

Ground Operations-Roads/Trails 2009/2010 Maintenance by SotSNF (FINAL)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # _____

APP # 700602

1. Project Description

A. Statement of GO Activity

The Stewards of the Sierra National Forest (SotSNF), a division of California Trails Users Coalition (CTUC), wish to continue our members volunteer work with the Sierra National Forest (SNF) in improving OHV opportunities for the greater public. SotSNF wish to apply for a Ground Operations grant through the California State Parks Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division to help support project costs associated with the SotSNF 2010 Operation Plan in collaboration with the Sierra National Forest.

SotSNF plans to complete maintenance activities on fourteen National Forest system roads (approximately 28 miles). This work activity is in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between SotSNF and SNF.

The continued reductions of the Forest Service road maintenance budget has caused these roads to deteriorate to an unacceptable condition. Lack of proper road maintenance has led to drainage structure failure and water quality degradation. Brush encroachment on some roads has begun to restrict access.

Project Title: Access Road Maintenance

Project Description:

This work is a continuing focus on major Forest service system roads that provide popular OHV riding opportunities and are critical for connecting OHV riding areas. Many of these roads provide access to developed campgrounds, dispersed camping areas, and recreational destination points. The project will improve access, water quality, signage, and enhance the overall OHV riding experience within the Sierra National Forest.

Maintenance work items include; removing roadside brush, cleaning drainage structures such as culverts, dips, and lead off ditches, armoring stream crossings, placement of rock riprap, blocking unauthorized routes, removing downed trees and boulders from roadways, repairing and installing road and directional signs, performing condition surveys, reporting unsafe road conditions or heavy maintenance needs, and removal of trash.

SotSNF is requesting funding to support equipment purchases that will assist in completing the maintenance tasks identified above. This equipment will maximize labor efficiency and is vital to complete maintenance activities that require placement of rock riprap for structures such as armored stream crossings, and placement of rock riprap at outlets of culverts, ditches, dips and water bars. Many drainage structure sites requiring rock riprap and armoring are not accessible by large pickups or dump trucks and require materials to be transported by small trailers and ATVs. Additionally this equipment will be used for drainage structure repair and brush removal. The equipment purchase request includes: 1- ATV Pull Behind Backhoe, 1- Pull Behind ATV trailer, and 1- 4x4 ATV utility Quad.

The Sierra National Forest has recognized the win/win value of volunteer partnerships with organizations such as SotSNF. The SNF has committed personnel, training and Forest Service vehicles to support SotSNF in accomplishing project activities outlined in the 2009 and 2010 Operation Plans for SotSNF. SNF personnel commitments include the Forest Road Maintenance Engineer as the Forest Liaison and project coordinator for SotSNF. Training opportunities provided by the SNF for SotSNF included First Aid/CPR, chainsaw training and certification, government vehicle licensing certification, tracked tractor equipment operation, and Forest OHV Host and radio communications training. A Forest Service 1 ton utility pickup has been outfitted for sign installation and is committed to the SotSNF for use in sign installation on the SNF.

SotSNF, through the support of the successful 2009 California State OHV Ground Operations grant have performed more than 1000 volunteer hours of invaluable time toward maintenance activities that have contributed to increased water quality and improved OHV recreational access. Nearly 150 signs were installed and/or repaired and countless bags of trash were removed by the volunteer efforts of SotSNF. This work would not have been accomplished without the desire and

commitment from SotSNF and the California State Off Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division. (Please see photo documentation of examples of completed work in 2009)

B. Relation of Proposed Project to OHV Recreation

The volunteer work referenced in the SotSNF 2010 Operations Plan is an continuing effort from 2009 to improve water quality and the OHV riding experience, The maintenance activities are focused on Sierra National Forest system roads & routes that provide popular OHV riding opportunities and are considered critical to connecting OHV riding areas.

These routes provide access to recreational destination points, popular vistas, and many connect systems of OHV trails together to further enhance the recreational experience. Examples of popular riding areas that this proposed work will include in the Sierra NF are Jerseydale, Miami Trails, Greys Mountain, Whiskey Falls, Big Sandy, Shuteye OHV route, Star and Iron Lakes OHV routes. These areas provide hundreds of miles of riding opportunities that allow for minimized OHV impacts by spreading OHV use over large riding areas and not concentrating use on a smaller system. Various campgrounds such as Gaggs Camp, Texas Flat, Fresno Dome, Big Sandy, Whiskers, Whiskey Falls, Greys Mtn., and Soquel are popular for OHV recreational users and provide great staging areas. The public use these campgrounds for staging and camping. From these sites they can access several different riding areas that provide various recreational experiences from easy scenic touring to routes that challenge the skill level of the user. A user can travel as much as 150 miles a day and not duplicate a route.

Forest Service road maintenance budget reductions have continued to allow roads to deteriorate and overgrow with brush. Brush encroachment on some routes have begun to restrict access and obscure signage. In addition, lack of proper road maintenance has led to drainage structure failures, which continue to contribute to water quality degradation.

This project will help improve OHV access by removing brush, improve water runoff capabilities by repairing drainage structures, improve signage and enhance the OHV riding experience in the Sierra national Forest. Removal of downed trees and debris will help reduce and eliminate unauthorized bypass routes off of the designated route system.

C. Describe the size of the specific Project Area(s) in acres and/or miles

The proposed project is located in the Sierra National Forest within the Bass Lake district. The following routes are in need of the most immediate attention to provide OHV access and riding opportunities to and within approximately 10,000 acres of the Sierra National Forest:

Route	Maintenance Needs	Length in miles
5S06	(Drainage / Surface / Brushing)	3.0
5S22	(Drainage / Surface)	2.1
5S22X	(Drainage)	1.7
5S22Y	(Drainage)	1.7
5S22YA	(Drainage / Surface / Brushing)	0.5
5S95	(Drainage / Surface)	3.2
5S95X	(Drainage / Surface)	1.0
6S11C	(Drainage / Surface / Brushing)	0.5
6S26	(Drainage / Surface / Brushing)	2.5
6S36	(Drainage / Surface / Brushing)	2.0
6S40XA	(Drainage / Surface / Brushing)	1.2
6S59	(Drainage / Surface / Brushing)	4.0
6S88	(Drainage / Surface / Brushing)	3.0

5S38Y (Drainage / Surface / Brushing) 2.1

Total mileage of routes identified: 28.4 Miles

D. Location and description of OHV opportunities

These routes proposed for work provide access to recreational destination points, popular vistas, and many connect systems of OHV trails together to further enhance the recreational experience. Examples of popular riding areas that this proposed work will include in the Sierra NF are Jerseydale, Miami Trails, Greys Mountain, Whiskey Falls, Big Sandy, Shuteye OHV route, Star and Iron Lakes OHV routes. These areas provide hundreds of miles of riding opportunities that allow for minimized OHV impacts by spreading OHV use over large riding areas and not concentrating use on a smaller system. Various campgrounds such as Gaggs Camp, Texas Flat, Fresno Dome, Big Sandy, Whiskers, Whiskey Falls, Greys Mtn., and Soquel are popular for OHV recreational users and provide great staging areas. The public use these campgrounds for staging and camping. From these sites they can access several different riding areas that provide various recreational experiences from easy scenic touring to routes that challenge the skill level of the user. A user can travel as much as 150 miles a day and not duplicate a route.

The Sierra National Forest Bass Lake district contains many more popular multi-use OHV destinations & opportunities. Among some of the more popular are the Miami OHV trails and Whiskey Falls areas. Miami includes approximately 60 miles of 4x4, ATV, and off road motorcycling routes with varying degrees of difficulty. Many of these routes have existing trail signage and difficulty markings. Within Miami are two staging areas, Kamook and Lone Sequoia, which provide staging areas as well as public picnic tables and restroom facilities.

Additional OHV areas within the Sierra National Forest include a popular area on the Western edge known as Jerseydale (near Mariposa), Greys Mountain north of Bass Lake, Central Camp also North of Bass Lake, Dinkey Creek area between Shaver lake and Wishon Lake, and other trail systems that connect various OHV routes as well as provide excellent recreation and vista experiences. Many OHV routes within these areas have become extremely popular with OHV recreation in particular, due to their uniqueness, challenges, and spectacular views.

An example of a specific route that has become a popular OHV destination is the Shuteye Peak OHV route (Sierra NF route 6S59). This route originates at the Central Camp area, climbs 2500 feet in elevation, and is approximately 3.8 miles to the top of Shuteye Peak. A fire look out tower, manned in the fire season period, is a longtime landmark of the area. The sole fire look out employee, by default of the OHV access, is given a rare chance to chat and communicate with the Sierra Forest user one on one. SotSNF have continued their commitment to the Sierra National Forest via the 2010 Operational Plan to adopt this route, and take on a higher role of Stewardship in ensuring the route is sustained for future OHV generations.

Due to continuing curtailment of OHV opportunities within the general Central California area, and outright closure of traditional OHV areas such as Clear Creek Management Area (BLM). Many National Forests have experienced increased OHV traffic that is further impacting the existing systems. The Stewards of the Sierra National Forest, with continuing partnerships with other pro-access groups such as Riders Under The Sun and Central California Quad Riders, have collaborated together to perform volunteer maintenance work within the Sierra National Forest during the 2009 year. It is our hope that we can continue to put Green Sticker funds back into sustaining existing OHV opportunities for the public on the Sierra National Forest.

2. Rerouting Requirements

Rerouting

(a) Does your project involve rerouting of any roads and trails? Yes No

If response to question (a) is 'Yes', a Project timeline, conceptual drawings and site plans are required (See 'Attachments' tab at the top of the screen)

If response to question (a) is 'No', skip details related to rerouting

Additional Documentation

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1. **Project Timeline (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**
2. **Conceptual Drawings and Site Plans (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**

3. **Project-Specific Maps**

Attachments:

[Sierra National Forest
5S06, 5S22, 5S22X, 5S22Y, 5S22YA
5S38Y, 5S95, 5S95X, 6S36, 6S59 Shuteye
6S11C, 6S26, 6S40XA, 6S88](#)

4. **Optional Project-Specific Application Documents**

Attachments:

[2009 G.O. Grant work accomplishments
2010 SotSNF Operations Plan w/Sierra NF](#)

Project Cost Estimate

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Version # _____ APP # _____			
APPLICANT NAME :	California Trail Users Coalition		
PROJECT TITLE :	Ground Operations-Roads/Trails 2009/2010 Maintenance by SotSNF (FINAL)	PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :	G09-04-06-G01
PROJECT TYPE :	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	<p>The Stewards of the Sierra National Forest (SotSNF), a division of California Trails Users Coalition (CTUC), wish to continue our members volunteer work with the Sierra National Forest (SNF) in improving OHV opportunities for the greater public. SotSNF wish to apply for a Ground Operations grant through the California State Parks Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division to help support project costs associated with the SotSNF 2010 Operation Plan in collaboration with the Sierra National Forest.</p> <p>SotSNF plans to complete maintenance activities on fourteen National Forest system roads (approximately 28 miles). This work activity is in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between SotSNF and SNF.</p> <p>The continued reductions of the Forest Service road maintenance budget has caused these roads to deteriorate to an unacceptable condition. Lack of proper road maintenance has led to drainage structure failure and water quality degradation. Brush encroachment on some roads has begun to restrict access.</p> <p>Project Title: Access Road Maintenance Project Description:</p> <p>This work is a continuing focus on major Forest service system roads that provide popular OHV riding opportunities and are critical for connecting OHV riding areas. Many of these roads provide access to developed campgrounds, dispersed camping areas, and recreational destination points. The project will improve access, water quality, signage, and enhance the overall OHV riding experience within the Sierra National Forest.</p> <p>Maintenance work items include; removing roadside brush, cleaning drainage structures such as culverts, dips, and lead off ditches, armoring stream crossings, placement of rock riprap, blocking unauthorized routes, removing downed trees and boulders from roadways, repairing and installing road and directional signs, performing condition surveys, reporting unsafe road conditions or heavy maintenance needs, and removal of trash.</p> <p>SotSNF is requesting funding to support equipment purchases that will assist in completing the maintenance tasks identified above. This equipment will maximize labor efficiency and is vital to complete maintenance activities that require placement of rock riprap for structures such as armored stream crossings, and placement of rock riprap at outlets of culverts, ditches, dips and water bars. Many drainage structure sites requiring rock riprap and armoring are not accessible by large pickups or dump trucks and require materials to be transported by small trailers and ATVs. Additionally this equipment will be used for drainage structure repair and brush removal. The equipment purchase request includes: 1- ATV Pull Behind Backhoe, 1- Pull Behind ATV trailer, and 1- 4x4 ATV utility Quad.</p> <p>The Sierra National Forest has recognized the win/win value of volunteer partnerships with organizations such as SotSNF. The SNF has committed personnel, training and Forest Service vehicles to support SotSNF in accomplishing project activities outlined in the 2009 and 2010 Operation Plans for</p>		

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
 Agency: California Trail Users Coalition
 Application: Ground Operations-Roads/Trails 2009/2010 Maintenance by SotSNF (FINAL)

2/27/2010

	<p>SotSNF. SNF personnel commitments include the Forest Road Maintenance Engineer as the Forest Liaison and project coordinator for SotSNF. Training opportunities provided by the SNF for SotSNF included First Aid/CPR, chainsaw training and certification, government vehicle licensing certification, tracked tractor equipment operation, and Forest OHV Host and radio communications training. A Forest Service 1 ton utility pickup has been outfitted for sign installation and is committed to the SotSNF for use in sign installation on the SNF.</p> <p>SotSNF, through the support of the successful 2009 California State OHV Ground Operations grant have performed more than 1000 volunteer hours of invaluable time toward maintenance activities that have contributed to increased water quality and improved OHV recreational access. Nearly 150 signs were installed and/or repaired and countless bags of trash were removed by the volunteer efforts of SotSNF. This work would not have been accomplished without the desire and commitment from SotSNF and the California State Off Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division. (Please see photo documentation of examples of completed work in 2009)</p>
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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES							
Program Expenses							
1	Staff						
	Other-Laborer - Route Maintenance Notes : Note: The number of hours reflects the total projected hours by the Stewards of the Sierra National Forest to support proposed labor work activities.	800.000	21.000	HRS	0.00	16,800.00	16,800.00
	Other-Crew Leader Notes : Note: These hours are required to support crew leader duties for the labor workforce.	200.000	23.000	HRS	0.00	4,600.00	4,600.00
	Other-Forest Service Project Cord.	175.000	39.000	HRS	0.00	6,825.00	6,825.00
	Other-Project Administrator	70.000	25.000	HRS	0.00	1,750.00	1,750.00
	Other-Grant Administrator	70.000	25.000	HRS	0.00	1,750.00	1,750.00
	Total for Staff				0.00	31,725.00	31,725.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
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Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
2	Contracts					
3	Materials / Supplies					
	Other-Chainsaw Replacement Chains	6.000	25.000	EA	150.00	150.00
	Other-Chainsaw Fuel and Bar Oil	1.000	250.000	EA	250.00	250.00
	Other-Project Fuel	1.000	500.000	PKG	500.00	500.00
	Other-Personal Protective Equipment	1.000	150.000	SET	150.00	150.00
	Other-Rock Riprap provided by F.S.	40.000	30.000	EA	0.00	1,200.00
	Other-Route Signs provided by F.S.	70.000	15.000	EA	0.00	1,050.00
	Total for Materials / Supplies				1,050.00	2,250.00
4	Equipment Use Expenses					
	Equipment Rental Notes : ATV Quad Use (4)	96.000	50.000	DAY	4,800.00	4,800.00
	Equipment Rental Notes : UTV support vehicle use (1)	24.000	75.000	DAY	1,800.00	1,800.00
	Equipment Rental Notes : Mini Excavator Rental Estimates quoted from local dealerships.	1.000	2520.000	MOS	2,520.00	2,520.00
	Equipment Rental Notes : Skid Steer Rental Estimates quoted from local dealerships.	1.000	2150.000	MOS	2,150.00	2,150.00
	Equipment Rental Notes : Equipment Trailer Rental	1.000	400.000	MOS	400.00	400.00
	Equipment Rental	15.000	25.000	DAY	375.00	375.00

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Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
Notes : Support vehicle for Rental Equipment						
Other-Forest Service Vehicle FOR Rate Notes : Forest Service support vehicle provided to the Stewards of the Sierra National Forest for project activities. Cost include vehicle monthly cost for use.	24.000	8.860	DAY	0.00	213.00	213.00
Other-Forest Service Vehicle Use Rate Notes : Forest Service support vehicle provided to the Stewards of the Sierra National Forest for project activities. Cost include vehicle milage cost for use.	2400.000	0.510	MI	0.00	1,224.00	1,224.00
Other-Forest Service Coord. Vechicle FOR Notes : Forest Service Laison/Project coordinator vehicle. Cost include vehicle monthly cost for use.	30.000	8.860	DAY	0.00	266.00	266.00
Other-Forest Service Coord. Vehicle Use Notes : Forest Service Laison/Project coordinator vehicle. Cost include vehicle mileage cost for use.	3000.000	0.510	MI	0.00	1,530.00	1,530.00
Other-Equipment Insurance	1.000	500.000	YR	500.00	0.00	500.00
Total for Equipment Use Expenses				12,545.00	3,233.00	15,778.00
5 Equipment Purchases						
Other-Northern, ATV Pull Behind Backhoe Notes : Estimates quoted from local dealerships	1.000	7000.000	EA	7,000.00	0.00	7,000.00
Other-ATV Pull Behind Trailer Notes : Estimates quoted from local dealerships	1.000	1600.000	EA	1,600.00	0.00	1,600.00
Other-4x4 Utility ATV Quad Notes : This cost estimate includes the purchase of a Yahama 4x4 utility quad with winch and skid plates. Estimates quoted from local dealerships.	1.000	11400.000	EA	11,400.00	0.00	11,400.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
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2/27/2010

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Total for Equipment Purchases				20,000.00	0.00	20,000.00
6	Others						
7	Indirect Costs						
	Indirect Costs-General Administration/Op Notes : These expenses are associated with office printing supplies, Web site maintenance, computer program updates, and mailing cost for fliers and informational updates.	1.000	1300.000	YR	1,300.00	0.00	1,300.00
	Total Program Expenses				34,895.00	37,208.00	72,103.00
	TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES				34,895.00	37,208.00	72,103.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES				34,895.00	37,208.00	72,103.00

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
 Agency: California Trail Users Coalition
 Application: Ground Operations-Roads/Trails 2009/2010 Maintenance by SotSNF (FINAL)

2/27/2010

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	0.00	31,725.00	31,725.00	
2	Contracts	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	1,050.00	2,250.00	3,300.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	12,545.00	3,233.00	15,778.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	20,000.00	0.00	20,000.00	<p>The Stewards of the Sierra National Forest is requesting funding to support equipment purchases that will assist in completing the maintenance tasks identified in this Ground Operations grant request. This equipment will maximize labor efficiency and is vital to complete maintenance activities that require placement of rock riprap for structures such as armored stream crossings, and placement of rock riprap at outlets of culverts, ditches, dips and water bars.</p> <p>Many drainage structure sites requiring rock riprap and armoring are not accessible by large pickups or dump trucks and require materials to be transported by small trailers and ATVs. Additionally this equipment will be used to assist in drainage structure repair and brush removal. The equipment purchase request includes: 1- ATV Pull Behind Backhoe, 1- Pull Behind ATV trailer, and 1- 4x4 ATV utility Quad.</p>
6	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	
7	Indirect Costs	1,300.00	0.00	1,300.00	

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
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2/27/2010

Total Program Expenses	34,895.00	37,208.00	72,103.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES	34,895.00	37,208.00	72,103.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	34,895.00	37,208.00	72,103.00	

Environmental Review Data Sheet (ERDS)

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ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

ITEM 1

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? Yes No
(Please select Yes or No)

ITEM 2

- b. Does the proposed Project include a request for funding for CEQA and/or NEPA document preparation prior to implementing the remaining Project Deliverables (i.e., is it a two-phased Project pursuant to Section 4970.06.1(b)) (Please select Yes or No) Yes No

ITEM 3 - Project under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378

- c. ITEM 3 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? Yes No
(Please select Yes or No)
- d. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) Yes No
- e. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 4 – 10

ITEM 4 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

As stated in the NEPA documentation (see attached Decision Memo), the environmental impact of the proposed action is minimal, and the project is categorically excluded from documentation by Environmental Assessment (EA) or an Environmental Impact Statement (IES) under the authority of actions identified in the Washington Office Amendment to FSH 1909.15, Environmental Policy and Procedures Handbook, Chapter 30, Categorical Exclusion from Documentation, effective July 6, 2004 (FSH 1909.15-2004-3). Limited operating periods (LOP) and BMPs (Watershed Quality Management for National Forest System Lands in California Best - Management Practices September 2000) have been established to reduce or eliminate impacts to sensitive species and their habitat. Where wetlands and navigable waters exist within the project boundaries, the project activities will reduce sediment travel and improve water quality.

ITEM 5 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

As stated in Item 4, the environmental impact of the proposed action is minimal. The cumulative impact of the proposed action is also minimal. As stated in the NEPA documentation (see attached Decision Memo), the project is tiered to and consistent with direction in the Sierra National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan as amended.

ITEM 6 - Soil Impacts

No, the project activities will improve the soil erosion conditions and help retain topsoil.

ITEM 7 - Damage to Scenic Resources

The scenic resources will be unaffected by the proposed actions.

ITEM 8 - Hazardous Materials

Environmental Review Data Sheet (ERDS) for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
Applicant: California Trail Users Coalition
Application: Ground Operations-Roads/Trails 2009/2010 Maintenance by SotSNF (FINAL)

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) Yes No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

ITEM 9 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) Yes No

Discuss the potential for the proposed Project to have any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources.

All project proposals have been reviewed by Forest Service Cultural Resource Specialist. No potential adverse impacts were identified as a result of project activities.

ITEM 10 - Indirect Significant Impacts

The project activities are expected to result in continued and increased use of OHV trails, roads and facilities on the Sierra NF. However, the project activities will maintain and improve these areas in order to eliminate significant impacts and accommodate increased use. (Refer to attached Decision Memo).

CEQA/NEPA Attachment

Attachments:

[SNF Compliance & Agreement documentation](#)
[SNF NEPA Project Decision Memo](#)

Evaluation Criteria

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1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the cost of the Project covered by the Applicant is 5

(Note: This field will auto-populate once the Cost Estimate and Evaluation Criteria are Validated.) (Please select one from list)

- 76% or more (10 points)
 51% - 75% (5 points)
 26% - 50% (3 points)
 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

2. Failure to Complete - Q 2.

2. Failure to complete the Project would result in: 8

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 8 points (Please select applicable values)

- Loss of OHV Opportunity (6 points)
 Negative impact to cultural sites (2 points)
 Damage to special-status species or other sensitive habitat (2 points)
 Potential trespass (2 points)
 Additional damage to Facilities (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

This work is focused on Forest Service system roads that provide popular OHV riding opportunities and are critical to connecting OHV riding areas. The reductions of the Forest Service road maintenance budget have caused the Forest to focus on primary access roads. The proposed program of work is on secondary roads which are deteriorating and are quickly brushing over. Lack of proper road maintenance has led to drainage structure failure and water quality degradation. Brush encroachment on some roads has begun to restrict access. These roads will be not be useable without proposed maintenance. As a result fewer riding areas will be available causing adverse environmental impacts to an over used system and an increased potential for unauthorized use on closed areas and trespass on private lands. This project will improve OHV access, water quality ,signage,reduce unauthorized use, potential for trespass, and enhance the OHV riding experience on the Sierra National Forest.

3. Sustain OHV Opportunity - Q 3.

3. The Project would sustain OHV Opportunity by 13

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- Maintaining trail or road tread (5 points)
 Installing or repairing erosion control features (3 points)
 Providing traffic control and/or educational signage (3 points)
 Maintaining multi use (ATV, Dirt Bikes, 4x4, etc) (1 point)
 Providing varied levels of riding difficulty (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

The lack of proper road maintenance has led to drainage structure failure and water quality degradation. The result is loss of surface materials to maintain adequate tread that will support motorized use. This project will insure all drainage structures (erosion control features) are in place and functional. This includes water-bar & dip repair, tread repair, surface armoring at stream approaches, culvert cleaning & placement of rip-rap materials at discharge points.

Route markers will be installed at entrances of roads and trails to assist the OHV user in Forest orientation & improve the ability for the Forest to communicate to the OHV user where to recreate. Route sign materials will be provided by the Land Manager. These routes provide opportunities for 4x4, dirt bikes & ATVs at all skill levels ranging from technical difficulties to scenic touring. OHV use ranges from single day rides to summer family vacations staying at popular campgrounds for staging & enjoying other recreational activities.

4. Public Input - Q 4.

4. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- Publicly noticed meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)
 Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)
 Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

Phone calls and emails were made between members of various organizations including the California Trail Users Coalition, Stewards of the Sierra National Forest a division of CTUC, California Off Road Vehicle Association, Central California Quad Riders and the Sierra National Forest. The focus of discussions were route selection and the development of project proposals for this application. Public contacts were made by E-mail notification and meeting postings on web-site home page.

Meetings were (and continue to be) held on several occasions with members of the Stewards of the Sierra National Forest and Sierra National Forest. The focus of the meetings were route selection and development of the 2010 Plan of Operation, and other project proposals related to this application.

5. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 5.

5. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- 4 or more (4 points) 2 to 3 (2 points)
 1 (1 point) None (No points)

List partner organization(s):

U.S. Forest Service, Riders Under the Sun, Central California Quad Riders, Salinas Ramblers.

6. Impact to Natural and Cultural Resources - Q 6.

6. The Project will avoid and/or minimize impact to natural and cultural resources by 3

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 7 points (Please select applicable values)

- Maintaining physical barriers to control OHV use (1 point)
 Protecting water quality (1 point)
 Providing bridges instead of wet crossings where appropriate (1 point)
 Protecting special-status species (1 point)
 Re-routing trails to divert away from riparian/wetlands areas (1 point)
 Providing sanitary facilities (1 point)
 Protecting cultural site(s) (1 point)

- Site design precludes the need for the above measures (7 points)

Explain each statement that was checked

Maintaining physical barriers to control OHV use: Project objectives include removal of brush encroachment and downed logs and debris that would cause bypass trails off designated routes. This project will remove these obstructions and eliminate efforts to create bypass trails off designated routes.

Protecting water quality: Project objectives will improve water quality by restoring & maintaining drainage structures. Where appropriate; culverts may be installed to eliminate wet crossings.

Providing bridges instead of wet crossings where appropriate: Site design will determine drainage type of structure used for natural wet crossings. Structure type includes culverts, wood, and concrete block materials.

7. Recycled Materials - Q 7.

7. The Project incorporates recycled materials by utilizing 3

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- Barrier materials which include recycled content or materials obtained onsite (1 point)
 Signs, sign posts or education kiosks which use products with recycled content (1 point)
 Erosion control features which use materials with recycled content (1 point)
 Paper used for trail maps which includes recycled content (1 point)
 Other products with recycled content (Specify) (1 point)

8. Sustainable Technologies - Q 8.

8. The Project makes substantial use of sustainable technologies such as 0

- Alternative fuel vehicles and equipment
- Renewable energy sources (e.g., solar, wind)
- Low volatile organic compound emission materials (e.g., paint, sealants, carpet)
- Low flow plumbing fixtures
- Water efficient landscaping

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- No (No points) Yes (4 points)

Explain 'Yes' response

9. Motorized Access - Q 9.

9. The Project improves and/or maintains facilities that provide motorized access to the following non-motorized recreation opportunities 6

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each, up to a maximum of 6 points (Please select applicable values)

- Camping Birding
 Hiking Equestrian trails
 Fishing Rock Climbing
 Other (Specify) [Shuteye lookout vista point, Mountain Bike riding]