

## Ground Operations

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # \_\_\_\_\_

APP # \_\_\_\_\_

### 1. Project Description

#### A. Statement of GO Activity

This project requests funds to operate and maintain facilities and trails at Samoa Dunes Recreation Area. Facilities include the caretaker site (deck, two sheds, lawn, perimeter fence, water supply, septic tank, electricity, phone), an ATV training site, a 4x4 obstacle course, three picnic areas containing eleven picnic tables, eight fire rings, two restrooms, nine trash cans, three kiosks, a paved OHV staging area containing an unloading ramp and drinking water system, and a scenic overlook.

The application identifies upgrades to the 4x4 obstacle course, repair of the OHV unloading ramp, repair of the scenic overlook, and maintenance, repair, or replacement of various signs and post/cable barriers throughout the riding area. Ten miles of riding trails would be maintained at least 4 times per year, requiring the use of a tractor with box scraper or small dozer. The trails are located within the sand dune area designated "open to OHV use." The primary access road (both graveled and paved) would be maintained using methods such as grading of existing or additional base rock and filling potholes.

Labor dollars are needed to operate, repair, and maintain facilities, and to oversee trail maintenance activities. BLM positions associated with this work include the maintenance worker, outdoor recreation planner, park ranger, and two volunteer caretakers who reside on-site.

#### B. Relation of Proposed Project to OHV Recreation

This ground operations project is necessary to provide an adequate level of services to the estimated 28,500 OHV visitors who recreate in this area each year. A BLM maintenance worker, outdoor recreation planner, seasonal park ranger, and two volunteer resident caretakers maintain these facilities to enhance the OHV recreation experience and maintain OHV opportunities.

Keeping the ATV training site well maintained provides an excellent area for beginners to learn how to ride an OHV, and reduces the potential safety hazard of having beginners traveling on the same trails that advanced riders enjoy riding on.

Information posted on the three kiosks provide riders with rules, regulations, and maps of specific areas that are open or closed to OHV use. The information also shows riders where the trails and other OHV facilities are located such as the ATV training area, the staging area, and 4WD obstacle course.

Maintaining the riding trails provides for an enjoyable riding experience and helps deter the motivation to seek out other areas which may be closed to OHV use.

Recruitment and reorientation of rocks, concrete blocks, tree stumps, and large tires at the 4WD obstacle course would increase riding opportunities and experiences at this location. Installation of a Ramp Travel Index (RTI) ramp would allow riders to measure their vehicle's ability to flex its suspension (axle articulation). Club members recommended this additional item be added to the 4WD obstacle course so they could compare and educate each other about techniques used for their vehicle modifications.

The volunteer caretakers residing at the entrance to Samoa Dunes play an important role in providing information to OHV riders, and keeping the facilities clean and safe.

Avoiding conflicts with non-motorized recreation users is crucial in this relatively small area as approximately 150,000 non-

motorized recreation visitors use the area annually. Having specific OHV riding facilities (ATV training site, 4x4 obstacle course, OHV staging area) attracts riders to these particular sites and leaves additional space for other users, thus reducing user conflicts.

Maintaining and/or installing signs inform riders of a variety of messages aimed at providing a safe riding experience, reducing user conflicts, and complying with established rules and regulations. Neighboring residents and nearby private property are protected from trespass and property damage because signs have been installed along the property boundaries. Numerous cautionary signs have been posted and maintained at OHV trail intersections to avoid vehicle collisions.

Maintaining post and cable vehicle barriers physically prevent riders from trespassing onto private or other public property, and prevents vehicle intrusion into sensitive habitat areas designated closed to vehicle use.

The scenic overlook, located at the OHV staging area, is frequently used by OHV riders to view the entire riding area and decide where best to enjoy their experience. The steps and railing leading to the overlook's platform are beginning to rot and become unstable. For the public's safety and continued enjoyment of this facility, repairs need to be made.

The prevailing wind from the north substantially reduces noise impacts because the neighboring residents live north of the riding area.

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

Samoa Dunes Recreation Area totals approximately 400 acres. The open riding area totals approximately 220 acres and areas closed to OHV use (endangered plant protection area and wetland protection area) total nearly 180 acres. Approximately 10 miles of OHV trails, located throughout the open riding area, are maintained approximately 4 times per year.

### **D. Location and description of OHV opportunities**

The ATV training site, located at the entrance to the recreation area, is approximately 1 acre in size and provides beginners a safe place to learn and train. The site is fenced to delineate its boundary. The 4WD obstacle course, located at the south end of Samoa Dunes, consists of two different sized rock piles, old telephone poles, and a few large tires where riders can test and display their skills. A tot-lot beginners trail is located adjacent to the Cypress Grove picnic area. A paved OHV staging area containing a drinking water system, a scenic overlook, picnic tables, fire rings, a restroom, trash cans, an information kiosk, and an unloading ramp provide OHV enthusiasts with all the amenities and basic requirements needed for a successful OHV recreation experience. The paved and graveled access roads lead to picnic areas and the OHV staging area. The OHV riding trails are located within the 220 acre open area, mostly on the western portion of the recreation area.

## **2. Rerouting Requirements**

### **Rerouting**

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

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

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

**Project Cost Estimate**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
<b>APPLICANT NAME :</b>	BLM - Arcata Field Office		
<b>PROJECT TITLE :</b>	Ground Operations	<b>PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :</b>	G12-01-02-G01
<b>PROJECT TYPE :</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration		
<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION :</b>	<p>This project requests funds to operate and maintain facilities and trails at Samoa Dunes Recreation Area. Facilities include the caretaker site (deck, two sheds, lawn, perimeter fence, water supply, septic tank, electricity, phone), an ATV training site, a 4x4 obstacle course, three picnic areas containing eleven picnic tables, eight fire rings, two restrooms, nine trash cans, three kiosks, a paved OHV staging area containing an unloading ramp and drinking water system, and a scenic overlook.</p> <p>The application identifies upgrades to the 4x4 obstacle course, repair of the OHV unloading ramp, repair of the scenic overlook, and maintenance, repair, or replacement of various signs and post/cable barriers throughout the riding area. Ten miles of riding trails would be maintained at least 4 times per year, requiring the use of a tractor with box scraper or small dozer. The trails are located within the sand dune area designated "open to OHV use. The primary access road (both graveled and paved) would be maintained using methods such as grading of existing or additional base rock and filling potholes.</p> <p>Labor dollars are needed to operate, repair, and maintain facilities, and to oversee trail maintenance activities. BLM positions associated with this work include the maintenance worker, outdoor recreation planner, park ranger, and two volunteer caretakers who reside on-site.</p>		

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Req.	Match	Total
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>							
<b>Program Expenses</b>							
<b>1</b>	<b>Staff</b>						
	Other-Outdoor Recreation Planner	200.000	52.000	HRS	9,400.00	1,000.00	10,400.00
	Maintenance Worker	150.000	45.000	HRS	5,750.00	1,000.00	6,750.00
	Park Maintenance Worker	320.000	33.000	HRS	9,560.00	1,000.00	10,560.00
	Other-Volunteer Caretaker	350.000	20.000	HRS	0.00	7,000.00	7,000.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2012/2013  
 Agency: BLM - Arcata Field Office  
 Application: Ground Operations

3/1/2013

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Req.	Match	Total
	Notes : Two volunteer caretakers reside at Samoa Dunes, performing a wide variety of valuable services such as grounds maintenance, opening and closing the entrance gate, and patrols.  Each volunteer caretaker works at least 350 hours per year and the services provided are worth \$20 per hour.						
	Other-Volunteer Caretaker Notes : Two volunteer caretakers reside at Samoa Dunes, performing a wide variety of valuable services such as grounds maintenance, opening and closing the entrance gate, and patrols.  Each volunteer caretaker works at least 350 hours per year and the services provided are worth \$20 per hour.	350.000	20.000	HRS	0.00	7,000.00	7,000.00
<b>Total for Staff</b>					24,710.00	17,000.00	41,710.00
<b>2</b>	<b>Contracts</b>						
	Other-Restroom Pumping	2.000	775.000	EA	1,550.00	0.00	1,550.00
	Other-Trail grooming	50.000	100.000	HRS	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
	Other-Road Maintenance	32.000	125.000	HRS	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
	Other-4WD obstacle course upgrade & maint	60.000	125.000	HRS	7,500.00	0.00	7,500.00
	Other-Unloading Ramp repair	70.000	125.000	HRS	8,750.00	0.00	8,750.00
	Other-Scenic Overlook repair	70.000	80.000	HRS	5,600.00	0.00	5,600.00
<b>Total for Contracts</b>					32,400.00	0.00	32,400.00
<b>3</b>	<b>Materials / Supplies</b>						
	Other-Signs	40.000	25.000	EA	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
	Janitorial	10.000	40.000	PKG	400.00	0.00	400.00
	Trash Bags	10.000	40.000	PKG	400.00	0.00	400.00
<b>Total for Materials / Supplies</b>					1,800.00	0.00	1,800.00

Agency: BLM - Arcata Field Office  
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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Req.	Match	Total
4	<b>Equipment Use Expenses</b>						
5	<b>Equipment Purchases</b>						
6	<b>Others</b>						
	Other-ATV Tuneup	20.000	40.000	HRS	800.00	0.00	800.00
	Other-Volunteer Stipends (2)	350.000	12.000	DAY	0.00	4,200.00	4,200.00
<b>Total for Others</b>					800.00	4,200.00	5,000.00
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>					59,710.00	21,200.00	80,910.00
<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>					59,710.00	21,200.00	80,910.00
<b>INDIRECT EXPENSES</b>							
<b>Indirect Costs</b>							
1	<b>Indirect Costs</b>						
	Indirect Costs-Indirect Costs Notes : Indirect costs include BLM administrative services (Administrative Officer and 2 Assistants), contract administration, utility costs, and accounting services related to the project.	150.000	40.000	HRS	0.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>					0.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
<b>TOTAL INDIRECT EXPENSES</b>					0.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>					<b>59,710.00</b>	<b>27,200.00</b>	<b>86,910.00</b>

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2012/2013  
 Agency: BLM - Arcata Field Office  
 Application: Ground Operations

3/1/2013

	Category	Grant Req.	Match	Total	Narrative
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>					
<b>Program Expenses</b>					
1	Staff	24,710.00	17,000.00	41,710.00	Re: Volunteer Caretakers  There are two volunteer caretakers (married couple) who reside on-site at the caretaker residence. Each caretaker is estimated to contribute 350 hours worth \$20.00 per hour for the year. This amounts to \$7,000 for each caretaker. The line item is not a duplicate. There are two line items...one for each caretaker.
2	Contracts	32,400.00	0.00	32,400.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	1,800.00	0.00	1,800.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00	
6	Others	800.00	4,200.00	5,000.00	Regarding the line item "Volunteer Stipend", the BLM Arcata Field Office pays the two volunteer caretakers (a married couple) a total of \$12.00 per day to perform a variety of OHV related duties. Each day (minus approx. 15 days when they are off on vacation or visiting relatives) they both together clean each of the two restrooms, empty nine trash cans, clean and stock three kiosks, clean the grounds around two picnic areas and the OHV staging area, open the entrance gate 1 hour before sunrise, and close the entrance 1 hour after sunset. They do a "drive thru" each night before closing the gate to make sure no one is locked inside the area. They both provide information to OHV enthusiast about open and closed riding areas, rules, and regulations.
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>		59,710.00	21,200.00	80,910.00	
<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>		59,710.00	21,200.00	80,910.00	
<b>INDIRECT EXPENSES</b>					
<b>Indirect Costs</b>					

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2012/2013

3/1/2013

Agency: BLM - Arcata Field Office  
 Application: Ground Operations

	Category	Grant Req.	Match	Total	Narrative
1	Indirect Costs	0.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	Indirect costs include expenses incurred for the administration of the project, i.e. Administrative Officer labor costs, Administrative Assistant (2) labor costs, contract administration, and utility costs.
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>		0.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	
<b>TOTAL INDIRECT EXPENSES</b>		0.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>59,710.00</b>	<b>27,200.00</b>	<b>86,910.00</b>	

## Evaluation Criteria

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

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the Project costs covered by the Applicant is: 3

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

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

### 2. Failure to Complete - Q 2.

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

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

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

Explain each statement that was checked:

The project includes OHV trail maintenance. Failure to groom the OHV trails and the ATV Training Site would reduce OHV opportunities because they would not provide an enjoyable, exciting, or challenging riding experience. The project requests funds to upgrade the 4x4 obstacle course. By not upgrading this facility, the large boulders will eventually move out of place and the riding opportunity will be lost. Additional rocks at this site would add OHV opportunities as the riding experience would be more challenging. Inadequate maintenance of 2 restrooms, drinking water faucet, trash cans, picnic tables, kiosks, and signs will cause weather damage (additional damage to facilities). Failure to maintain vehicle barriers would result in OHV use in closed areas which could damage cultural sites, special-status plant species and their habitat. Inadequate maintenance or replacement of vehicle barriers and signs would result in OHV trespass onto nearby private property and beach areas closed to OHV use.

### 3. Sustain OHV Opportunity - Q 3.

3. The Project would sustain OHV Opportunity by: 13

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

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

Explain each statement that was checked:

The project would maintain 10 miles of riding trail to sustain a groomed surface. This is preferred over multiple and continuous humps that are created over time from continual use. The access road would be repaired and maintained, making travel safer. Grading and pot hole patching reduces the potential for vehicle damage. The inboard ditches would be cleaned and the road crowned to reduce erosion. The project requests funds to maintain, repair, or replace signs that educate visitors about trail and facility locations, rules and regulations, and areas open and closed to OHV use. The width and configuration of the trails varies so that certain trails are preferred by 4x4's and others by ATV's and motorcycles. Trails also vary in difficulty, from easiest to moderately challenging.

**4. Public Input - Q 4.**

4. The Project was developed with public input prior to the preliminary Application filing deadline. 2  
Public input employed the following:

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

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

Explain each statement that was checked and identify the dates of the meetings or calls:

A public noticed meeting will be held on February 21, 2013 beginning at 6:00 pm at the BLM Arcata Field Office to discuss issues and project-specific proposals that would benefit OHV users, other recreation user groups, neighboring residents and property owners, and the natural and cultural environment. Conservation organizations, OHV clubs, and individuals who have communicated an interest in Samoa Dunes in the past were mailed information on February 12, 2013 about the public meeting. Emails were sent out on February 11, 2013. A BLM news release about the public meeting was posted in a local newspaper (The Independent) on February 19, 2013. The BLM also posted the news release on its website on February 13, 2013.

A conference call amongst OHV clubs occurred on February 28, 2013. Stakeholder OHV clubs were at attendance at the public meeting on February 21, 2013 and provided valuable input.

**5. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 5.**

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

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

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

List partner organization(s) and explain how each partner(s) will participate in the project:

1. Lost Coast 4x4's: This club has agreed to patrol the riding area, provide information of other riders, pick up debris, repair and upgrade the 4x4 obstacle course, assist in OHV race events if they occur, and contact BLM if any safety issues arise.

2. California Conservation Corps: This organization has agreed to assist in the repair of vehicle barriers, cleanup operations, facility maintenance and repair, and eradication of invasive plant species.

3. Rock Solid 4x4 Club: Members have agreed to assist in the repair and upgrade of the 4x4 obstacle course.

4. Redwood Off-Road Club: The club has agreed to provide on-the-ground patrols to identify trail and facility maintenance needs, perform cleanup operations, assist in the upgrade and maintenance of the 4x4 obstacle course, and assist in any OHV commercial race events if they occur.

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

6. The Project will avoid and/or minimize impact to natural and cultural resources by: 5

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

- Maintaining physical barriers to control OHV use (1 point)
- Protecting water quality (1 point)
- Providing bridges instead of wet crossings where appropriate (1 point)
- Protecting special-status species (1 point)
- Re-routing trails to divert away from riparian/wetlands areas (1 point)
- Providing sanitary facilities (1 point)
- Protecting cultural site(s) (1 point)
- Site design precludes the need for the above measures (7 points)

Explain each statement that was checked:

Samoa Dunes was designed to prevent impacts on native vegetation, special-status species, wetlands (areas where high water quality is needed to protect wildlife), and cultural / historical resources by closing such areas (post and cable barriers) to OHV use. The open riding area and facilities are located in areas that were already highly disturbed where only invasive, non-native vegetation continues to exist. The 40-acre endangered plant protection area and 120-acre wetland protection area are completely enclosed by protective fencing and closed to OHV use. Cultural sites are within these closed areas. Two restrooms (sanitary facilities), one at the OHV staging area and the other at the Cypress Grove picnic area, are located at Samoa Dunes and prevent sanitation problems.

**7. Recycled Materials - Q 7.**

7. The Project incorporates recycled materials by utilizing: 4

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

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

**8. Sustainable Technologies - Q 8.**

8. The Project makes substantial use of sustainable technologies, meaning at least 50% of the project activities use sustainable technologies, such as: 0

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

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

- No (No points)  Yes (4 points)

Explain 'Yes' response:

**9. Motorized Access - Q 9.**

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

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

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Camping   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Birding           |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hiking  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equestrian trails |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fishing   | <input type="checkbox"/> Rock Climbing                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) [surfing, picnicking, nature study] |   |