

Doug Ducey Governor



Bob Broscheid Executive Director



MINUTES of THE OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE ADVISORY GROUP of THE ARIZONA STATE PARKS AND TRAILS APRIL 27, 2021

A. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair, Chuck Wood called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. GROUP MEMBER ROLL CALL

Members Present by Phone: Ben Alteneder, Geoff Chain, Jason Cobb, Todd Davis, Holly, Tom Murphy, **Members present in Person:** Chuck Wood **Staff Present by Phone:** Matt Eberhart, Jeff Schmidt, Mickey Rogers

D. AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. Consideration of Action to Approve Minutes of the February 18, 2021, OHVAG Meeting. Holly Irwin Moved to approve the meeting minutes from the February 18, 2021 OHVAG Meeting. Tom Murphy Seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- 2. Off-Highway Vehicle ("OHV") Dealership Program Update: (Presenter: Matt Eberhart, Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator)

Matt Eberhart provided an updated on the OHV Dealership program expressing that RideNow Powersports, Nash Powersports, Show Low Motorsports, and 4 Seasons Motorsports had been distributing bags over the past couple of months. Matt informed members that prior to today's meeting he was able to give his last two boxes of Dealership Bags to Mary Van Roy of Lake Havasu City and OHVAG Member Chuck Wood to distribute to dealerships in their areas. Member Tom Murphy expressed that Moto City of Anthem may have interest in this program.

3. OHV Program Budget Update: (Presenter: Matt Eberhart, Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator)

Matt Eberhart provided members a budget update including Resident and Non-Resident OHV Decal sales comparisons from Fiscal Year 2020 and Fiscal Year 2021. He also highlighted the revenue comparisons between Fiscal Year 2020 and 2021. In addition, members were briefed on the current number of OHV funded projects that have been awarded. Members had no questions or comments regarding the budget update.

4. State Trust Land Non-Urban Plan Update. (Presenter: Matt Eberhart, Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator)

Matt Eberhart provided the following update that was given to him by the state Land Department.

The Non-Urban Lands Project (Project) brings together authorized users of State Trust Land (STL) to establish future guidelines and expectations for recreationists and STL lessees in the non-urban footprint of the portfolio. The Project serves to promote multiple-use principles, and address current problems stemming from ambiguous rules and conflicts arising from those uses. The project, through a comprehensive analysis of data and some ground truthing, will also look at areas suitable for mitigation and reclamation potential for the future.

The Land Department has worked the past few months to initiate the process for the Project. We secured two contractors: Norm James, of Fennemore Craig and Logan Simpson, to assist the Department in defining the project's scope of work, while remaining true to the proposal submitted in our grant application for approval by the Off-Highway Vehicle Advisory Group, the Arizona Outdoor Recreation Coordinating Commissioner and the State Parks Board.

The Project has two primary components:

1. Development of a <u>scalable</u> Recreation Management Plan that will establish criteria for areas most suitable to Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV) and other types of recreation (i.e. camping) on STL. This will include input from a select group of stakeholders, including OHV users, ranching and minerals groups. The development of a model will allow for scalable recreation designations and identify sensitive sites and heavily impacted areas for future mitigation and reclamation projects as more resources become available.

Upon completion, this component will:

- Produce a report/roadmap that identifies suitable criteria and conditions for establishing recreational areas on STL.
- Prioritize areas to verify the efficacy of the report.
- *Test the report with a pre-identified case study(s)*

Progress: The Land Department has met several times with both Fennemore Craig and Logan Simpson to refine the Project's scope and brainstorm expected outcomes. A final draft of this scope of work with Logan Simpson was completed. We are in the final stages of compiling a list of stakeholders to participate in the Project's development and implementation.

2. Tracking and reporting land use impacts to STL and improving the ASLD's public facing 'Parcel Viewer.' The ASLD currently tracks land use impacts, such as trespass and environmental incidents through Salesforce; however, the process is insufficient. To better inform decision-making and appropriate future resources, the agency requires organized data tracking in a reportable format. In addition, ASLD's Parcel Viewer will require additional data be made available to the public to understand closures and areas open for recreation.

This proposal includes multiple work streams that must be completed simultaneously. These include:

- Closure of data gaps through acquisition and updates to GIS data and digitization of paper records.
- *Redesign of a public facing map to better show areas that the public can recreate.*
- Design, test, and release tools to assist ASLD's Natural Resource Section.
- Develop dashboards and maps to help visualize the impact.

Progress: ASLD's GIS Section has defined multiple workstreams that will fulfill the scope of this tract. The team has begun drafting several professional service scopes of work to develop tools and digitize

paper records. The team is also gathering and updating data that will be used to help determine where recreation activities could potentially be sited. Members had no questions or comments regarding the Non-Urban Land Plan update.

5. Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) Law Enforcement Update: (Presenter: Micah White, LE Off-Highway Vehicle Coordinator).

Game and Fish Law Enforcement OHV coordinator Micah White provided members with updates on rental companies, citation information, the OHV Laws and Places to Ride Brochure and advertising efforts the agency is making to help promote responsible riding among Arizona's OHV community. Matt Eberhart informed members that he would be sharing the Arizona Game and Fish Departments citation visuals following the meeting. Members had no questions or comments regarding his presentation.

E. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Members had no requests for upcoming agenda items. Matt Eberhart informed the Group that Ben Alteneder, Geoff Chain, Holly Irwin and Chuck Wood's terms expire at the end of the calendar year and that membership may be a discussion worth having for a future meeting. In addition, Matt Eberhart informed members that there may be a few grants submitted before the end of the fiscal year that may need to be reviewed.

F. CURRENT EVENTS

Mickey Rogers provided an update on the Great Western Trail and offered a seat in the OHV programs Jeep should any members want to participate in riding the final section of the trail in mid-May. Geoff Chain updated members on the NOHVCC Great Trails Workshop that recently took place in Amado, Arizona and on the upcoming Mechanized Training in Prescott, AZ later this year. Matt Eberhart invited members to attend the Mormon Lake UTV Rally on Friday, May 7th and Saturday, May 8th at the Mormon Lake Lodge near Flagstaff, AZ.

G. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public that whished to speak during the meeting.

H. FUTURE MEETING DATES

The next meeting is planned to be scheduled for the week of May 24th to May 29, 2021.

I. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.