OFF HIGHWAY MOTOR VEHICLE INFORMATION BULLETIN

FOR CALIFORNIA LAW ENFORCEMENT

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Assembly Bill 232 Passed by CA State Legislature on September 3, 2021

CA OHV NON-RESIDENT PERMIT REQUIRED FOR OHVs VISITING FROM STATES THAT DO NOT HONOR CALIFORNIA OHV IDENTIFICATION (Green or Red Sticker)

The purpose of this Off-Highway Motor Vehicle (OHV) Information Bulletin is to inform you of amendments to Section 38010 (b)(10) of the California Vehicle Code that will change which states will not have their Off-Highway Vehicle Registrations/Permits honored on public lands in California **beginning January 1, 2022.**

The CA Vehicle Code will limit access to public OHV lands when the visitor's home state limits CA residents visiting that state. CA Vehicle Code Section 38010 (b)(10) was amended to exempt from CA OHV identification: "A motor vehicle with a currently valid identification or registration permit issued by another state**, if the other state recognizes an identification plate or device issued by the department pursuant to subdivision (a) as valid for use in that state."**

Background: Existing law requires every off-highway motor vehicle that is not registered on the highway under the CA Vehicle Code to display an off-highway identification plate or device issued by the California Department of Motor Vehicles, with certain exceptions, including an off-highway motor vehicle with a currently valid identification or registration from another state. Basically, if a state has an OHV program that provides some form of current OHV identification, like our Green or Red sticker, then that OHV is eligible to recreate on California Public Lands.

Discussion: In recent years some states have passed laws that no longer recognize CA OHV identification (Green or Red Sticker) in their states and instead require visitors from CA to purchase that state's OHV non-resident permit/sticker. The table below identifies those states. Assembly Bill 232 will level the playing field and allow the above privilege **only** if the other state recognizes an OHV identification plate or device (Green or Red Sticker) issued by the California Department of Motor Vehicles as valid for OHV recreational use in that state.

Example 1 – The State of Arizona has stopped honoring the OHV identification/permits from all other states. Arizona now requires OHV recreationists from every state to purchase an Arizona non-resident permit. With the passage of AB 232, residents of Arizona will be required to purchase a CA OHV Non-Resident Permit to recreate on public lands in California **regardless**

of their home state registration status and residents of California must purchase an AZ OHV Non-Resident Permit when visiting AZ with an OHV.

Example 2 - Nevada, on the other hand, recognizes other states registered/certified OHVs (as long as they limit visits to 15 days) resulting in reciprocity with California. The CA Vehicle Code will continue to allow currently registered Nevada OHV owners to recreate with their off-highway equipment on public lands without an additional CA OHV Non-Resident Permit.

Local, state, and federal law enforcement officers who are enforcing CA OHV laws (Division 16.5 of the CA Vehicle Code) will need to know or have available a current list of which states do not allow reciprocity with California for OHV registration/identification purposes.

These states require CA resident visitors to purchase their Non-Resident Permits and therefore visitors from those states to CA will be required to purchase a CA OHV Non-Resident Permit (Red Highlighted):

States	OHV registration	OHV permit
Arizona	Required	Non-resident permit required
Colorado	Req. all public lands	In State or out of State Street Legal vehicles and OHVs must purchase an OHV Permit
Idaho	OHV permit	Non-resident permit required
Montana	Required	Non-resident permit required
Nevada	Req. all public lands	Non-resident is only required if usage/stay will be 15 days or longer
New Mexico	Required	NM will recognize a CA OHV registration unless CA OHV owner wishes to ride OHV on authorized paved roads because CA has no registration equivalent to NM special OHV paved-road permit Reciprocity + non-resident permit for paved roads No Non-Resident permits are currently being issued due to Corona Virus Office Closures
Oregon	Required	OR recognizes the CA OHV identification (green/red sticker) for off-highway vehicles, however all vehicles require a permit, so street legal must also get an ATV permit if they want to drive on OHV trails Req. for all plated vehicles wanting to use the Oregon trails on public lands

`Texas	Required on all public lands and any lands receiving OHV grant monies	All OHV users must purchase an OHV Decal to ride in TX
Utah	Required	Not required for passenger vehicles Non-Resident permit Required for all OHVs
Washington	Permits required	Non-resident permit not required if Possessing a valid CA OHV permit/sticker
Wyoming	Required	Non-Resident Permit Required

OHMVR Division staff will update the division website to include this OHV Information Bulletin as well as adding the information to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section.

For further clarification contact Superintendent Mark Hada, Visitor Services Manager, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division HQ at 916-475-8138.