
15 are a tremendous help. Beyond that, I think Chris can
16 probably answer it.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah. We're putting
18 out an advertisement, I think, for another
19 Superintendent II. We thought we had a line on one, but
20 she wasn't able to come on up. So we're going out again
21 and conduct our interviews for that. And then we are
22 working through a personnel issue where there's a new
23 interpretation of the hiring requirements that was
24 precluding us from bringing in supervising rangers,
25 which is about the level of authority we think we need

1 for these guys to go out and do the deployments that
2 they're doing. So we're working through some HR issues.
3 If we can get that resolved, then we'll start getting
4 guys in the billets again.

5 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Great. Thank you very
6 much.

7 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Thank you.

8 **AGENDA ITEM V(D)(8) - 2015 CALENDAR - PREVIEW OF**

9 **POTENTIAL COMMISSION MEETING DATES**

10 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Deputy Director Conlin, can
11 you help me with the next agenda item. For the 2015
12 calendar, did you want us to review days of the week or
13 actually look at dates that we wanted to consider for
14 next year?

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: So here's what we'd
16 like to do. I'm going to be helped on this by Vicki,
17 who is now going to be named "Vanna" because she's going
18 to have a large poster here that she's going to be
19 pointing to.

20 I don't expect the Commission to make a decision
21 now. But what I would like to do is plant the seed for
22 thinking about what dates would work. And if we could
23 do some tentative circling of weekends or weekdays, that
24 would certainly be helpful. However, December, when we
25 have that meeting, we do need to lock down some dates,

1 and that's for a lot of reasons, not the least of which
2 is there are four Commissions, plus five, if you count
3 Parks Forward, and we are trying to de-conflict all of
4 that. And on a personal level, I have to chair two of
5 those Commission meetings now including Boating and
6 Waterways. So -- and Kathryn does two of them as well.
7 So -- so it -- what we'd like to do is try and lock down
8 some of these dates as early as we can. Okay?

9 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. So did you want us to
10 do that now?

11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: If we can start taking
12 a look -- you don't have -- again, I would say
13 tentatively pencil them in, think about it before the
14 next meeting. But it helps the staff here, because if
15 we at least have a feel for what those dates are -- even
16 if you pick -- you know, even if you pick eight for next
17 year right now and we narrow it down to four by the next
18 meeting, because there's four quarters, that's great
19 because at least we have a box to work in. Okay?

20 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Are we looking at December
21 of this year?

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Well, we've already got
23 December set up, right?

24 (Multiple speakers.)

25 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. So we would be

1 looking at next year.

2 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: One question. Are
3 we -- is everybody pretty much satisfied with the
4 Thursday, Friday current arrangement as opposed to the
5 Friday, Saturday we used to do?

6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: So how do you guys feel
7 about it?

8 Chair?

9 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: I'd like to hear from the
10 Commissioners.

11 Does anyone want to voice their opinion?

12 Ed, do you have an opinion about that?

13 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: Well, I realize that
14 the Thursday, Friday format has advantages for staff and
15 the public agencies and everything like that.
16 Personally, Friday and Saturday works better for me.
17 But if it's Thursday, Friday, I'd make do with it.

18 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Teresa?

19 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I like Fridays,
20 Saturday, just works out better for my work schedule. I
21 have to -- not that it's anyone's business, but I have
22 to take off like half day on Wednesday, I have to take
23 off all day Thursday and all day Friday.

24 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: I like Friday, Saturday, but
25 I'm willing to accommodate my schedule if I know the

1 dates in advance. I can take the time off.

2 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: I can do the same thing,
3 too.

4 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: I would like to see us
5 have more public participation somehow, and I think that
6 if our meetings are on a Saturday, it's more of a chance
7 of having at least -- there's someone out there shaking
8 their head "no," but I just -- I don't know. I just --
9 it always kind of is -- wish we had a way to get more
10 people here. And I don't know what the exact answer is
11 to that, but -- if it's a scheduling thing, so be it,
12 but if not -- I mean I don't know. Guess more
13 publicity.

14 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Erin, do you have a
15 preference?

16 COMMISSIONER HAFKENSCHIEL: (No audible
17 response.)

18 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: I'm good.

19 COMMISSIONER HAFKENSCHIEL: We were just talking
20 about the sort of public participation and how it's
21 impacted by the Friday, Saturday. Obviously it's nicer
22 to not have to take as many days off from work, but I
23 think the public participation is what we should be most
24 concerned with.

25 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Excuse me.

1 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Do you concur, Kevin?

2 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: I would agree that I think
3 you'd get more members of the public here on a Saturday,
4 but I know it's difficult for the people who are here as
5 group representatives. And even -- I think there was an
6 issue with getting people from the Forest Service to
7 come out on a weekend because they had to be paid, and
8 they wouldn't be paid to travel. So we're kind of in a
9 bind as it often is.

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: And I think one of the
11 things that we found on a Saturday was the perception
12 was that if we had it on a Saturday, we'd get more of
13 the public to come, except that the people who we want
14 to come are out recreating on Saturdays because they
15 have to work all week. So we kind of -- that one didn't
16 work out well. We could -- I mean we could try again
17 with the Friday, Saturday format. It does -- it is a
18 compromise. It's hit or miss with the public because,
19 again, sometimes the public just can't get there on a
20 Saturday because they are out doing their family things
21 as well. And as exciting as we might feel like we are,
22 we're just not there. And the other thing that does
23 make it problematic, over the last year, we have had
24 phenomenal participation from our federal partners, and
25 a lot of folks -- you know, we had Nevada come in today.

1 That's partially because we do it on the Fridays, and
2 that does help out, you're right -- with sequestration
3 and some of the other issues that the feds are running
4 into, we do make like a little bit easier on them by
5 doing that. But not to say that we couldn't try it
6 again for a couple more meetings to see what it looks
7 like.

8 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Eric?

9 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Yeah, I agree with
10 everything you just said because I think it's a major
11 challenge to get the federal agencies and any agency
12 here on a Saturday. But having said that, I think it
13 might also be good to open it up right now for Public
14 Comment and hear what the people that are actually here
15 think about it and listen to their suggestions before we
16 start to pick dates. So...

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: And I'm good with that.
18 We were planning Public Comment at the end of my report
19 anyway. So...

20 **PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORTS**

21 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Well, let's open it up
22 to Public Comment.

23 OHV MS. PEREZ: May I move over there for the
24 time being?

25 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yes.

1 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Let's see. I see John
2 Stewart, followed by Dave Pickett.

3 JOHN STEWART: Now, is this just for the
4 calendaring issue?

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: No. You can go ahead,
6 and it will be on my whole report, but you can
7 incorporate some comment on the calendar as well since
8 that's part of my report.

9 JOHN STEWART: John Stewart, California
10 Association of Four-Wheel Drive Clubs.

11 Get the easy one out of the way first. On the
12 calendaring I'd actually prefer the Thursday, Friday
13 format. That does make traveling a lot easier.

14 Funding. The budget issues, one thing I noted
15 in here and then -- to me and the way I like to track
16 numbers is I like to see what is historically presented,
17 especially when we have income streams. I'm curious,
18 and it strikes a little bit of curiosity to me -- in me
19 as to how the income streams, such as the Fuel Tax, the
20 SVRA entrance fees, and the registration fees, and the
21 miscellaneous, to see how those have changed over time.
22 A lot of this is important because knowing what has
23 transpired in the past, you can now begin to look and
24 potentially forecast for the future whether you're going
25 to be going up or down. And while not really mentioned

1 in all -- or slightly mentioned in some of these -- this
2 budget issue, really pinpoints the fact as we have the
3 re-authorization coming up, you know, for the OHV
4 Program, and I think having a good comprehensive review
5 of the budget status would be important in working
6 through, especially when you start trying to identify
7 the demographics of the usage of OHV.

8 DRECP was mentioned, and yes, what a monstrosity
9 and how to weed through that so that it is meaningful
10 and meaningful comments can be provided. It's going to
11 be a challenge, but after working with some of the
12 people for several years as to look at how to display
13 most mapping layers -- I know that Commissioner Cabral
14 indicated some issue with their question about making
15 the maps easy to understand and brought up the concept
16 of Google Map layers. Well, if that's the same concept
17 I saw sometime ago, the Google Map layers, that basis is
18 there; it's going to take a little bit of time in
19 playing around with it, but the collection of the
20 information through database is invaluable and will be
21 invaluable working through this process and others.
22 So -- I know Connie is -- had her hands full trying to
23 keep track of what's going on with that, and I
24 appreciate the information she's done.

25 With respect to the General Plan Updates, I'm

1 hoping that the Ocotillo Wells and these others can stay
2 on track and get moving forward. Ocotillo Wells
3 especially is a major recreation destination for
4 Southern California. And having it with a viable plan
5 and something that is workable is important.

6 Thank you.

7 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you, John.

8 Dave Pickett.

9 DAVE PICKETT: Dave Pickett, District 36
10 Motorcycle Sports Committee.

11 This ties in partially to the Deputy Director's
12 report. Thank you, thank you, thank you for putting
13 this document out. It helps us in the field so much
14 when we can flip to the back page area and show the map
15 and how much participation that we have with our Forest
16 Service partners, BLM, counties and entities. A lot of
17 folks that see their own county here that didn't even
18 know they were getting money through grants or in-lieu
19 funds, it's been just a -- just such a valuable
20 document. Thank you very much there.

21 On the General Plans, real quick, I have made
22 some complaints about the outreach to the folks trying
23 to get a better way to get more folks involved. You
24 heard the comment earlier about 89 people have
25 corresponded back to the plan there through

1 (unintelligible) and Prairie City. I'm still trying to
2 figure out why we can't use DMV records. I know there's
3 privacy issues somewhere, but when participation
4 benefits the user that's paying that, there's got to be
5 some way we can figure something better on that.

6 The last thing is, as we went through these
7 loans that are outstanding, there is one specific one
8 that goes back to the Wilson Administration. I talked
9 to a few people in this room and asked them to research
10 this. It is a \$50 million loan that was taken out by
11 Governor Wilson at that time. It's still outstanding.
12 District 36 and others sued the State. We won in court.
13 And for Erin, who may not have any idea what I'm talking
14 about, there is a court order that says if the Division
15 has red ink, the \$50 million, by court order,
16 immediately comes back to the Division. So I think that
17 needs to be researched. I talked to Mr. LeFlore; he
18 remembers it a little bit, same thing with Mr. Bernardo.
19 So if we could follow up on that, I would appreciate it.
20 And let's get that out in the open.

21 Thank you very much.

22 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you.

23 Deputy Director Conlin, since you have a number
24 of meetings and Kathryn as well, would it be possible
25 for maybe suggesting emailing us some suggested dates

1 that we can -- I mean I think we need to spend a little
2 time kind of figuring out -- it's hard to tell what
3 would work for you and us. Maybe we can address this at
4 the next Commission meeting. But we can all look at our
5 calendars, maybe look at it over email? Is that
6 possible?

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: We can certainly do
8 that and -- if you guys are unprepared to kind of go to
9 a commitment right now. It's just -- all we really want
10 to do is kind get the rough cut on when we would not
11 want to be doing meetings and all that, because that
12 gives leeway to some of the other commissioners and when
13 they can put things in. You know, the other the
14 commission -- everybody's kind of doing the dance right
15 now around the calendar trying to figure out who's going
16 to go first. But that's fine. You know, we can do that
17 next time. But I think if we just do a quick
18 run-through right now and if anybody, you know, can
19 throw a flag and say, That weekend just absolutely I
20 can't do it.

21 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Let's do that.

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: All right.

23 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Go ahead.

24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay.

25 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Should we go month by month?

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah. Let's jump in.
2 We're in January of 2015. I would say that first
3 weekend obviously, the 2nd, 3rd -- or the 1st, 2nd, 3rd,
4 that's probably not good. The second week there, 8, 9,
5 10 -- and I'm saying three days just based on the fact
6 that, you know, we'll vote next time, I would say, on a
7 Friday, Saturday or Thursday, Friday option, but -- if
8 we want to keep it open for three days. So 8, 9, 10,
9 anybody -- does that -- for anybody, is that an absolute
10 cannot do?

11 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Just a comment. I mean
12 it's only about four weeks after our December Commission
13 meeting.

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Right.

15 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: So it's a little --

16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Like to push it out?
17 Okay.

18 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Yeah. I was -- I mean I
19 was just looking at the calendar. It looks like the
20 29th, the 30th would probably be the --

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay.

22 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: -- the dates that month
23 that could possibly work.

24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: How's that look for
25 everybody, 29 --

1 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: That works for me.

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: -- 30, 31? That's not
3 a bad -- okay. All right.

4 Thank you, Vanna.

5 OHV MS. PEREZ: Okay.

6 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: So we've got the 28th -- 28th
7 and 29th and 30th blocked.

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Right.

9 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: So that's a good
11 weekend, right?

12 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Yes, it is.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. All right.

14 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Next.

15 OHV MS. PEREZ: What are we going -- we're going
16 to X these other ones out, then.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah, yeah. Just get
18 rid of those other weekends. Good point.

19 Thanks, Eric.

20 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Sure.

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. And then the
22 alternate, how about that next week, just in case that
23 one doesn't work, 5, 6, 7? That look okay for you guys?

24 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Yes.

25 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: All right.

1 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Does that work for everybody?

2 (Multiple speakers.)

3 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: So we'll vote on one of
5 those two next time?

6 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Yes.

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Which is good because
8 that way we don't wind up doing it on Valentine's Day,
9 and everybody gets in trouble the next morning.

10 Okay. All right. March is a really rough time
11 for my guys with grants and everything, but we can --

12 (Multiple speakers.)

13 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: If we could back up to
14 the -- that weekend won't work for me, the 7th.

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: The 7th? Okay.

16 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: We're -- yeah.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: All right.

18 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Sorry.

19 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: That's okay. That's
21 why we're doing it.

22 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: So we're on March?

23 OHV MS. PEREZ: Well, the week of -- well, you
24 guys -- it's part of your three-week -- that's a holiday
25 right there. So I don't know if you want to --

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: No, we're not going to
2 do that weekend because that's Valentine's Day. All
3 right. So you're talking about the next weekend there?

4 (Multiple speakers.)

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah, I think we're out
6 to March now.

7 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: The 16th, yeah. Put it onto
8 March.

9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: March.

10 OHV MS. PEREZ: We're not going to have anything
11 for February.

12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah.

13 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: No, no February.

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: We're good. Okay. All
15 right. March now. Let's take a look.

16 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: That's a tough one, too.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: That's all our greens
18 and everything.

19 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: And April's tough for me.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah, Grants kind of go
21 through the next one -- actually, those next three
22 months kind of look bad. So we'll just pick up
23 whatever -- then we've got Hangtown coming up in May,
24 right, on the 16th. We want to stay away from that. Is
25 that a solid date, Dave?

1 DAVE PICKETT: Solid date.

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay.

3 DAVE PICKETT: Thank you.

4 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: So, Chris, no dates in March?

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: No, we can do it March.

6 We're just going to try and find the least bad. So
7 let's push it about mid month. How about 19, 20, 21
8 in March.

9 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Works for me.

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. That's the
11 vernal equinox, for those of us keeping track. Okay.

12 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: That's my birthday.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: That's your birthday?

14 COMMISSIONER VILLEGAS: Yes.

15 (Multiple speakers.)

16 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: We'll celebrate.

17 (Multiple speakers.)

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: We need to put down
19 that we need to get a cake.

20 (Multiple speakers.)

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: All right. We're good.
22 Right? Are we good?

23 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Uh-huh.

24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. All right.

25 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: April?

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: That's not a bad time.
2 That gets us away from Easter and everything. Okay?
3 All righty.

4 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Are we in May?

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: April -- up to May. We
6 have to avoid the 16th because we've got Hangtown,
7 right?

8 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: What's the next one? Do
9 we have a meeting that could coincide with Hangtown?

10 (Multiple speakers.)

11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: A holiday? What is
12 that?

13 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Can we set up a meeting to
14 coincide with Hangtown?

15 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Huh-uh.

16 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Is that possible?

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Well, we've done that
18 in the past. Yeah, was that two years ago?

19 (Multiple speakers.)

20 DAVE PICKETT: Two, three years ago, yeah.

21 (Multiple speakers.)

22 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Two years ago.

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: We did that two years
24 ago.

25 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Last year.

1 OHV MS. PEREZ: 2013.

2 (Multiple speakers.)

3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: I think it was last
4 year.

5 (Multiple speakers.)

6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: That would have been my
7 first year -- I don't know if you want to do it that
8 soon again -- not that we don't like you guys.

9 DAVE PICKETT: Food's good.

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah, I know. Yeah.
11 Okay. Let's keep that in mind for the year
12 after. Okay?

13 So we're into May. When is -- Easter is the --
14 is it the first weekend?

15 COUNSEL TOBIAS: Easter's in April.

16 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: April 5.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: April 5th? Okay.
18 That's a holiday weekend. So how about the last weekend
19 in April, first week in May. The -- 30 -- April through
20 the 2nd of May? Is that okay for folks?

21 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Yes.

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: The weekend before
23 Mother's Day. So, again, we're not getting in trouble
24 by doing it on Mother's Day?

25 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: That works for me.

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Almost at Hangtown on
2 Mother's Day.

3 (Multiple speakers.)

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: All right. June is end
5 of school year, though, for everybody, right? That's
6 not a good time to do it. Okay. Let's avoid June.
7 Stay away from the 4th. How about mid July, 16, 17, 18?
8 Okay. We usually avoid that?

9 COUNSEL TOBIAS: Well, you can ask them. We
10 don't usually do too much in the summer because
11 everybody's got vacations, but --

12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: All right.

13 COUNSEL TOBIAS: But that's up to you.

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. Want to avoid
15 this one? We've already picked a lot of good dates so
16 far. All right?

17 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Yeah, sure.

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Rolled into September?

19 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Okay.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay?

21 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Sand Show.

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: That's Sand Sport Super
23 Show again. I did that last year.

24 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Right. That's pretty
25 interesting. There was a lot to be learned there in my

1 book. I liked that.

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: It was, but I'm trying
3 not to pick the same venues over and over again. I'd
4 like to avoid that. Okay? What's the Friends of
5 El Mirage that we've got there?

6 OHV MS. PEREZ: That's a Ed Waldheim meeting
7 that goes on a regular basis.

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. All right.

9 OHV MS. PEREZ: It's not a --

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: All right. It's not a
11 big deal? Okay. All right. September, how about if we
12 did it 10, 11, 12?

13 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Okay. Sure. Well, that's
14 the week -- Labor Day weekend is Monday.

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Is that Labor Day?

16 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Oh, Labor Day's on the
17 weekend.

18 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Yeah. So it would be a
19 short weekend.

20 OHV MS. PEREZ: Well, yeah.

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: We're okay with --
22 right now okay with that, right? All right. Then how
23 about the week after?

24 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: The 24th, 25th?

25 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: 24, 25, 26?

1 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Yeah, that would be good.

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. All right.

3 OHV MS. PEREZ: I would mention going -- doing
4 NOHVCC Commissioner meeting.

5 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Yeah, that's -- oh, yeah.

6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: When is that going to
7 be?

8 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Well, they were talking
9 that that would be -- with the way the federal partners
10 would work, it would probably be better to be towards
11 the end of the month.

12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Got ya. End of the
13 month in --

14 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: End of October is what
15 they were looking at. So they were looking at either
16 the third or fourth week in October. And they would --
17 it would be good if we could somehow, you know,
18 coordinate with them.

19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Why don't we -- for
20 right now, I would hope they weren't doing it on
21 Halloween. So why don't we block out 22, 23, 24

22 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Okay.

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay? Does that sound
24 good to everybody?

25 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Yes.

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. And, again,
2 we'll vote on these at the next meeting. This is just
3 penciling these in for now.

4 All right. Thanksgiving is utter chaos. And I
5 know you'll all be celebrating the Marine Corps Birthday
6 Ball like I do on the 10th.

7 (Multiple speakers.)

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Then you've got --

9 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: Is it 21? Some
10 priorities.

11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: That's right, you've
12 got to have your priorities.

13 Okay. And then just as a safe hold, why don't
14 we again look at the first week in December, 3, 4, 5.
15 Okay. All right.

16 OHV MS. PEREZ: Can I make a suggestion?

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah.

18 (Multiple speakers.)

19 OHV MS. PEREZ: Nail down this as soon as
20 possible because this is close to the Christmas
21 holidays.

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Right. Well, we'll
23 vote -- yeah, we'll vote at the next meeting and that
24 will give us one year. That should be soon enough.

25 Now, next big question, Chair, is where do we go

1 next?

2 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Oh, I didn't know I was going
3 to have to answer that one.

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Well, we answer it as a
5 group, as a community. But...

6 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Good.

7 Any suggestions from Commissioners? I know
8 there's been other suggestions in the past.

9 Ted, did you --

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: And, Chair, this --
11 it's not at all unacceptable to ask the public if they
12 want to make some comments, too. So...

13 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Great.

14 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: How about somewhere we
15 can do some snow-mobiling. Northern California, maybe
16 National Forest again since we missed our field trip.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay.

18 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: I'll second that motion.

19 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Any other Commissioners have
20 any other comments?

21 Eric?

22 COMMISSIONER LUEDER: Yeah. Traditionally we
23 try and do like a summer meeting in Southern California
24 just because the weather cooperates. And as much as I'd
25 love to go on a snow-mobile tour, predicting snow at the

1 first week of December is at best -- it would be better
2 if we waited until our February meeting maybe for that.
3 So that's my suggestion.

4 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: That's a good point.

5 COMMISSIONER PATROVSKY: Sounds logical.

6 COMMISSIONER CABRAL: How about the situation
7 at the Onyx Ranch, that stuff? Is that going to be
8 coming to a head? Would it be worth looking at going
9 down and checking that out?

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Let me see how much Dan
11 is sweating right now?

12 DAVE PICKETT: Ridgecrest.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: What do you think?

14 OHV MR. CANFIELD: Fifty-fifty.

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Fifty-fifty chance?
16 Yeah. You know, the -- it would be awesome if we have
17 got that set to go and it's all good, but there's a lot
18 of variables right now. And the variables are things
19 that we don't control. It's basically getting this
20 through Finance, it's getting this through Public Works
21 and all that. So it might -- we'd really be betting not
22 to come, as Dan says, about 50-50. Because what I would
23 like not to do is to go down there and celebrate when
24 Finance is still deciding. That's just not a good thing
25 to do

1 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Chris, what about Oceano?
2 It's been a while since we've been there? I think it
3 was -- 2011, I think, was the last time.

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: I think that's an
5 interesting suggestion, especially with all the work
6 that we're doing down there.

7 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Uh-huh.

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah, we just got
9 through -- the Consent Decree was voted on. We'll
10 operating under that. Yeah, that could work.

11 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Is there -- are there
12 any comments from the public? Anybody have a
13 suggestion?

14 OHV MR. CANFIELD: Hungry Valley?

15 DAVE PICKETT: Hungry Valley?

16 JOHN STEWART: If you're --

17 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: John.

18 JOHN STEWART: If you were to have the Ocotillo
19 Plan released December --

20 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Come up to the mike, John.

21 JOHN STEWART: John Stewart, California
22 Association of Four-Wheel Drive Clubs.

23 If you were to have the Ocotillo Plan released
24 in late 2014, then the December meeting at Ocotillo
25 Wells would be a good kick-off point for it.

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Yeah. We were just
2 there, though. Let's wait. Although we did -- you
3 know, we never did do that Imperial Sand Dunes trip. We
4 were down there, but we got waved off because of
5 sequestration. So that's a consideration, we go back
6 down to Imperial Sand Dunes, which we did not get a
7 chance to do.

8 Anything else that --

9 You said Hungry Valley, Dave?

10 DAVE PICKETT: I can't remember the last time we
11 were there, if ever.

12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: I think they were there
13 once because somebody was telling me about it. But
14 that's a good point. Where will we be with the
15 acquisition property there? We'll have it by then,
16 supposedly.

17 OHV MR. CANFIELD: (No audible response.)

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. So we could go
19 down and look at that.

20 DAVE PICKETT: (Unintelligible.)

21 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay.

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. I'm hearing
23 snow, probably not a good bet in December. I'm hearing
24 Hungry Valley, possibility to look at the new
25 acquisition land that's out there, Frazier Ranch.

1 What's the other one? Oceano Dunes.

2 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Right. I know Brent might
3 not appreciate that, but -- I'm not sure he would, but I
4 would love for the Commission meeting to be at Oceano.

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay.

6 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: I think it's been a while.
7 And if we can make it --

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: District
9 superintendent -- we always tell the district
10 superintendents last before we get there.

11 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: That's a good idea.

12 (Multiple speakers.)

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: I would suggest, Chair,
14 that you might want just put it up to a vote for your
15 Board, and then people decide.

16 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: I'd like to suggest Oceano
17 Dunes as our next Commission meeting. I like to motion
18 that it be at Oceano Dunes, and I'm asking for a second.

19 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: I'll second.

20 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. All in favor of having
21 our next Commission meeting, which is December 11th and
22 12th, at Oceano Dunes SVRA, say "aye."

23 (Commissioner's voted.)

24 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Any opposed?

25 (No Commissioners opposed.)

1 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Any abstentions?

2 (No Commissioners abstained.)

3 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Okay. Great.

4 Is there anything else, Deputy Director? How
5 about a last few final words to say -- is there anything
6 else on -- any parting words on your behalf?

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: You ran a very good
8 meeting. So thank you very much.

9 I'd like everybody, please, to applaud.

10 (Applause.)

11 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you.

12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Thanks for sitting in
13 for Paul. I'm sure Paul is having a great time out at
14 (unintelligible), but you did a really good job in his
15 place.

16 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you. I just want you
17 to know, all, that I did practice.

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Thank you, everybody,
19 for coming here. We actually got done at a reasonable
20 time today. And I appreciate everybody keeping their
21 comments under the wire and brief, and that's what
22 allowed us to do that.

23 And thank you so much to the staff, again, both
24 OHV staff but also the staff here at the Kings Beach for
25 making this work.

1 Any admin things -- last-minute admin things,
2 Vicki?

3 OHV MS. PEREZ: (No audible response.)

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR CONLIN: Okay. That's fine.

5 VICE CHAIR PÉREZ: Thank you, everyone. Great
6 job. Drive home safely.

7 This meeting is adjourned at 3:38. Thank you.

8 (Meeting concluded at 3:38 p.m.)

9 ---oOo---

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

R E P O R T E R ' S C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) SS.
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO)

I, SANDRA L. HOPPER, a certified shorthand reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing 259 pages comprise a transcription of the proceedings had and the testimony taken at the hearing in the hereinbefore-entitled matter.

Dated this 17th day of October, 2014, at Sacramento, California.



SANDRA L. HOPPER, CSR No. 7110
Certified Shorthand Reporter
in and for the
County of Sacramento,
State of California

Ref. No. 14299SAM