American Sand Association Inc.
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American Sand Association
"IN THE DUNES"

Volume 8 Issue 2
May 2008

Unite, Inform, and Mobilize

BLM to Revise Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Management Plan

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announced it will initiate an amendment to the California Desert District Conservation Area Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area in Imperial County, California. A revised recreation management plan (RAMP) is needed to replace the existing management plan which has been in place since 1987 and has become outdated as a result of the federal listing of and designation of critical habitat for Peirson's milk-vetch as a threatened species, designation of the North Algodones Dunes as wilderness, and substantial changes in visitor use.

This announcement begins the scoping process which invites public participation and schedules public meetings. All public meetings will be announced through the local news media, newsletters, and the BLM Web site (http://www.blm.gov/ca) at least 15 days prior to the event. Written comments and resource information should be submitted within 30 calendar days of the last scheduled public scoping meeting. Public scoping meetings will be held in San Diego and El Centro California as well as Phoenix, Arizona in order to ensure local community participation and input.

A previous 2005 RAMP was set aside by a Federal Court order in 2006 and remanded to BLM for further action, as was the previous U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) critical habitat designation. On February 14, 2008, the FWS published a final rule revising critical habitat for the federally threatened Peirson's milk-vetch. Steven Borchard, BLM Desert District manager, previously stated that it would be in the public interest to await completion of the revised final critical habitat rule before initiating revision of the RAMP.

"We anticipate an accelerated schedule for preparing the EIS and the revised RAMP for public review, given the tremendous amount of data and public input on the earlier documents," Borchard said. "BLM and the FWS will continue to closely coordinate on development of alternatives for the revised RAMP as we have in the past. We will be seeking the public's input as well as we embark on this planning process."

Comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the El Centro Field Office during normal working hours (7:45 AM to 4:15 PM, except holidays), and may be published as part of the EIS or other related documents. The planning documents and direct supporting record for the analysis and RAMP will be available for inspection at the El Centro Field Office during normal working hours. Historical records may also be posted on the BLM internet site to facilitate public access.

Comments should be sent to Erin R. Dreyfuss, Planning and Environmental Coordinator, El Centro Field Office, California Desert District, Bureau of Land Management, 1661 South 4th Street, El Centro, CA 92243. To review the FWS revised final critical habitat rule, contact the Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office at 760-431-9440 or download the rule at: http://www.regulations.gov

Learn more about Critical Habitat on page 7.

Chairman Bill Jones accepting a check for $12,000 from Jagged X

2008 Jagged X Crash Event

Jagged Extreme held their annual event at the dunes on February 1st, 2nd & 3rd and if you missed it, you missed a great time! Along with their raffle for a custom Polaris Ranger RZR this had to be the largest side by side UTV gathering to date. Friends, customers and enthusiasts from all over Arizona, California and further were all in attendance.

Once again the Jagged X team topped their last generous donation to the ASA with this years check in the amount of $12,000. They presented the donation at the Jagged Extreme hosted ASA Info meeting in Phoenix on March 29. Thank You Jagged Extreme.

Read more about the info meeting on page 7.

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ASA Quarterly Newsletters
February
May
September
November

Editor:
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President's Message

By Bob Mason

Sadly, the ASA Benefit Golf Tournament scheduled for May 5, 2008 at the Black Gold Golf Course in Yorba Linda, California has been cancelled. The decision was made in collaboration between the ASA Board of Directors and ASA Golf Tournament Director Mike Wallace. This unfortunate decision was reached as the result of limited participation from the planned event sponsors, as well as golfers that support the event by registering for a round of golf with their friends. The lack of overall participation on all fronts is such that it is not feasible to hold the event this year. During the talks between the ASA Board Members and Mike Wallace, the possibility of having the tournament in 2009 was discussed but a date has not been set as of this time. The ASA would like to assure those of you that have sent in money for sponsorship and golf green fees that your money will be refunded promptly. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the ASA Board of Directors at: asaboard@asasand.org or you can contact Tournament Director Mike Wallace at : asagolf@sbcglobal.net . When the decision is made in regards to the date for the 2009 golf tournament, we will be sure to let you know.

"It Is Your Responsibility"

The OHV community image is important to us all. Whenever we read about OHV community misbehavior we lay it off on the other guy.

What responsibility do we accept? Take time out to ask yourself these questions.

- *What kind of an example do I set?*
- *Do I know the laws and rules that apply to my favorite riding area?*
- *Did you attend the Phoenix ASA Info Meeting?*
- *Will you attend the August Ontario or October San Diego Info Meetings?*
- *Do I allow my children to ride without adult supervision?*
- *Did you know that the supervising adult must be certified?*
- *Do you encourage your duning group to do the "Right Thing?"*

Peer Pressure Works
Step up and be Accountable
Encourage your Fellow Duners
to follow

YOUR EXAMPLE

As Always, thanks for your support,

President

Chairman's Report

By Bill Jones

I started riding motorcycles with my Dad when I was 9 years old. When I was 14 one of our motorcycle riding buddies invited us to a place called Pismo. After driving around in his 36HP tunnel buggy we were hooked. Three months latter we constructed our first dune buggy. My Dad was convinced that a Corvair engine was the way to go. I disagreed and we constructed a VW Funco Bandito later that same year for me. The Corvair verses VW rivalry continued through out the 25 years I duned with my Dad. During the years that followed we continued to ride motorcycles and dune buggies. Eventually we dropped the motorcycles and concentrated on dune buggies. All during these years my Dad and I built, tuned and repaired our buggies every weekend we weren't out duning. Every month My Dad, Mom, the dogs and I packed everything up and went dunng. The closeness and shared memories my family and I experienced have lasted a lifetime. Eventually my Dad quit dune buggies and I continued on duning. In 1978 I purchased my first 3 wheeler. It was a 750CC 3 cylinder Kawasaki 3 wheeler with no suspension. It was a terror to ride. Going fast and hitting a bump usually meant an unexpected change in direction. Sometimes this was a good thing and sometimes not so good. It duned like a guided missle, without the guidance part. I would alternate between the Kawi and my buggy. My Dad mentioned to me the next year since I was about to become a father for the first time, maybe that 750CC death trap was not the most responsible thing to ride. I agreed and sold the Kawasaki and built a 400CC Husqvarna 3 wheeler in its place. This one had the front suspension from a Yamaha YZ80 and a rear shock so it was easier and safer to ride. My Dad was not impressed and continued to remind me to ride safe. Eventually I bought another buggy, a 1985 Honda 250R, then a Yamaha Banshee, and finally I graduated to my current ride, a Honda V-6 Funco.

I want to get serious now. I brought up my duning history to illustrate that I, like many of you, were off roading at an early age. My two sons started riding at 5 years old, which is even earlier than I did. I have never felt such a profound sadness in my heart and spirit as I have right now writing this article. This year has seen a dramatic increase in fatal accidents to minors at Glamis. This fact has not gone unnoticed by our State legislatures and those who wish to deny us our riding rights. New legislation is already in the works to stiffen the existing laws against minors riding unsupervised. Our eco-enemies are using these tragic deaths against us as another reason to ban riding altogether. Even though statistically the off road accident rate is lower than soccer, football, bicycling or even mowing the lawn.* We have always been, and always will be, under attack by outside forces.

Product Group	CPSC** estimates 2006
ATVs, under 16 yrs	39,300
Baseball, Softball	274,867
Football	460,210
Bicycle, Mountain Bike	490,434
** Consumer Product Safety Commission	

*** Each year, nearly 80,000 Americans require hospital treatment from injuries caused by lawn movers, according to a study conducted by researchers at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.**

Let us not ignore the greatest loss of all. Off roading is a family sport for most of us. We bring our wives, kids, grandchildren, pets, friends and neighbors to the dunes to enjoy a very unique sport that is unlike any other experience. I have experienced the trauma and family disintegration that can occur when a child is fatally injured off roading. One of the families I used to dune with lost their daughter at Glamis. The pain and anguish is horrible and has devastating effects. Think about what you need to do to keep everyone safe and do it. Their lives depend on <u>you</u> to keep them safe. Think about <u>safety</u>, think about <u>kids</u>.

Chairman of the Board

WHAT IS THE ASA?

The ASA is the lead organization fighting to keep the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area (ISDRA) open to OHV use. We are a nonprofit California corporation under the IRS Tax Code known as 501(c)(4). Leaders of the ASA are volunteers.

The ASA has joined with the Off Road Business Association (ORBA), San Diego Off-Road Coalition (SDORC), American Motorcycle Associaton (AMA District 37) to fund EcoLogic Partners Inc. Ecologic has filed lawsuits against the Bureau of Land Management and the Fish and Wildlife Service and has standing in other lawsuits affecting the ISDRA. We stand poised to oppose any legal actions brought by any anti-access groups that would prevent the new Recreation Area Management Plan from being implemented. This plan would remove some of the closures entirely and grant conditional access to others.

In addition to our legal actions, we filed a precedent-setting delisting petition to remove the Peirson's Milk Vetch from the Endangered Species List. This plant was used to create the closures put in place in 2000. These closures total over 49,000 acres of sand dunes and are located south of Highway 78, south of Highway 8, and at Mammoth Wash.

Our delisting petition is based on good, solid science derived from biological studies paid for by the ASA, ORBA, and SDORC. This science cost over $180,000 so far and we are budgeting for more. Our efforts don't stop there. We have two lobbyists on retainer: one in Washington D.C. and the other in Sacramento.

We have made several trips to Washington D.C. and Sacramento to present our case and plan to make several more. Our Public Safety and Education makes us known as a group that is not only interested in a World Class duning experience, but Stewards of the land and its resources: a very good connection with the current administration.

The ASA has received the US Dept. of Interior's 4C's Award, recognizing our organization's commitment to working with the Bureau and others to enhance recreational conservation on public lands in Southern California.

ASA Continues Fight to Re-Open Public Land

ASA Press Release - March 2008

This release is aimed at informing ISDRA visitors, as well as all outdoor recreation enthusiasts, about how the extreme environmental activists continue to use tactics that appeal to emotion, while ignoring scientific evidence that currently exists, in an attempt to keep the temporary closures in place at the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area.

Environmental Activists appeal to Emotion, Ignore Science

As the 2007-08 Dune Season draws to a close, thousands of families have visited the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area (ISDRA) this year. While there are still no on-the-ground changes as of yet, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) recently opened the way for a new Recreation Area Management Plan (RAMP) to be drafted by finalizing its habitat designation for Peirson's Milk Vetch (PMV). This designation is based on the past seven years of intensive study on PMV by several different scientists, as well as an economic impact study as required by the Endangered Species Act.

Officials from the Center for Biological Diversity (CBD), Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER), Desert Survivors, and the Sierra Club unjustifiably claim, "the critical habitat does not allow for an adequate recovery plan of the plant" and that the USFWS's Economic Analysis published January 10, 2008, is, "fraudulent and does not take into account all the costs involved."

Further, they label the latest, peer approved plant data as "junk science." These same organizations offered no scientific data of their own in support of such staunch claims. They simply made their claim in expectation that it would be believed without verification. They have, in fact, filed notice of intent to sue and waste more taxpayer money on a needless lawsuit in an attempt to hold up the RAMP.

Until all of these issues are resolved, and the new RAMP is in place, the American Sand Association (ASA) is reminding all dune users to abide by the existing closures, to pack out their trash, and to obey the traffic laws in the dunes. For more information on the rules at the dunes, please visit the ASA website at: www.americansandassociation.org or the Bureau of Land Management website at: www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/elcentro/recreation/ohvs/isdra/dunesinfo.html

Pierson's Milk Vetch Final Critical Habitat Designation - What does it all mean?

What is Critical Habitat [CH]?

Under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, the United States Fish & Wildlife Service [USFWS] holds the responsibility to designate CH [point out areas that are notably important habitat] for the listed species. The designation of CH is one of the first steps in the process to opening the temporarily closed areas.

What are the next steps?

The BLM will compose the Recreational Area Management Plan [RAMP] which outlines how the CH area will be administered. While the ASA has requested that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) expedite this process, the BLM has expressed reluctance as they want to be sure it is done in a manner that the court will approve it. The draft RAMP is currently scheduled to be completed within a year from now.

After the draft RAMP is released by the BLM they will have a Public Comment Period and hold a Hearing to record the Public Opinions.

After the comment period is complete, the BLM needs to do a Section 7 Consultation with the USFWS to confirm that the RAMP will not adversely affect the Pierson's Milk Vetch (PMV) plant.

Does this mean that more land will be closed off?

Although CH does not equate to closure of the land, look at it like it could be a closure. The reason for that is that there could be a lawsuit on the PMV claiming that the BLM is not doing enough to protect the plant. While the ASA has provided scientific data in support of the fact that the plant is not endangered nor even threatened, getting the court to concur is a separate challenge. In light of a lawsuit, closing the CH areas to OHV's is the easiest thing for the BLM to do. This action would justify to the Court that the BLM have protected all the areas that the FWS has deemed 'critical'. For this reason, its a very big deal to the ASA that the areas in the Gecko Management Area were excluded from the CH area.

What can you do to help?

We will need the proactive involvement of our membership and our Business Sponsors, responding with comments to the draft RAMP. This is the duners only opportunity to affect the Court's final rule.

Support the ASA

and win this EXTREME PERFORMANCE ECO II

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Drawing will be held at the
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September 21st, 2008

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The ASA would like to acknowledge that this is the second giveaway car built by Extreme Performance

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All proceeds to benefit the ASA General Fund
*Visit the ASA website at **www.asasand.com** for more information*

Must be 18 years of age to enter and win
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Or Call: 888-540-SAND

Winners need not be present!

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>>> LEGISLATIVE REPORT <<<

By Vicki Cossey

For those of you in California, many of you may have received your "Green Sticker" registration renewals in the mail and have noticed the increase in your registration fees. This was one of the results that came from the negotiation of the legislation that governs the Off Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division of California State Parks. The new funding structure will bring much needed changes to the program.

Also, the California League of Off Road Voters (CLORV) held their 14th Annual Off Road Lobby Day on Monday, April 7th at the State Capitol in Sacramento. We had a great turnout from the OHV Community. A huge Thank You to all of those that attended!

In the online version of this newsletter you will find more information regarding our Green Stickers, Lobby Day as well as the new legislation we're facing this year. That legislation will put even more restrictions on our children riding ATVs based on age and engine "cc" size. We all want to protect our children but each child comes with a different set of riding skills and physical size. Riding an undersized OHV is just as dangerous as an oversized one. Read more about it Online.

For more information, contact Vicki Cossey at:
legislativeaffairs@americansandassociation.org

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The California League of Off Road Voters

The California League of Off Road Voters Inc. (CLORV) is a coordinating and educational umbrella organization dedicated to keeping existing off road motorized recreation opportunities open.

The newly expanded membership of CLORV Inc. includes: the American Motorcycle Association D-36, American Motorcycle Association D-37, American Motorcycle Association-National, American Sand Association, California Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs, California Nevada Snowmobile Association, California Off Road Vehicle Association, Friends of Oceano Dunes, Off-Road Business Association, and the San Diego Off-Road Coalition, all working together for a common cause.

In order to elect more OHV friendly candidates to state offices, CLORV has formed a state level political action committee (PAC) to endorse candidates, donate money and provide volunteers to off highway friendly legislators and candidates. This is where you come in; The organizations making up CLORV cannot donate directly to candidates. This must come from the grass roots level, YOU. Several of the races in the last primaries were won by candidates who attribute their success to the OHV community! This is fantastic, as it is these people who will remember us when they get into office. So help support our sport by completing the form to the left and sending in a donation today.

Every dollar helps, no donation is too small!

www.CLORV.org

WHAT'S LEGAL! – WHAT'S NOT?

Two hundred OHV enthusiasts attended a Jagged Extreme hosted ASA Info meeting in Phoenix on March 29. The following spokespeople were in attendance to answer questions about the laws and rules that apply to OHV recreation at the Imperial Sand Dunes and on the trails and roads in Arizona and California.

Daphne Greene, CA State Parks, OHMVR Division – Moderator
Phil Jenkins, Ca State Parks, OHMVR Division
Tammy Pike, Tonto National Forest
Tim Holt, AZ Game and Fish
Mike Boxx, BLM El Centro Field Office
Neil Hamada, BLM El Centro Field Office
Scott Swanson, BLM Yuma Field Office
Ed Preciado, Imperial County Sheriff's Office
Quinn Palmer, US Border Patrol
Jeff Gursh, AZ OHV Coalition

Several questions were answered during the two hour session. All of the answers will be included in a later edition of the newsletter after the complete text has been reviewed and approved by the Round Table participants. The following comments were of particular interest.

Arizona duners were told that starting Jan. 1st of 2009 they will be required to have a non-resident sticker on their OHV's to operate in California if Arizona doesn't have their own OHV program by then. The cost of the non-resident California sticker will be $40 starting Jan. 1st of 2009. Jeff Gursh of the AZ OHV Coalition reported that AZ Senate Bill 1167 is an OHV Bill that would meet the requirements. If this Bill passes it will not only make a non-resident CA sticker unnecessary but will help keep trails in AZ open. The Imperial County Sheriff Office and the BLM said that they would accept the Ariz. RV plate as registration until Jan. 1st.

The Border Patrol was asked about the article in the L.A. Times suggesting that the Dunes be closed South of I-8. They said that this is not what they told the L.A. Times and that they did not plan on trying to get that area closed.

In addition to the Q and A program Jagged Extreme sponsored a Show and Shine event. BSSand.com Performance Suspension Seats and UTV Off-Road Magazine (formally Cart Wheeling) joined Jagged X as co-sponsors.

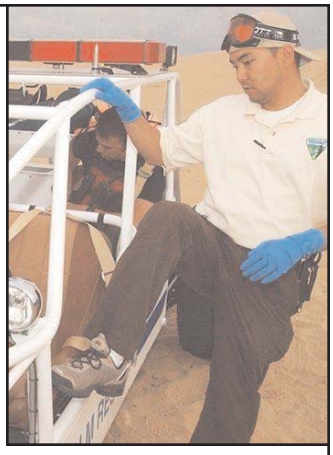
At the conclusion of the awards program Jagged X presented ASA a check for $12,000 that was collected as a result of the Jagged Crash event earlier this year at the Dunes. Contributions resulting from this popular event sponsored by Jagged X have totaled over $25,000 during the past three years. When you see Bill Schueler and his family out at the dunes be sure to thank them for their continued support of ASA.

Looking ahead a similar Info Meeting will be hosted by Suspensions Unlimited at their facility in Ontario, CA in August.

ASA Chairman Bill Jones presents retiring Board of Director member Nick McFayden a plaque for his outstanding volunteer efforts at the recent ORBA Show in Del Mar, CA.

Have a Great Summer!

From Neil Hamada, Dunes Manager



May brings the end to another Dune season. I hope yours was a safe one! As usual, the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area (ISDRA) has had our fair share of challenges. On the other hand, we have also had our fair share of successes. Here are a few topics from the past season you can discuss with your friends over the summer.

- **BLM announced the intent to write a new management plan for the dunes,**
- **The Border Patrol announced a no tolerance policy on border crossing in the dunes,**
- **There will be an adjustment to the cost of the dunes permits, they will stay the same if purchased off-site, but cost more in the dunes,**
- **Visitation is down by 7%**
- **The BLM constructed a new ranger station in the Buttercup area (mostly funded through non-fee dollars) and it will have a medical room for visitors open next season,**
- **SB742 passed and we hope the changes will bring more of your Green Sticker Dollars to the Dunes,**
- **So far, we have responded to 560 requests for medical assistance, which is down 18%, but there were still 13 fatalities associated with OHV activities in the Dunes,**
- **The Competition Hill curfew remains in place,**
- **The 49,617 acre administrative closure remains in place while BLM writes a new plan,**
- **Critical habitat for Pierson's Milk-vetch has been finalized,**
- **The BLM has begun our insect and Pierson's Milk-vetch pollinator study,**
- **A new partnership has formed to assist the BLM with emergency medical service in the dunes called Kris "Chili Dog" Frick Foundation and El Centro Regional Medical Center, Pioneer Memorial Hospital, Gold Cross Ambulance Service, United Desert Gateway, and GlamisWeather.com have joined forces to improve services.**
- **The L.A. Sanitation waste facility will open next season, northeast of Glamis,**
- **The All American Canal Lining Project is well under way which temporarily impacts OHV access over the Herman Schneider Memorial Bridge,**
- **The construction of a new canal will begin soon in the Gordons Well area,**
- **Coachella Valley Water District closed access on their canal roads,**
- **BLM announced our intent to request a proposal to contract fee collection next season,**
- **Dune clean ups continue to be successful partnership projects each month,**
- **The Dunes fee program is barely funding operations and may be in the red this year,**
- **BLM continues to work closely with the UDG on outreach and visitor data collection studies, and**
- **The ASA and the ISDRA Technical Review Team continue to work closely with the BLM, on all levels, on issues in the dunes.**

These are a few of the issues the Dunes staff has been working on over the season. I would like to say thanks to all the friendly visitors who helped out the staff over the season. You know who you are, you helped us at that accident scene, you helped at the clean ups, you told your buddy not to leave those nails in the fire pit, etc….you did the right thing! You're helping us keep your recreation lands open, safe, and clean.

I'd also like to say thanks to the BLM staff. Many who used to ride and recreate before we got this job. These amazing folks on the Dunes Rescue Team who provide Emergency Medical Services, in addition to the rest of their other job duties, are: Volunteers Pat and Jerry Vine, and Rusty Massie, our Seasonal Park Rangers Jordan Downs, Robert Swain, Karissa Blevins, Paul Nilson, Harmonie Daigle, Jeremy Nguyen, Jose Barba, Nicholas Ihori, Ray Murillo, Interpretive Park Ranger Joya Szalwinski, Park Rangers George Masner and Ernesto Tanori, Outdoor Recreation Planner Marisa Williams, Wilderness Specialist John Johnson, Information Technologist Valerie Kastoll, Environmental Coordinator Erin Dreyfuss, and our fearless leader / supervisor Ms. Jamie Neilans. These are the folks making a difference on the sand, day in and day out.

Visit our website to keep up to date over the dog days of summer. You won't believe our web address, its
www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/elcentro/recreation/ohvs/isdra.html

I hope to see you next season, be safe over the summer.

*** For more information about Neil Hamada the ISDRA manager, please see his profile here:**

http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/info/employee_profiles/neil_hamada.html

OHV COMMUNITY OPPOSES DUNE CLOSURE AS PART OF SOLUTION TO BORDER INCURSION ISSUES

A United States Border Patrol (USBP) agent was killed recently while attempting to stop two alleged smuggler's vehicles in the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area (ISDRA) near Yuma, Arizona. The incident prompted the publication of an article which falsely claims that dune users would strongly support closure of the area in order to reduce illegal activity.

On Saturday, January 19, 2008 while attempting to stop the two fleeing vehicles in the ISDRA, 32 year old Senior Patrol Agent Luis Aguilar, a husband, father and six-year veteran of the agency was laying spike strips across the road when he was fatally struck by one of the speeding vehicles. Both vehicles escaped into Mexico.

The Los Angeles Times published an article on March 2, 2008 by reporter Richard Marosi, titled Smugglers Hide In Plain Sight, which argues that closure of the dunes south of Interstate 8 is the most effective means of inhibiting the trafficking of drugs and illegal immigrants in the area.

The reporter falsely claims that dune users support a proposed closure. He makes this claim because (during the course of an interview with a Border Patrol official in the dunes), a group of dune recreationists approached the BP official and the reporter to express their sympathy for the loss of the agent and to express their appreciation for the service of the USBP in the dunes. The reporter asked the recreationists if they would be concerned if the dunes south of I-8 were closed to assist in border issues. The recreationists responded that they did not want to lose the riding area, but that if it would help to control the issues at hand they could live with such a closure.

While most any steward of the dunes would answer the reporter's question in the same manner, the LA Times takes a stern slant towards the closure of these dunes. Simply put, an expression that we are law abiding recreationists is not to be construed into a Duner's call for closure. Further, the eyes of thousands of dune visitors serve as a valuable tool in reporting suspicious activity to the USBP, 'closure' of this area would be a step of digression towards enforcement. Contrary to the reporter's claim, dune users are not in support of closure of the area until other more logical steps are taken.

The USBP has increased their enforcement to address the smugglers in this area. Last month, the USBP enacted a Zero Tolerance Policy for dune traffic that crosses over the Border, citing fines, arrest and/or vehicle seizure as potential penalties. In addition, the USBP has increased in the number of agents in the area.

The American Sand Association (ASA) with over 32,000 members vehemently oppose any closure of the ISDRA.

Another Sand Dune option in Arizona!

By Bill Alexander, BLM Park Ranger, Yuma Field Office

Managed by the BLM Yuma Field Office, the Ehrenberg Sandbowl is a smaller and more laid back alternative to the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area. The 400-acre Open OHV Area provides a wide range of sand riding experiences, with dunes easy enough for the beginning ATV rider and larger hills challenging enough for seasoned riders to enjoy. The site currently has loading/unloading ramps, a vault toilet, trash cans, shade ramadas with picnic tables and grills.

Conveniently located just minutes from Interstate 10 on the Arizona-California border, the Sandbowl also serves as a logical starting point to explore the natural beauty of southwestern Arizona. The Sandbowl is connected to hundreds of miles of trails that wind through the Sonoran Desert where you'll have a chance to see cacti, wildflowers, mule deer, wild burros, and historic mines. Just minutes south of the Sandbowl you'll find the Colorado River, where there are numerous primitive campsites and undeveloped boat launching access. The area also has unlimited swimming, and fishing opportunities.

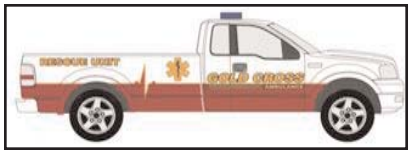
Recreation fees for the Ehrenberg Sandbowl area are $5.00 per motor vehicle per day. Permit sales are handled via self-pay at the iron ranger. Once the envelope and attached stub are filled out, permit purchasers then remove the yellow envelope stub, deposit the envelope into the iron ranger, and then place the yellow stub in the primary vehicles windshield where it can be easily seen by BLM staff and volunteers. An Annual Use Permit is available for purchase through the Yuma Field Office for $75.00 and is good for one year from the date of purchase. Occupancy rules apply for the Annual Use Permit.

As with most OHV sites there are some laws, rules, and regulations that do apply. In this recreation setting Arizona OHV laws apply. Cross-country travel is only permitted within the sand dunes area. Travel in all other areas is limited to existing roads, trails, and drivable desert washes.

Direction to the Ehrenburg Sandbowl are as follows: From Interstate 10 take the Ehrenburg Exit (AZ Exit #1) and head west on the South Frontage Road for approximately one mile. Turn left onto the gravel Ehrenberg-Cibola Road and continue south for approximately 3 miles. The paved Sandbowl entrance will be on the left hand side of the road. We hope to see you there soon!

For More Information Please Visit: www.blm.gov/az or Call the BLM Yuma Field Office at (928) 317-3200

K.C.D.F. STEPS UP TO AID DUNE'S EMERGENCY SERVICES



The ASA wishes to compliment the efforts of a new organization who built upward from the ashes of tragedy. The tragedy was an April 9, 2006 sand rail accident that took the life of Kris Frick in the Imperial Sand Dune Recreational Area (ISDRA).

When Kris was injured, it took more than one hour to get medical help to him. Because that help came too late, he died before reaching the hospital. From this, his family and friends learned the hard way about the limited availability of effective and timely ISDRA Emergency Medical Services.

Since Kris' death, these good folks — who nicknamed him "Chili Dog" — have taken steps to correct the situation. To that end, they have formed the Kris "Chili Dog" Frick (KCDF) Public Benefit Corporation, a non-profit organization whose mission is aimed at increasing dune rider safety awareness and conducting fundraiser's to enhance medical service in the ISDRA.

Over the past several months, the KCDF Corporation has made their mark on the northern dunes of the ISDRA. Providing the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) EMT's with equipment along with a place to refresh between calls, has proven KCDF's efforts most valuable to the BLM.

In a recent ISDRA Technical Review Team meeting, the BLM formally reported on the value of the El Centro Regional Medical Center, Gold Cross Ambulance, United Desert Gateway, Pioneer Memorial Hospital, in addition to the KCDF. In particular, they cited the example of a past early morning rescue of several injured ISDRA visitors where the KCDF organization shined brightly. Neil Hamada, BLM ISDRA Manager said, "The KCDF partnership has already proven its benefits. Their donated resources have put emergency medical services on the ground at no additional cost to the visitors and saved lives." The value of the KDCF equipment during periods when BLM EMT's are not available was clearly evident.

The American Sand Association would like to applaud the efforts of this new organization and thank them for the valuable contributions they've made to all duners! KCDF can be located on-line at: www.krisfrick.com

Kawasaki Partnership with the United Desert Gateway Communities

Expands to the Yuma Bureau of Land Management Field Office

In July of 2007 Kawasaki joined the United Desert Gateway (UDG) partnership with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) when they delivered a Kawasaki "Mule" utility terrain vehicle for use by the BLM Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area (ISDRA) Buttercup Campground host. This long term loan was facilitated by Weekend Warrior a Perris, California toy house trailer manufacturer.

BLM and UDG welcome the Mule and Kawasaki into the partnership

According to Neil Hamada, BLM Dunes Manager the availability of the Mule allowed the camp hosts to patrol the area, make positive visitor contacts, pick up trash and distribute safety and stewardship educational material. This also freed up a BLM pickup for EMT use in providing medical services in the dunes.

During the summer months, when dune visitation is low the Mule will be used by the BLM Field Office personal in conjunction with the popular lower Colorado River recreation program. Todd Shoaff, BLM Yuma Field Office Manager applauds the UDG and Kawasaki for inviting the Arizona BLM to join this worthwhile partnership.

BLM Buttercup Camp hosts Jerry and Pat Vines turn over the keys for the summer to Todd Shoaff

Ken Rosevear, UDG Board member and Executive Director of the Yuma County Chamber of Commerce said "This is just one of many similar partnerships with Sand Sport businesses." Rosevear continued, "Nearly $1,000,000 has been contributed since the inception of the UDG in 2004 thanks to folks like Kawasaki."

UDG
UNITED DESERT GATEWAY

ORBA Supershow A Huge Success!

The American Sand Association would like to thank the Off Road Business Association (ORBA) for including us at their second annual SuperShow February 9th and 10th. It was moved this year to the Del Mar Fairgrounds from Barona Casino to accommodate the additional vendors and spectators. Del Mar was a great venue for this amazing show that featured vendors, organizations and businesses from every corner of the off road community. It was a perfect weekend with perfect weather to enjoy a day of new products and catch up with friends.

Robert , Tom and Jerry at the ASA booth

Our twins Julie and Jan

The ASA would also like to thank the volunteers who helped with the event starting with Robert Hancock who set up and ran both ASA booths at the show. Julie Krogh was Robert's right hand person for this event and helped keep things running smoothly with additional help from Tom Hunter, Jan Haugley, Nanette Shallcross, Mike Reber, Scott Tant and Jerry Canning. All giving their time to make the second annual ORBA SuperShow a success for the American Sand Association.

We hope to see all next year for this great event.

Orangewood RV Pound Sand!

On October 13 & 14, Orangewood RV Center of Surprise, Arizona and the American Sand Association hosted its 4th Annual Pound Sand Show. This years show had a good vendor turnout, with big names showing up such as: Suspensions Unlimited, Ride Now, Federal Sand Rail, WhipLash Racing, and Sand Tech Motorsports, also the Viper Truck Club of America had a decent display to boot.

Industry related magazines - Sand Addiction, Sand Sports, and San Diego Off Road also provided free magazines to be given away at the entry gate. Approximately $400 was collected from the sales of "hat pins" dedicated to the memorial fund of Major Troy Gilbert who was killed in action on November 27, 2006 while flying a mission over Iraq.

We estimated the overall attendance for the weekend to be around 4000. Key people involved in the event were - Bill Harris - Consignment Manager at Orangewood RV, Marc Treacy - Owner of Orangewood RV and Scott Swenka - ASA Checkered Flags Chairman and Website Administrator.

Randy Vander Wert presenting Scott Swenka a check for $2000.00

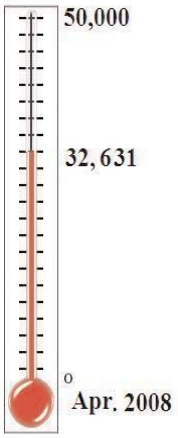
Scott Swenka presented Bill Harris with a plaque from the ASA at the end of the show on Sunday. The ASA had an excellent volunteer turnout to help with the show setup, and operations.

On March 6, 2008 Randy Vander Wert – Sales Manager at Orangewood presented Scott Swenka of the ASA with a check for $2000.00 from Mark Treacy owner of Orangewood, this came as a result of the sales generated from the Pound Sand Event.

This years show is shaping up now to be even bigger and better which is slated for Oct 4-5, 2008 and will be located at the Speedworld Dragstrip in Wittman, Arizona. This will provide an even larger venue and services for the vendors to show off their gear, we hope to see you there. Scott Swenka

ONLY WITH THE SUPPORT OF ALL CAN THE ASA MAKE A DIFFERENCE!
THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR YOUR TIME AND EFFORTS.

>>> MEMBERSHIP NEWS <<<



THOUSANDS, THOUSANDS, THOUSANDS,

of our members are still listed with a " # " in front of the first name. Are you one of them?

PLEASE look at the back page right now and check. If you see that pound sign please send us a quick email so we can update your email address. Send an email to: membership@asasand.org
Need your password or to check if your email address is listed, go here:
www.asasand.org/help

We now send out a monthly "What's New in the ASA" email alert besides our quarterly newsletters. Log in, sign up to get the latest news on the dunes when it happens.

Thanks for your support,
Dick Holliday - ASA Membership Director

We would like to welcome all the new and renewing Supporting Members that have signed up or renewed since our last newsletter. Their commitment goes a long way in supporting the fight to keep our riding areas open now and for our future. Thank You!

Eric Amadio
Luther Anderson
Mike Ausec
Eric Bashford
Ben Beardslee
Rob Beggs
Dave Benjamin
Fred Bennett
Thomas Bert
Norman Blackman
Dan Blaeser
William W. Bock Jr.
Dave Bonvicin
Russ Borman
Jason Box
Ed Bracken
Steven Briee
Sharon Burdette
Jerry Canning
Greg Carlos
Lyle Carlson
Jack Carlton
Matthew Carter
Neva Caviness
Mark Chapman
Bill Colwell
Jason Cross
Chris Cunningham
Marco Del Toro
Pat Deuth
Charles Deveau
Kathie Dike
Lance Down
Sam Drewen
Dan Dugan
Jeff Dunn
Toby Eklund

John Ellingbo
James Ellis
Kendall Ereth
Mike Evans
Tom Face
Justin Feldman
Dennis Felger
Linda Felger
Rick Fisher
Jeff Friese
John Gagel
Frank Garey
Matthew Gilding
Fred Glandon
Jeff Gonda
Clifford Gordon
Lee Gray
Jim Green
Chuck Haley
Riley Harshman
Tony Hayes
Michelle Hayes
Flo Haynes
Nicholas D.Hennagin
Dan Hershman
Elmer Hibbard
Anni Hjortin-Olsen
Kyle Hodder
Ken Houk
Drew Hove
Charles Hunt
Dave Hupman
Rex Hypes
John Jersey
Phil Johnson
Paul Johnson
Wesley Johnston

Phillip Kasdorf
Candace Kay
Dennis Kelso
Tom Kennedy
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Norman Kite
Roger Knowles
Brian Kroells
Steven Kurtz
John Lafever
Joey Leighton
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Larry Long
Andrew Lopez
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Matt Lutrick
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Marvin McCabe
Scott McHarg
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William Neal
Larry Neely
Christopher Nelson
Roger Nenes
Nick Nicholson
Ron Nordstrom
Jill Nordstrom
Eric Norquist
Kyle Okeson
Glen Ortel
Steve Ovsak
Colin Packer

David Pallas
Linda Parker
Steve Parker
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Jon Pergl
Jeff Perry
Brian Pfaucht
Vincent Piccoli
Steve Post
Stan Prime
Arjun Reddy
Lars Reshatoff
Paul Riffle
Jeff Roberts
Yessenia Rodriguez
Steven Rose
Stewart Ross
Blaine Roth
Karen Ruiz
Reynaldo Ruiz
Jeff Scott
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Lonnie Shadden
Buck Shelden
John T. Signorelli
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Kevin Smith
Matt Smith
Edward Smith IV
Lucas Spelman
Abigail Srader
Steven St. Pierre
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Jerry Tangeman
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Joyce Warner
Darrell Waterman
Clifton Watkins
Rebecca Weimer
James Welch
Chuck Wesley
Paul Westhoff
Mark Wetzel
Cherrie Wight
Tim Wight
George Wildberger
Harold Williams
Gary L. Williams
Thomas Wilson
Trevais Wilson
Rene Wilson
Katlyn Wilson
Kyle Wilson
Ernest Winderweedle
Scott Witherow

YOUR NAME HERE

SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIPS

Support the ASA by signing up for an Annual Membership. Membership is only $25 per year.
You will receive a Supporting Membership license plate frame, a sticker and a membership card good for discounts.

>>> BIOLOGICAL UPDATE <<<

Dr. Art Phillips, ASA Botanist

Another ASA PMV Study Season Is In The Books

Peirson's milkvetch (PMV) studies for the 2007-08 season were completed with a fun-filled four-day trip March 14-18. We really doubled up the studies, doing both our usual 25-site surveys and seed bank studies. We kept everyone very busy! The hard work of our dedicated volunteers made everything go well; usually this is done in two or three trips.

In December we found a large number of very young PMV seedlings, germinating after late fall rains of over an inch at both Cahuilla and Buttercup. However, the season more or less fizzled after that, with only one more storm in late Jan. Cold mid-winter temperatures, late winter winds and blazing sun in early spring combined to do in most of the seedlings, and the spring of 2008 turned out to be a below average year for PMV.

The seed bank studies went well, although at some sites wet sand several inches below the surface made everyones work extra hard to get it through the sieves.

We would like to stand and give a great big THANK YOU to all of our dedicated volunteers who made this 8th consecutive year of ASA PMV studies possible:

Jeff Bardwell
Dale Best
Dalton Bechard
Holli Bechard
Gale Brisco
Dustin Chisum
Jennifer Davis
Scott Davis
Glenn Duffin
Mark Fulton
Dick Holliday
Bill Jones
Cale Keyler
Jon Keyler
Fran Lazear
Greg Lazear
Manny Marron
Barbara MacMillan
Kim MacMillan
Manny Marron
Lisa Misner
Lloyd Misner
Jesse Patton
Justin Pratte
Scott Swenka
Craig Tolbert
Jim Weill
Brandon Wolfswinkel

THANKS SO MUCH!!!

The ASA Raffle Committee wishes to congratulate Extreme Performance for donating the current Give a Way car, the beautiful Eco II featured on page 5 of this newsletter. This is the second car Extreme Performance has donated to the ASA to help fundraising efforts in keeping our dunes open.

Following the Extreme Performance car this year will be a Suspensions Unlimited Car for the 2008-2009 dune season. Brian Cotham, owner of Suspensions Unlimited has agreed to donate a car from their outstanding line up of high quality sand cars. Another sand car manufacturer has just stepped up to donate their second Give a Way car to the ASA. Joe (Fab) Smid, proprietor of Sand Limo, has generously agreed to provide one of his incredible sand cars to be raffled off for the 2009-2010 dune season. The ASA wishes to thank all of these outstanding sand car manufactures for their commitment to help the ASA preserve our sand dunes.

>>> ASA STORE SPECIALS <<<

LEO the LIZARD BANNERS
only $25.00
Show others your SUPPORT

Please send check payable to ASA:
ASA
11419 Daybreak Trail
Moreno Valley, CA 92557-5504

Where your purchase is helping to fund your future of duning!

A BIG BANNER AT
22" X 72"

ASA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES
(over 26,000 distributed each quarter)

Ad Size:	(1 issue)	(4 issues)
Full Page (approx.7.5" x 9")	$450	$1600
Three Quarter Page	$350	$1300
Half Page	$250	$1000
Quarter Page	$200	$700
Business Card	$100	$300

Contact Us : Advertising@AmericanSandAssociation.org OR call 888-540-SAND

>>> UPCOMING EVENTS <<<

CANCELLED: May 5th - 2nd Annual ASA Golf Tournment

May 16-18th - Extreme Motorsports Expo - OC Fairgrounds, Costa Mesa, CA

August 9th- ASA Info. Meeting, "Dune Talk, Everything You Need to Know"
+ Show & Shine @ Suspensions Unlimited, 451 Kettering Dr. Ontario, CA

Sept. 19-21st - Sand Sports Super Show - OC Fairgrounds, Costa Mesa, CA

FOR UP-TO-DATE EVENTS & MORE INFO, PLEASE SEE OUR WEB SITE

To help the ASA at the above events:

Volunteers@AmericanSandAssociation.org or call: 888-540-SAND

ASA BUSINESS SPONSORS

Our New and Renewing Sponsors since our February issue!

ACE COOLING & FREEZING SPECIALISTS
ACRO LIGHTS
AMERICAN SAND TOYS LLC
APACHE MOTORCYCLES
BEAUMONT YAMAHA / KAWASAKI
CAMP 'N STYLE
CARTWHEELIN
CHAMPION HONDA
CHAMPION HONDA YAMAHA
CHIRCO PERFORMANCE / RESTORATION
CLAWSON MOTORSPORTS
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MENDEOLA TRANSAXLES
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MOTOWORLD OF EL CAJON
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THE SPEED STOP
THOMPSON ENGINEERING
TOM KENNEDY AUTO REPAIR
TURBO RE-SOURCE INC
VICTORY BMW CHANDLER
WILDLIFE IMAGES INC
YUMA VALLEY ROD & GUN CLUB

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PLEASE SUPPORT ALL OUR SPONSORS WHEN MAKING YOUR PURCHASES

VOLUNTEERS

The ASA is an organization of volunteers. However, with over 32,000 members, less than 1% elect to step up to assist the ASA in their efforts. For the duration of this short read, please think of yourself as our newest volunteer.

No time to volunteer? You might have more time than some of our present Volunteers.

One of our most valued volunteers successfully manages his own business. He works every day that he's either not at the dunes or volunteering for the ASA. Many times he's giving time to the ASA while at the dunes.

Another Volunteer works a full time job in an Orange County office. With a few spare minutes during the year, this volunteer manages ASA's involvement in the biggest Sand Sports event in California. He relies upon a select few volunteers to serve in support roles.

There is the volunteer who works grave yard shift and attends college Monday thru Thursday. He gives just four hours, five times a year at special events to help set up the ASA booth.

Then there are the much needed volunteers who just stop by the booth to put in a couple of hours signing people up to become new members, sell T-shirts, stickers, and raffle tickets.

There are the volunteers who transport our biologists through the dunes in their rails and Rhinos to do PMV seed and plant counts.

There are even people working at their homes in small dark rooms tiredly entering stacks of membership form information into our database.

And what do these people get for their time?

Jon Pergl, ASA's California Events Chairman and long-time duner, says, "There are really no words that I could use to describe the volunteer time to my friends or co-workers, but I know I'm hooked and I want to do it again. Finishing a volunteer project for the ASA gives me the feeling that what I did just may help everybody have a chance to enjoy the dunes… more".

What can YOU do for the ASA? Every little bit helps! Contact us, and lets discuss it!

volunteers@americansandassociation.org OR 888-540-SAND

>>> ASA PREMIUM SPONSORS <<<

Become a **Supporting Member** and receive an ASA Membership ID Card. This card is valid for discounts at our "Premium Sponsors" listed below. This annual membership ($25) helps keep our organization funded and fighting for your right to ride!

PLEASE SUPPORT ALL OUR SPONSORS WHEN MAKING YOUR PURCHASES.

ALBA ACTION SPORTS	POWAY	CA	858	486-4380	12% Discount Off on All Parts
ARMADILLO LLC	CHANDLER	AZ	480	883-9255	Taxes and installation fees waived for all ASA supporting members.
BEARD SEATS	ANAHEIM	CA	714	774-9444	5% Off Orders Made Directly to the Factory
BED TECH	LOMA LINDA	CA	909	799-9944	$40.00 Discount Off Truck Spray Lining
BILL & STEVE'S FOREIGN CAR PARTS	DOWNEY	CA	562	923-3251	10% Discount on Parts
BRM OFFROAD GRAPHICS	FOUNTAIN HILLS	AZ	602	421-0880	15% Off First Purchase for ASA Supporting Members
CAMP 'N STYLE	LAKESIDE	CA	619	561-7368	5% Discount Off Rental Rates
CARTWHEELIN	GLENDALE	AZ	602	568-1729	15% Off Any Ad, Quarter Page or Larger Prepaid for 1 Year
CENTER FOR BODYWORK AND THERAPEUTICS	LAGUNA BEACH	CA	949	212-1444	10% Discount
COLORADO SANDCARS	WINDSOR	CO	970	674-9967	5% discount on any sale
CONSULT-A-TECH	TEMECULA	CA	951	693-1074	10% Off All Parts and Labor to ASA Supporting Members
DANIEL AND SONS TRUCKING INC	CORONA	CA	951	808-0681	10% off on All Deliveries
DESERT OFF-ROAD REGISTRATION & FINANCE	MONTCLAIR	CA	909	542-0465	10% off All DMV Registration Services
DJ SAFETY INC	LOS ANGELES	CA	323	221-0000	12 to 20% Discount off Selected Merchandise
DON'S BUS BOX	PEORIA	AZ	602	670-0192	Priority Service
DUNCAN RACING INTERNATIONAL	SANTEE	CA	619	258-6306	10% Off Any Item Purchased Direct from Duncan Racing. * 1 Special per order only
ELECTRO TECH POWDER COATINGS INC	SAN MARCOS	CA	760	746-0292	Show your ASA ID Card and Receive $10 Off your Order
EZ RV RENTALS	ONTARIO	CA	909	391-8251	We offer a 5% Discount Off Our Weekend Rental Rates
F WORD INDUSTRIES	HUNTINGTON BEACH	CA	714	350-1133	Online 10% discount: type code ASA. At Off-Road Shows, show your card
FUNRUNNER	SANTA FE SPRINGS	CA	562	946-4049	10% off Regular Prices; Sale Items Discounts will vary. All Canopies available at Dealer
G.E.T. SALES INC	MESA	AZ	602	315-3504	10% Discount on all products. For a catalog call or email: get-sales@att.net
HAULIN' TOYZ TRAILER RENTALS	VENTURA	CA	805	641-2869	$250 Off Purchase of Any Weekend Warrior
HILL GRAPHICS	ALISO VIEJO	CA	949	716-9796	5% off All Orders
INNOVATIVE CONSTRUCTION SERVICES	SAN DIEGO	CA	858	490-0342	$100 Discount on Construction Services
IRONWOOD RV STORAGE & FIREWOOD	CERRITOS	CA	562	924-7870	10% Discount on Firewood
J D PERFORMANCE	TEMECULA	CA	951	676-7957	10% Discount Off Any Purchase of A-Arm Kits
JOHN POTOCKI ASSOCIATES	SAN DIEGO	CA	619	464-7904	Hourly Fee Discount
LAZER STAR BILLET LIGHTS	ANAHEIM	CA	800	624-6234	10% off Walk-in Orders or FREE Ground Shipping
MARINA SUZUKI	LOS ANGELES	CA	310	306-8595	10% Discount on Parts
MENDEOLA TRANSAXLES	SAN DIEGO	CA	619	710-8800	10% Discount on Magnaflux
MID-CITIES HONDA	PARAMOUNT	CA	562	531-1225	10% Discount on Parts
MOBILE RADIO COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	LAKE HUGHES	CA	661	886-6578	5% Discount on All Products with proof of Membership
MOUNTAIN MOTOR SPORTS	ONTARIO	CA	909	988-8988	10% Off Parts and Accessories and Labor
NORDSKOG INSTRUMENTS	ANAHEIM	CA	714	991-9999	5% Off Internet Orders, Use Offer Code: ASA5
OMF PERFORMANCE PRODUCTS	RIVERSIDE	CA	951	354-8272	10% off All Retail Purchases
ORANGEWOOD RV CENTER	SURPRISE	AZ	623	974-3000	10% Off All Service Labor, 5% Off All Parts (no conjunction with other specials)
PACE TRAILERS OF ARIZONA	MESA	AZ	480	924-3700	$500 off Any Trailer Over 20 Feet and 5% off All Parts
PLASIDYNE ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING	LONG BEACH	CA	562	531-0510	10% Discount on All Orders to Supporting Members
POWERTANK	ELK GROVE	CA	209	366-2163	10% Discount Off All Systems
PROGRESSIVE TRAILERS	PHOENIX	AZ	800	500-1405	5% Discount (no other discounts apply)
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RHINO PARTS STORE	ROSEVILLE	CA	877	960-3444	We offer a 10% discount on all parts and accessories AND FREE SHIPPING !
ROCKY MOUNTAIN ATV/MC	PAYSON	UT	800	336-5437	Use your Discount Coupon to receive $$ savings on your order
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ST CLAIR INSURANCE	CORONA	CA	951	736-6710	All ASA Supporting Members Receive a 5% Discount
TEAM FRAMING & DRYWALL	PHOENIX	AZ	602	944-7001	A discount will be granted to all ASA Supporting Members.
WARNER TRUCK RENTAL	OCEANSIDE	CA	760	757-1908	10% Discount on Rentals
WEST COAST RV SERVICE OPERATIONS	CHINO	CA	909	628-5755	10% Off All Parts and Services
WILDLIFE IMAGES INC	SCOTTSDALE	AZ	480	483-6887	10% Off Any Mount

ASA SUPPORTING MEMBERS

Receive a Discount from our Premium Sponsors

Only $25.00 for an Annual Membership Sign Up Today!

The SAFETY BUG says,

Before next season starts, be sure to inspect your OHV's for any loose bolts and replace any worn out parts, keep safe!

The Safety Bug is the official mascot of the public safety and educational program embraced by many organizations and businesses.

Protect your Sandrail and your family with insurance coverage from Allstate!

Don't take the chance of driving your Sandrail, quad, dune buggy or any off-road recreational vehicle in the dunes without insurance protection!

Basic Liability Protection
(per occurrence)

$300,000 Bodily Injury
$100,000 Property damage

Liability protection pays injuries and damages for the other party

$55/year!

Don't wait for an accident to happen --- contact the Downtown Insurance Agency today to start a policy to protect your Sandrail and your family!

213.622.3307

We insure California residents throughout the state! Our agency is open Monday to Friday, 9 am to 6 pm.

Allstate requires all drivers on the policy to meet California good driver qualifications and other requirements.

Full Coverage Protection
(per occurrence)

Basic Liability Protection plus: Physical damage protection to your sandrail with $100 deductible (based on the sandrail value)

Example: $25,000 Sandrail

$56/month!

Downtown Insurance Agency, 900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 838, Los Angeles, CA 90017 www.DowntownInsurance.com

FOR MORE INFO. PLEASE CHECK OUR *ONLINE VERSION* AT: WWW.ASASAND.ORG

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Permit No. 50

ONLINE CONTENTS

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ASA FILES 60-DAY NOTICE OF INTENT

On April 8th 2008, the ASA sent a Notice of Intent to Sue regarding the US Fish and Wildlife Services (FWS) failure to issue a decision on our Peirson Milk-Vetch (PMV) plant Delisting decision.

During the past 18 months we have spoken with the Carlsbad Field Office regarding the FWS ruling on the ASA PMV de-listing petition. Each time we are informed that the ruling will be forthcoming in 30 to 60 days. The original decision was to be rendered in July of 2006 and we accepted an extension to October of 2006. Now we are in April of 2008 which is 18 months from the original extension and 21 months from the original completion date that is unacceptable.

You can view this letter on our website: www.asasand.org

NEW MAILING ADDRESS FOR THE ASA

Our long standing public mailing address in La Verne, CA has closed shop. Our new mailing address is:

P.O. Box 1872
Canyon Country, CA 91386-1872

*We would like to thank the volunteers over the years that both checked this mailbox on a regular basis and even paid for the PMB box.**

*Vince Brunasso, *Denise Keck and Robert Barada*

ASA California OPEN BOARD MEETING AT SUSPENSIONS UNLIMITED

Help us get the word out. This is an opportunity for you and your duning friends to learn what's legal and what's not directly from the officers involved. Dune Info Meeting "Dune Talk, Everything You Need to Know" August 9th 2008, 10:00 am til 3:00 pm

Suspensions Unlimited
451 Kettering Dr.
Ontario, CA 91761
(909) 230-9797

For Directions
http://www.suspensionsunlimited.com/index.html

Speakers on hand from BLM, U.S. Border Patrol, Imperial County Sheriff, CA State Parks Dept. and DuneSafe.

Q & A session: "What's Legal --What's Not"

SHOW AND SHINE EVENT
BRING YOUR COOLEST OFF-ROAD TOYS
WIN SOME COOL PRIZES

This event brought to you by the ASA and Suspensions Unlimited.
Supported by GlamisDunes.com and DuneSafe.com

OHV Safety Records in California

When talking about accidents and fatalities, it is always most important to keep things in perspective as they relate to other forms of recreational activities, and how we in California compare to other states. With that in mind, here are some quick facts which demonstrate just how effective the OHV program in California has been;

-ATV fatalities nationwide have been decreasing, with an 11% decrease from 2004 to 2005, and a 17% decrease from 2005 to 2006.

2004 – 745 fatalities nationwide
2005 – 666 fatalities nationwide
2006 – 555 fatalities nationwide

-California's ATV fatalities per 100,000 population in 2005 was 0.21 (Tied with New Jersey - third lowest state in the U.S.)

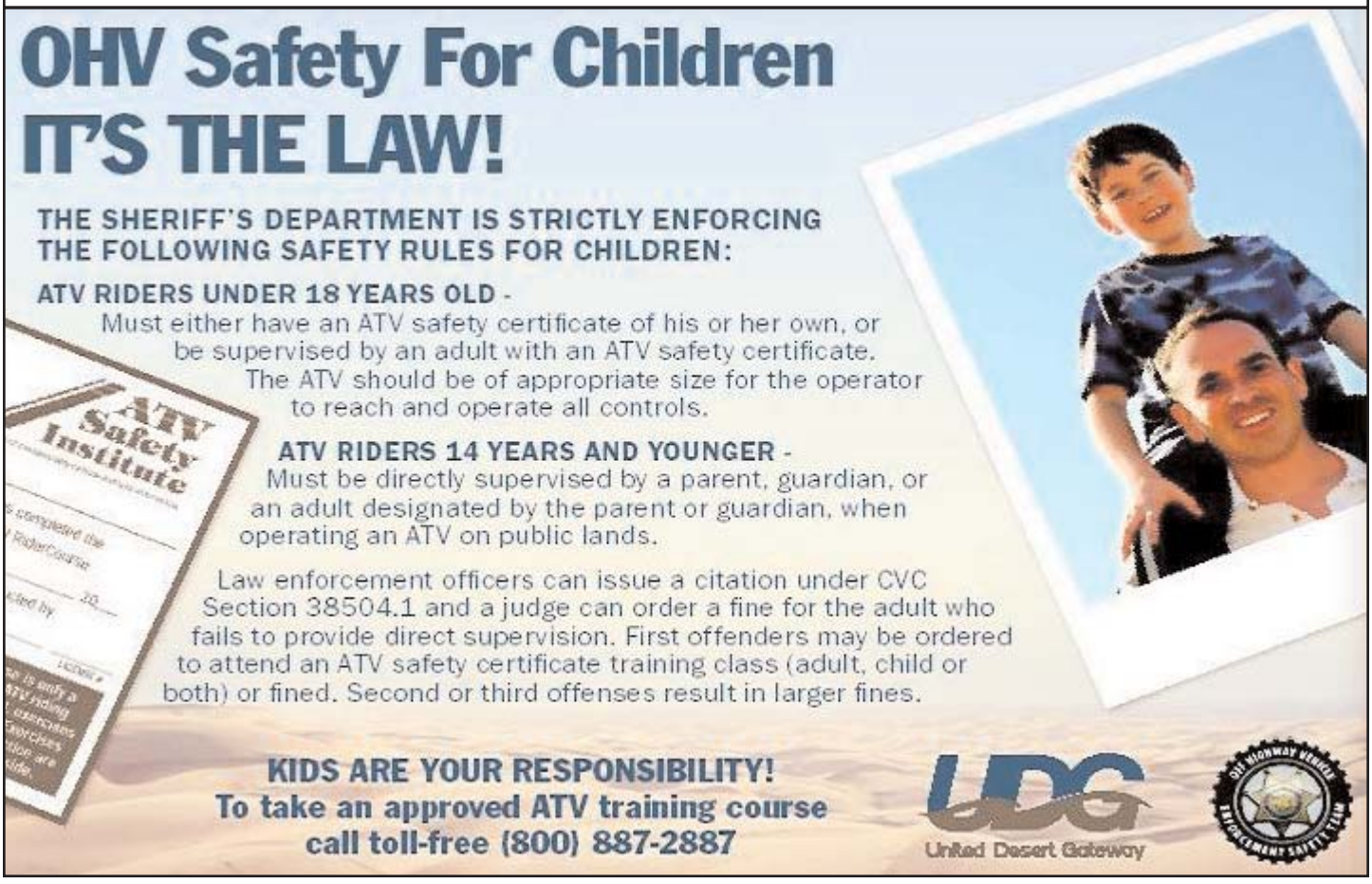
-California's ATV fatalities per 1000 ATVs sold in 2004 was 0.62 (The lowest rate for any state in the U.S.)

-In the CA State Vehicular Recreation Areas, where detailed accident statistics are maintained, OHV injury data for 2003 to 2006 shows that while overall attendance increased by 55%, injuries rates have decreased:

a. **Injuries overall decreased by 51%**
b. **Injuries due to speed decreased by 47%**
c. **Injuries due to unable to reach controls decreased by 54%**
d. **ATV related injuries decreased by 36%**
e. **Injuries to juveniles under age 16 decreased by 63%**
f. **Injuries to juveniles under age 16 involving ATVs decreased by 60%**

We wanted to get some of the basic information out which shows how positive the trend has been towards increasing safety in the program. Also be sure to stress when talking with others about safety, that these improvements are a result of a combination of enforcement and, more importantly, EDUCATION! While the manufacturer pays the cost for training for a safety certificate for anyone purchasing a new ATV; when purchasing a used ATV, the OHMVR Division pays the cost for safety certificate training for anyone under the age of 18. Clearly, as the data indicates, ATV training has played a powerful role in reducing the number of accidents.

Phil Jenkins - Chief, OHMVR Division - California State Parks



>>> LEGISLATIVE REPORT <<<

As stated in the legislative report on page 6, here is an explain the new fees for the California OHV Green Stickers.

SENATE BILL 742 HIGHLIGHTS

OHV FEE AND STICKER CHANGE

- **OHV Stickers—The green and red sticker fees have been increased to $50 for two years of registration. This will increase funding for the State Vehicular Recreation Areas and the Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program.**
- **OHV Sticker Appearances—The design of the green and red stickers will be changed with the identification numbers larger and easier to read.**
- **Program Sunset—January, 2018.**

FEE USAGE

Up to 50 percent of total annual revenues will fund the following grant opportunities:

- **Operations & Maintenance—50 percent of grant funding will go to acquisition, maintenance, operation, planning, development, or conservation of OHV recreation areas.**
- **Restoration—25 percent of grant funding shall be expended solely for grants and cooperative agreements for projects that provide ecological restoration or repair to habitat damaged by either legal or illegal OHV use.**
- **20 percent local and federal law enforcement for personnel and related equipment.**
- **5 percent education and training, comprehensive OHV and environmental responsibility education.**

Environmental Protection:

- **Inventoried Roadless Areas—Future trail maintenance would be limited on lands identified as inventoried roadless areas by the Forest Service, to those which were included in the National Forest Road and Trail System before January 1, 2009.**

FINES

- **Fines For Operation In Closed Areas—have been increased: First offense: $50; $190 with court assessments. Second offense, not to exceed $75; $298 with court assessments. Third offense, not to exceed $150; $570 with court assessments. In addition, the court may assess costs sufficient to repair property damage resulting from the violation.**

More highlights and the entire bill can be located at: www.ohv.parks.ca.gov or call 916-324-4442 for more information.

"Yeah, but off-roaders don't vote!"

That's how the mayor of one Southern California City explained why he was opposed to an off-highway vehicle (OHV) park in or near his town in spite of the fact that he knows there are a lot of off-roaders living there.

Let's prove him wrong in this year's election! We are convinced that if off-roaders went to the polls they would tend to vote for those candidates favorable to OHV recreation. Some close elections are expected this year, including those for U.S. President and California State Senator. The OHV vote could make a difference!

"But over 100 million people are expected to vote in November. Will my vote make a difference?"

You bet! The outcome of many elections has been decided by just a few votes. If Richard Nixon had gained one more vote per precinct in Illinois in 1960 he would have defeated John Kennedy. In 1948 Lyndon B. Johnson became a U.S. Senator by one vote. And in the 2000 U.S. Presidential election George Bush won Florida's 25 electoral votes and therefore the election by 547 out of some 6 million votes counted.

In order to be eligible to vote, of course, you must have registered to vote prior to the deadline. You are eligible to register to vote if you will be at least 18 years old as of the day of the election. You are required to re-register if you have moved, change your name or changed your political party affiliation. Voter registration forms may be obtained by filling out a form online here; www.clorv.org or at many U.S. Post Offices, DMV offices and public libraries.

Let's show politicians everywhere that the OHV community cares about our country, our state and our sport. Let's turn out in record numbers to elect those candidates who agree that the public has the right to enjoy access to public lands, and to defeat those candidates that would take our sport away from our families and us.

Remember, If you don't vote, you don't have the right to complain about the outcome!

(Article taken from the California League of Off Road Voters web site at: www.clorv.org)

>>> 14th ANNUAL CA OHV LOBBY DAY REPORT <<<

The 2008 14th Annual OHV Lobbying Day at the State Capitol was held on Monday, April 7th. It was a great success, continuing a successful string of Lobby Days. We had over 80 participants from around the state and as usual they were quite a presence roaming the halls and visiting legislative offices. Sponsored once again by the California League of Off Road Voters (CLORV) and Friends.

Lead by lobbyist Pete Conaty and assistant Dana Nichol, we were treated to a great list of speakers in the morning. We met at the CSAC (California State Association of Counties) Conference room. Guest speakers were: Ruth Coleman, Director of California State Parks; Daphne Greene, Deputy Director of OHMVR Division; Terry McHale, ASA's Lobbyist; Assemblyman Joel Anderson, 77th District; Don Amador, Blue Ribbon Coalition.

After lunch it was off to the legislators' offices in the Capitol for the real work of the day. Off roaders were sent out in teams to visit legislator's offices to lobby on SB 1228, authored by Senator Abel Maldonado (D-San Luis Obispo). SB 1228 would extend existing law pertaining to all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) requiring parental supervision from age 14 to 16. It would require riders to provide a safety certificate to law enforcement personnel on demand. Also, the bill would impose specified size restrictions on all-terrain vehicles operated by persons under 16 years of age. This would only apply to public lands, not private. We left each legislator or staff person reference material on the subject along with proof that AB 2755 that passed years ago is working to protect children.

This portion of the Lobby Day puts a personal face on this issue and educates legislators and their staff about OHV recreation. Many of their constituents participate in this exciting family activity and the economic value to all of California from the OHV activity are discussed.

In the evening a reception was given at the Chops Steakhouse. All legislators were invited to attend this event. This event is always a highlight of the Lobby Day events. We had about 90 attendees including many legislators, staff members, and administration appointees from the Resources Agency, the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Off Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division. We were honored to be joined at the reception by Daphne Greene, the Deputy Director of the Off Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division. The reception is where the off road community honors legislators and others for their support of off roading. This year we honored Assemblyman Joel Anderson (R-Santee) as the Legislator of the Year for 2008.

State Assemblyman Joel Anderson receives Off Roader Legislator of the Year award

The California League of Off Road Voters is comprised of politically active members of the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) National, the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) District 36, the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) District 37 Off Road and Dual Sport Divisions, the American Sand Association (ASA), the California Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs (CA4WDC), the California Nevada Snowmobile Association (CNSA), the California Off Road Vehicle Association (CORVA), the Friends of Oceano Dunes (FOD), the Off Road Business Association (ORBA), and the San Diego Off-Road Coalition (SDORC), which collectively have over 100,000 members.

CLORV
California League of Off-Road Voters
www.clorv.org

ASA'S NEW PRESS RELEASE COMMITTEE

In August 2007, the need for an ASA Press Release (PR) Committee became apparent to users of the ASA's on-line Bulletin Board. Several contributors composed the initial PR in a public forum by posting and revising one after another. Since that time, the PR Committee has moved their work into a Private Forum, where each PR is still composed in the same manner, on-line, using the Bulletin Board. Averaging about one PR per month, the team has focused on promoting those who improve or preserve the dune experience, advertising ASA Meetings, rebutting myths propagated by our adversaries, and addressing fallacies published in the media. The committee, working both proactively and reactively, is the ASA's vocal arm to help UNITE, INFORM AND MOBILIZE.

Meet your PR committee. These are committed, long-time off-roaders who hold a vivid passion for the dunes and our lifestyle. Under the supervision of Mike Sommer, ASA Media Affairs Chairman, Mike Reber is the Committee's Chairman. The team is comprised of Vicki Cossey, Gene Elwell, Matt Finley, Robert Hancock, Bryan Henry, Jason Hitesman, Glenn Montgomery and Brandon Woodhouse. Each offers various talents and skills aimed at providing useful and correct information to the media channels. If you would like to be part of the committee please contact us.

The ASA's Bulletin Board can be found at: http://www.asasand.org/phpBB3

Keep an eye out for the next ASA Press Release!

ASA ENDORSES AZ OHV "INDICIA STICKER" PROGRAM

The Arizona State House of Representatives State passed Senate Bill 1167. The bill is now headed for the State Senate. It is important that Arizona have an OHV program. The ASA Board of Directors voted unanimously to support SB 1167 for the following reasons:

Without an Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) registration program in Arizona the California agencies responsible for OHV registration will require Arizona residents to purchase a California Non-resident sticker. This money could be used to purchase the proposed "indicia" sticker which will be recognized by California. It would be better for the money to stay in Arizona than to go to California.

Arizona will loose motorized recreation opportunities without the funding derived from the proposed OHV program, Funding provided by SB 1167 will educate OHV enthusiasts and assure the Arizona agencies will have the resources to enforce the OHV laws.

JOEL ANDERSON
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, 77TH DISTRICT

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FAX (619) 441-2327
CELL (619) 857-1857

CA OHV License Plates

Dear OHV Friend,

Most people have no idea that 4.5 million Californians enjoy off-roading, or that it's an 11 billion dollar industry. However, if we all displayed a specialized OHV license plate, everyone would see how widespread and important off-roading is to our state's economy.

I'm starting a petition drive to authorize a specialized OHV license plate. California will only produce the plate if it receives an initial order of 7,500. To guarantee the success of this petition we need to collect the names and addresses of 10,000 people willing to buy an OHV plate for their street vehicle. As of January 14th, 2986 names have been received.

Please help me collect these signatures by signing the petition online at: www.OHVPlates.org

Thank you for your support!

Assemblyman Joel Anderson

To sign up and for more infomation please visit: www.OHVPlates.org

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) critical habitat designation completed

The Recreational Area Management Plan (RAMP) approved in 2005, was set aside by a Federal Court order in 2006 and remanded to BLM for further action, as was the previous U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) critical habitat designation. Steve Borchard, BLM Desert District manager, said BLM and FWS agreed it would be in the public interest to await completion of the revised final critical habitat rule before initiating revision of the RAMP.

On February 14, 2008, FWS published its final rule on critical habitat for the threatened Peirson's milk-vetch. The BLM announced on March 18, through the Federal Register, a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare a revised RAMP and new Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). These scheduled meetings will allow interested parties to identify issues that should be addressed in the new EIS and revised RAMP.

"We anticipate an accelerated schedule for preparing the EIS and the revised RAMP for public review, given the tremendous amount of data and public input on the earlier documents," Borchard said. "BLM and the FWS will continue to closely coordinate on development of alternatives for the revised RAMP as we have in the past. We will be seeking the public's input as well as we embark on this planning process."

For further information concerning the BLM's Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area, visit the Imperial Sand Dunes website at http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/elcentro/recreation/ohvs/isdra.html. For further information or to review the FWS' revised final critical habitat rule, contact the Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office at 760-431-9440 or download the rule at http://www.regulations.gov Comments should be sent to Erin R. Dreyfuss, planning and environmental coordinator, El Centro Field Office, California Desert District, Bureau of Land Management, 1661 South 4th Street, El Centro, CA 92243. Written comments must be postmarked no later than May 31, the end of the comment period. **(read more on page 23)**

REVISED IMPERIAL DUNES RECREATION PLAN

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), El Centro Field Office, scheduled three public meetings concerning the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreations Area (ISDRA) revised Recreation Management Plan (RAMP) and new Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). These were preliminary scoping meetings. We sent our members an email with this information.

Written comments will be considered in forming the new RAMP. Your comments will carry weight ONLY if in writing.

Other groups that disagree with our desires will also have this same opportunity.

This will be your opportunity to tell the BLM what you would like to see at the ISDRA. The RAMP is the road map for the future of the dunes. So, this is your chance to provide your ideas about raven proof dumpsters, vendor procedures and availability, corridors through the critical habitat to the open central dunes, Comp Hill curfew, etc. Your comments will carry weight again ONLY if in writing.

The following is an abbreviated list of topics that the ASA Board has endorsed. ASA will develop more comprehensive comments that will be submitted in writing to BLM by the May 31, 2008 deadline. It is recommended that you stress the following items if you agree.

Comments should be sent to:

Erin R. Dreyfuss
Planning and Environmental Coordinator
BLM El Centro Field Office
1661 South 4th Street, El Centro, CA 92243.

The deadline is May 31, 2008.

Suggested Comments:

Business Plan and Vending -

The new RAMP and supporting Business Plan should address the limitations on the vendors at the dunes, as it does not make sense at this time. The best way to protect the private business interest is to make sure the vendors at the Dunes don't have an advantage over private businesses at the dunes. A re-evaluation of vending at the Dunes is needed.

Camping Facilities -

Increased availability of hardened camping facilities should be constructed in the areas between the existing Gecko road and the Coachella canal to allow additional camping areas in the Gecko road area. Add additional hard surface camping pads at locations along Gecko road. Easy access to camping should be mechanically maintained in the Mammoth wash area as well as wash road south of Hwy 78.

Trash Containers -

Consider a program to remove the trash containers provided at the ISDRA. If all users could be convinced to take their trash home then considerable cost savings could be realized by not having to pay for trash service. Provide additional outreach programs to encourage visitors to take their trash home. Establish visitor service priorities to provide BLM guidance when resources (human and financial) are limited. i.e., law enforcement and medical aid takes precedent over trash collection.

Adaptive Management Area -

In the previous RAMP there was an Adaptive Management Area (AMA) designated to protect plants and animals. As this area experienced little use before the temporary administrative closures were implemented, it is unlikely that these perceived threats would materialize. This AMA proposal will require a large effort to manage and enforce the rules for admittance. A better approach would be to set monitoring areas to monitor the status of any plant or animal that is thought to be threatened. Using that approach would allow the BLM and US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to have controlled areas to compare to open areas in the same vicinity. Access corridors through Peirson's milk vetch (PMV) Critical Habitat (CH) and the microphyll woodland area are mandatory for safety, resource protection and public access.

BLM Sponsored ATV Training -

ATV safety training that is well published should occur throughout in the ISDRA on a routine schedule.

User Fees -

Beyond appropriated and grant funding, we believe user fees should be kept to an absolute minimum required, and be in full compliance with existing law.

Fee Compliance -

There is a management need to work towards full 100% compliance in collecting entrance fees for all ISDRA users.

The above are only suggestions. Please add/delete/change any items that are important to you.

Your comments will carry weight ONLY if in writing. Please take the time to present them.

Yamaha Dealers and Customers "Guaranteeing Responsible Access to our Nation's Trails"

The Yamaha OHV Access Initiative is a proactive, grassroots program supported by Yamaha dealers and customers nationwide promoting safe, responsible riding and sustainable, open riding areas.

Through the OHV Access Initiative, Yamaha Motor Corp., U.S.A. will provide GRANTs to deserving organizations to help further the program's goal of Guaranteeing Responsible Access to our Nation's Trails. Yamaha encourages clubs, associations and agencies to submit detailed applications for their specific needs.

Each quarter, Yamaha will accept applications from organizations such as non-profit or tax exempt OHV riding clubs, national forests and associations and national, state, local government agencies and associations. A committee then reviews each application and awards GRANTs to deserving projects.

Some examples of how these GRANTs will be used include:
- **Trail development, restoration and maintenance.**
- **Trail signage and map production.**
- **Staging area construction, renovation and maintenance.**
- **Safety and education.**

To learn more and apply for a Yamaha OHV Access Initiative GRANT, please see the following web site:
www.yamaha-motor.com/ohvaccess

YAMAHA PROGRAM GRANT HELPS UNITED DESERT GATEWAY

Another printing of the "Take it Outside" Family Activity Cards is now in the works. Thanks to a Yamaha Motors grant the United Desert Gateway (UDG) recently applied for and received. Working hand in hand with the BLM El Centro Field Office who produced these original cards, the UDG and the partners; American Sand Association (ASA) & Imperial County Sheriff Office (ICSO) have another partner joining in this effort, the US Border Patrol is now on board and below is a sample card.

The cards cover all types of topics that include; Weather & Topography, Outdoor Ethics, History, OHV Safety, Wildlife and now the addition of Heat Safety. Future partners might include the California Native Plant Society. (CNPS)

These cards are full of fun and interesting facts that may surprise you. Designed to connect OHVing families to public lands. So get yourself a set and learn about the dunes with your families and friends. Remember to, Take it OUTSIDE.