



American Sand Association / GlamisOnline.org  
PMB 108  
1911 Foothill Blvd.  
La Verne, CA 91750

## **ASA Newsletter 9-18-00**

Many of you want to get up to speed on the issues and want to know what changes and improvements to expect next season but just don't have the time to view all the pages on our site. To help you out of that dilemma, we're starting these newsletters.

If you just can't wait for a newsletter, you can always go to The "What's New" Page at any time for all the latest.

### **IMPROVEMENTS AT THE DUNES:**

There are new restrooms at the dunes. Check out [http://www.glamisonline.org/restrooms/new\\_restrooms.htm](http://www.glamisonline.org/restrooms/new_restrooms.htm) for details and pictures.

**Gordon's Well Road:** Green Sticker money was used to put 18" of base from where the pavement ends by the dumpsters. We now have a nice gravel road all the way over the canal bridge down into Dune Buggy Flats where it fans out into a huge area – no more getting stuck there.

**The Herman Schneider Memorial Bridge** is started. Mobilize Oct. 11-17, Start work Oct 18, Complete work Nov. 20. Pre casting has already begun. It will be placed in conjunction with the Gordon's Well Bridge and go over the canal thus connecting the dunes south of the canal with the dunes north of Hwy 8. The existing bridge over the freeway will become joint use for OHVs and highway vehicles. This is being done with Green Sticker funds. Hopefully this will finally be the completion of a two year project that has stretched out for twelve years for a number of reasons.

**Pads 3 & 4** are being repaired – no more getting stuck there for a while. This is being done with Green sticker funds.

**The Wash road** will see the bringing in of base material and a lot more grading. This improvement will be from Hwy 78 and go about 3 miles in – or about wash 15. This is being done with fee demo money.

**Convict fire crews will resume trash pickups as their time allows when the fire season ends in November. We get 20-30 convicts for an 8-hour day for around \$80. Can't beat that.**

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT:**

**Our fee demo money bought 6 brand new quads for the Law Enforcement personnel to ride. They have blue and red lights, siren, and radio. You can see a picture at [http://www.glamisonline.org/Temp/le\\_quads.htm](http://www.glamisonline.org/Temp/le_quads.htm)**

**If you see a ranger "lighting you up" on the dunes, you had better pull over. These are sworn personnel and have full authority ON A FEDERAL LEVEL in the dunes. They are real cops in every way. The CHP and Imperial County Sheriff will also have use of the quads.**

**A common sense enforcement approach is going to be used. That is to say that their major thrust will be to go after as many major offenses as practical.**

**Regarding open container laws: The letter of the law and the spirit of the law are 2 different things. Technically, if you have an alcoholic container in a locked compartment on your OHV, you are legal. A locked compartment is one that is secured by a lock requiring a combination or a key.**

**Now, the rangers know we have a trash problem and know we don't lock our ice chests. They would rather see you take the trash back to camp instead of littering the dunes. **No open container violations have ever been written by the El Centro law enforcement rangers for an empty container, glass or otherwise, that was in an ice chest. I don't expect there will be. So, no excuses! If you had room to Pack it in, you can Pack it out – it's that simple.****

**This is not to say that if you are sitting in your buggy drinking a beer that you will not be cited – you most probably will. If you are showing signs of DUI – you will be in trouble.**

**So, be smart. Drink responsibly and don't give them a reason to cite you. It makes us all look bad.**

**Passes: Enforcement for more fee compliance will now be a reality. The solution is simple: buy a pass and get it over with. There are numerous machines throughout the area. They vend a receipt similar to what you get at the gas pump. If it is a yearly pass, you will need to redeem it for the mirror hanger version at the ranger station, the BLM El Centro Office, or through the mail. Instructions are on it. You don't have to redeem it right away, but the sooner the better. If you want, you can get one mail order from Universal Parking by calling 877-415-1381. It will cost you an extra \$1 to do it that way.**

## **DUNES ISSUES:**

**There are 4 major issues at this time. More can pop up at any time.**

**1) Dunes closure:** due to the nature and amount of information regarding the closure of riding area at the dunes, please go to [www.GlamisOnLine.org/Glamis\\_Board](http://www.GlamisOnLine.org/Glamis_Board) to get all the latest.

**2) TRASH.** I am very happy to report that many smaller cleanups are springing up – we like to call them Quickie Cleanups. We are supporting the people behind them and their efforts 100%. You can find out times and places on our site by viewing <http://www.glamisonline.org/quickies.htm> .

When we see a hole in the schedule, the ASA will get one going. If you would like to start one, contact us at [GlamisOnLine@earthlink.net](mailto:GlamisOnLine@earthlink.net) and we will promote it on the web site. If we have enough of them, the dunes should stay fairly clean.

**3) Removing the bad element:** The law enforcement presence will be greatly stepped up so that the bad element will be subdued, arrested, or convinced to party elsewhere. Many law enforcement person-hours will be devoted to restoring our enjoyment of the dunes as families. We are finally taking back our dunes.

To show our support for the law at the dunes, we encourage everyone to mount a checkered flag on their whip. We believe that by showing community support for law enforcement personnel and a dislike for lawlessness, the rowdies will think twice before doing anything that will hurt our sport. We will have about 200 whips with an orange flag at the top and a checkered flag below it at the Sand Show in October. A donation to the ASA will be appreciated.

### **4) The upcoming Recreation Area Management Plan (RAMP):**

The ASA attended the TRT meeting held 8/24/00. One of the topics was the report from Justin Cole (off road representative to the RAMP committee, SDORC, and TRT member).

If you have forgotten or didn't know, the RAMP is the Recreation Area Management Plan that the BLM will use for the next 5 to 10 years to run the dunes. (See <http://www.glamisonline.org/ramp.htm> for more details than you'll care to read.)

**His report stated the following:**

**They (the RAMP committee) are considering changing the way the dunes are managed including the following;**

- A) Current management**
- B) Recreation Enhancement\***
- C) Resource enhancement\***

- D) Blend of above\*
- E) Threshold\*

\* Will include some or all of the following: capacity studies, camping buffers, controlled access points, curfews and quiet hours, education in all areas, area closures.

Justin stated that "there will be lots of changes and it will not be business as usual."

The only one we want to see is "A" above. Any of the others leaves the door open for further changes.

What happens next? The draft of the new RAMP is due out in February. The off road leadership will be invited to a pre-screening of it. The ASA will be there. At that meeting, we will see what direction the RAMP is taking. From there, we will form opinions on how we, as a community, should respond.

This response will shape the final document. Keep in mind here that the job of the BLM is to manage federal lands in a balanced manner. If we fail to show them where the balance is, the balance will not be fair.

This is where you all come in. That will be the time for action. We will need everyone to send in a response in the form that suits you best. The GOL site will have all the information you need to make an intelligent response. We'll have a page that will help you compose and send an email, in your name, to the appropriate person. We have been told that emails will count as strongly as any hard copy response. This is a first for us.

That is why this season is the most critical for us. After the RAMP is put in place, it will be too late to influence major decisions.

This is why it is absolutely essential that everyone possible join the ASA by providing his or her email address. We will need to alert as many duners as possible. If all 1.2 million of us duners become united, informed and mobilized, we will wield incredible power. The Internet makes this a snap – we are fools if we do not use it.

The more input we give the BLM, the more power we have. We must speak as a united voice. Tell everyone you can to get on board. Memberships are free, but donations are what have kept us going this far.

The ASA is planning a massive flyer distribution at the dunes this season. We need to do this to get the word out. Be on the lookout for opportunities to help the cause in your email in box.

Unbelievably, that's things is a nutshell.

**One final Note:** It goes without saying for whom we are voting in the upcoming election. You can view a page on the GOL site that shows you OHV friendly candidates that you might want to vote for at [http://www.glamisonline.org/voter\\_guide.htm](http://www.glamisonline.org/voter_guide.htm). We have the California League of Off Road Voters to thank for this information - it took a lot of work on their part to send each candidate a questionnaire and tally the responses.

Sorry, we have information only for California. If any of you have done the research and can provide us with a list for other states, we'd love to put it on the web.

The ASA is supported by the following Businesses and organizations. In no particular order, they are:

San Diego Off Road Coalition  
ATV Racing  
California League of Off Road Voters  
Sand Sports Magazine  
Team AZ Power Sports  
Chips and Salsa  
Gear One  
Chaparral  
Sand Sports Super Show  
Team Champion  
Boardmanville  
Hinson Racing  
Tatum Motor Sports  
Weekend Concepts

CORVA  
Sand Tires Unlimited  
Predator Sand Cars  
Sand Limo  
Screwie Lewie's  
Fastco  
ExtremeBuggies.Com  
Progressive Trailers  
Race Graphix  
Sand Times Magazine  
PEP Shocks  
Mendeola Racing  
Joe's Off Road  
KAR TEK  
Rancho Performance

Funco  
Nickell Metal Spray  
KCVW  
Southwest 4WD  
ITP  
Sand Cars Unlimited  
Pro Design  
Outcast Gear Inc  
The Buggy Shop  
Alumi Craft  
Team Apache  
Extreme Buggies Mfg  
Yarnell Specialties  
Cycle Parts West