**BLM - Needles Field Office**

Comments submitted by the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division to individual Grant Applicants should in no way be construed as a guarantee of successful results for the Applicant within the competitive Grants process or a commitment of funding. Additionally, the lack of comments by the OHMVR Division to any specific Applicant does not ensure successful results for the Applicant within the competitive Grant process or a commitment of funding.

All final Applications will be reviewed by the OHMVR Division. The OHMVR Division may, at its sole discretion, decrease the requested amount and eliminate activities pursuant with regulation Section 4970.07.2 (f)(1-5) and for law enforcement Projects, regulation Section 4970.15.3(b)(1-5).

Failure by Applicant to respond to any OHMVR Division comment of their preliminary Application may be cause for eliminating that item from the Applicant’s Application.

If multiple proposed Projects are requesting funding for the same deliverable, and multiple projects are successful, only one project will receive funding for the deliverable.

For proposed Projects requesting Grant funding for snow and/or winter activities. Applicants must ensure the activities and/or Equipment/Heavy Equipment requested are not and/or cannot be funded by the Department’s Winter Program (commonly referred to as the Snow Grooming Program).

*For proposed Projects requesting Grant funding for the maintenance of roads and/or trails, note that only roads and/or trails that allow “green sticker” Off-Highway Vehicles are allowed to receive Grant funding.*

Applicants are reminded that no Grant funds and/or match can be expended, or Project activities conducted in any land owned or managed by the Department except as allowed in the Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program regulations section 4970.09 (b)(10).

**General Evaluation Criteria**

* #2-5 – Applicant must verify responses by final submission.
* #4 – Applicant received Grant funds over 10% of the agency's operational budget in Fiscal Year 2022 from the OHV Trust Fund. Applicant must update the selection.
* #7c – Narrative does not support “Education programs, maps…" Applicant must explain how the education programs educate the public on “OHV trespass, including respect for private property”.
* #11a – Narrative does not support the selections. Applicant must provide details to support both selections to address safe and responsible OHV recreational practices/recreation.
* #11b – Narrative does not support the selection. “Plan” to provide hosted onsite formal programs is insufficient. Applicant must state “scheduled events”.
* #13 – Applicant must verify responses by final submission.

**Ground Operations G23-01-12-G01**

***Project Description - Background***

* No comment.

***Project Description – Project Description***

* No comment.

***Project Description – List of Project Deliverables***

* #7 – Applicant is reminded that a Habitat Management Program report and/or a Soil Conservation Plan must be submitted with their Final Application if the Division disagrees with the Applicant’s assessment that no Ground Disturbing Activities contain any risk factors to the following: Special-status species, sensitive habitats, or have the potential to cause erosion or sedimentation which significantly affects resource values beyond the Facilities, and/or generate soil loss that exceeds restorability.

***Project Description – All Others***

* No comment.

***Project Cost Estimate***

* Staff #1 “Operations” – Applicant’s notes are inaccurate and need to be revised. Costs/Rate did not increase from previous year’s Application.
* Staff #2 “Seasonals” – Applicant’s notes are inaccurate and need to be revised. “Combined the 2 seasonal workers…cut 400 hours out of the request from prior years” was noted in previous year’s Application.
* Staff #3 & 4 – Applicant must provide the duties and/or activities to be performed on the Project.
* Staff #5 “Outdoor recreation Planner” – “Oversees grant” appears to be an indirect activity as it does not directly relate to the completion of the Project. Applicant must explain how this activity directly supports the Project or move the verbiage for this activity and the cost associated with it to the Indirect Cost category.
* Materials / Supplies #1, 3, 6, & 7 – Cost significantly increased compared to prior year’s Application. Applicant must provide additional details to justify the cost.
* Equipment Use Expenses #1 & 3 – Applicant is reminded Equipment purchased through the Grants Program is not eligible for a use fee. Applicant must clarify if Equipment was acquired through the Grants Program.
* Equipment Use Expenses #2 “Ford 450 HD PU CC 4X4” – Heavy Equipment transportation expenses are reimbursed based on actual cost, not per mile. Applicant must describe in the notes section how the costs were determined (a per mile charge provided for the methodology would be acceptable) and change the unit of measurement to “Each” or “Miscellaneous.”

***Evaluation Criteria***

* #3 – Project Description does not support the selection of “Providing varied levels of riding difficulty”. Applicant must provide example(s) of Project activities being performed that support the selection.
* #4 – Narrative does not support the selection of “The Applicant initiated and conducted publicly noticed…”. Applicant must identify number of participants that attended the public meeting.
* #6 – Narrative does not support the selections of “Controlling OHV use” and “Protecting water quality”. Applicant must provide example(s) of the activities performed in the Project that support the selections. Applicant is reminded that signs for “Restoration Area/Closed to all use” are considered Restoration Project activities and are not supported by this Grant.
* #7 – Project Description and/or Project Cost Estimate sections do not support selections of “Paper used for trail maps which includes recycled content” are made with recycled materials.

**Education & Safety G23-01-12-S01**

***Project Description - Background***

* No comment.

***Project Description – Project Description***

* Applicant must clarify how the "video trail guide" under Classroom Outreach will be completed. "Trying" to produce the video is not eligible. In addition, the Applicant must provide more details if the video listed under the "Classroom Outreach" section is the same or separate from the two (2) videos created in the previous year’s Application, along with the video listed under the "Desert Information Center (DIC)” section.
* Applicant must clarify how “route sign installation and maintenance” in this Project is different from the “Signing” Project activities performed in the Ground Operations Project.

***Project Description – List of Project Deliverables***

* #1 – Applicant must provide the number of classroom outreach presentations they anticipate conducting.
* #2 – Applicant must provide the number of public outreach events they anticipate attending. In addition, the Applicant must update the number of "OHV trail guides" videos based on the response to Division's comment in the Project Description section.
* #4 – Turtle Mountain Road and Lost Arch Inn area were designated signing target areas in the previous year’s Application. Applicant must confirm these target areas are correct or clarify the need for this Project deliverable being in the same areas as the prior year’s Application.

***Project Description – All Others***

* Locations of Training/Services - 4970.13(f)(5) – Applicant must add “attending area parades with focused messages and floats promoting ethical OHV behaviors” to Project Deliverable #2 “Educational Outreach”. In addition, Applicant must provide the anticipated number of parades they anticipate participating in.

***Project Cost Estimate***

* Equipment Use Expenses #1 “Ram 1500 1/2T PU 4X4 Crew Cab” – Applicant is reminded Equipment purchased through the Grants Program is not eligible for a use fee. Applicant must clarify if Equipment was acquired through the Grants Program. In addition, Applicant must clarify how the Equipment will be used on the Project. Furthermore, Applicant is reminded Equipment fuel expenses are reimbursed based on actual cost, not per mile charge. If applicable, Applicant must describe in the notes section how fuel costs were determined (a per mile charge provided for the methodology would be acceptable) and change the unit of measurement to “Each” or “Miscellaneous.”

***Evaluation Criteria***

* #5 – Project Description section does not support selections. Applicant does not state how the Project addresses the selected vehicle types.
* #6 – Narrative does not support the selection. Applicant must provide the number of participants that attended the public meeting.

**Law Enforcement G23-01-12-L01**

***Needs Assessment***

* #3 – Applicant must clarify if “Special Recreation Permitted” OHV events are open to the public. If not open to the public, Applicant must remove mention of special recreation permitted OHV events from the Application as patrol at closed OHV events are not allowable under a Law Enforcement Project. In addition, Applicant must remove correlating expenses from the Project Cost Estimate.

***Project Certification***

* No comment.

***Project Cost Estimate***

* No comment.