



NEVADA COMMISSION ON OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES

BIENNIAL LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Fiscal Year 2017 – 2018



NEVADA COMMISSION ON
OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES



Nevada Department of
**CONSERVATION &
NATURAL RESOURCES**

General Activities of the Commission on Off-Highway Vehicles



In 2017, the 79th Session of the Nevada Legislature passed Assembly Bill 29, creating the Nevada Off-Highway Vehicles Program (Program), and placing the Commission on Off-Highway Vehicles (Commission) in the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (NDCNR). Today, NDCNR administers the Program and the Account for Off-Highway Vehicles, and provides staff to the Commission. Pursuant to NRS 490, the Commission provides direction to the Program, and has decision authority to award grants for projects relating to (1) studies or planning for OHV trails and facilities; (2) mapping and signing of OHV trails and facilities; (3) acquisition of land for OHV trails and facilities; (4) enhancement or maintenance of OHV trails and facilities; (5) construction of OHV trails and facilities; (6) restoration of areas that have been damaged by OHVs; (7) construction of trail features to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive or important wildlife habitat areas; (8) OHV safety training and education; and (9) OHV compliance and enforcement.

New Appointments

Governor Brian Sandoval appointed four new commissioners in this last biennium: Kevin Hill of Carson City, representing Conservation; Sean Berryman of Washoe County, representing ATV and Motorcycle riders; Brian Parks of Douglas County, representing Ranchers; and Edward Booth of Humboldt County, representing Sportsmen. The remainder of the Commission includes: Chairman Greg McKay of Washoe County, representing snowmobilers; Vice Chair Sue Baker of Clark County, recommended by the Nevada Association of Counties; Sheriff Kerry Lee of Lincoln County, recommended by the Sheriff and Chiefs Association; Michael Gerow of Carson/Reno, representing OHV Dealers; and Charles Cox from Mesquite, Clark County, representing general ATV/OHV riders.

Program Staffing

Previously, one part-time classified employee managed the Program and served as the Executive Secretary to the Commission. However, in April 2018, due to the success and growth of the Program, the Executive Secretary position was made full-time. Currently NDCNR has proposed a reclassification of the Executive Secretary position to a Management Analyst III to better correspond with the new and ever-increasing responsibilities of the Program.



New Website



Since its inception, one of the Program's goals has been to increase the number of eligible applications by improving strategic outreach to grant applicants. A second Program goal has been to promote the importance of OHV registration, with the objective of increasing the number of registrations and renewals statewide.

Creation of the Off-Road Nevada registration website (ohv.nv.gov) and development of a marketing strategy and communications plan has been completed. The Program marketing strategy is twofold: it includes raising awareness among the general public that registration is not only the law, but it also provides numerous

benefits to the registrants.

There are two video campaigns featured on the website designed to promote and brand the program as "Off Road Nevada." The first campaign, RIDESMART, highlights local clubs and celebrity riders who register their vehicles and follow safe riding practices to "Ride Smart!" The second campaign showcases the numerous grant projects awarded and completed, while emphasizing the benefits to registrants, such as enhancing the OHV experience. With the campaign slogan, "Your Registration Dollars Create Tomorrow's Off-Road Adventures," these videos feature the local clubs and partnerships, as well as engaging footage of the projects, trails, and scenery.



OHV Friendly Community Survey

Assembly Bill 29 directed the Commission to evaluate the presumption set forth in NRS 490.090 to NRS 490.130 inclusive, "that the operation of an off-highway vehicle on a paved highway is prohibited unless authorized by a governmental entity."

As part of the Program's dedication to engaging and empowering residents and municipalities throughout Nevada, the Commission distributed a survey to solicit input from various stakeholders to better understand how Nevada's OHV law may be improved. The Commission distributed the survey to 300 government entities and 500 OHV listserv subscribers. The survey was also posted on NDCNR's social media channels and the Program's website. To date, there have been 723 responses.

Local municipalities and other agencies impacted by NRS Chapter 490 were also given the opportunity to provide additional written comments to Program staff, detailing recommendations to revise and clarify the statute. Thus far, OHV recreationists and law enforcement professionals have expressed concern regarding the confusing and often misinterpreted language in NRS 490.

The comment period for the survey will close on September 30, 2018. Staff is currently analyzing survey data and the Commission will make recommendation to the Legislature by December 31, 2018.

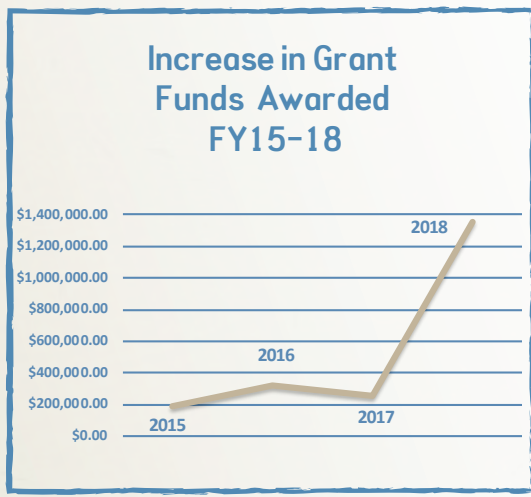
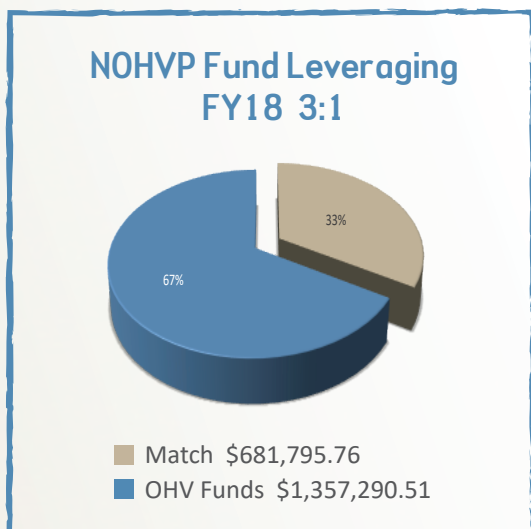
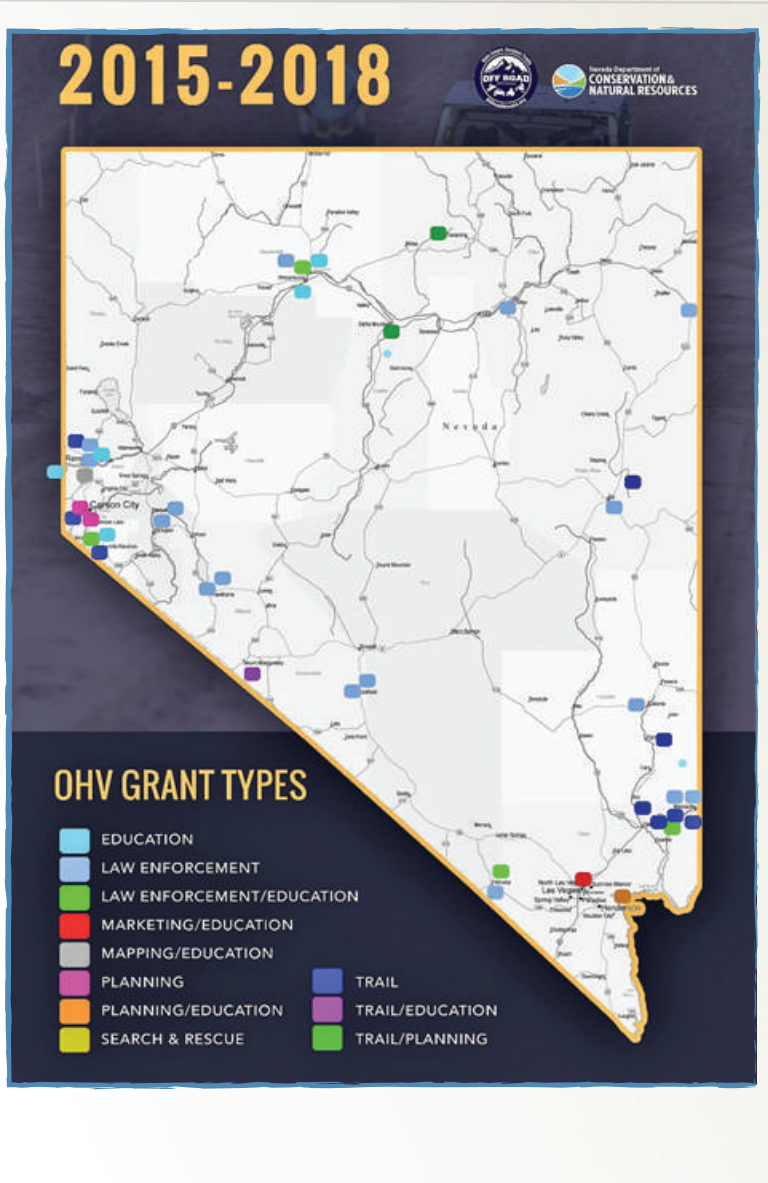
Financial Summary

RECEIPTS & FUNDING	FY 2017	FY 2018
Beginning Cash (Balance Forward from Prior Year)	2,338,459.00	2,962,560.00
Total New Revenue	939,239.63	931,728.23
Total Revenue	3,277,698.63	3,894,288.23
ACTUAL EXPENDITURES	FY 2017	FY 2018
Administration	52,391.66	84,083.26
OHV Grants	262,747.39	478,768.26
Total Expenditures	315,139.05	562,851.52
Fiscal Year End Balance	2,962,559.58	3,331,436.71



Summary of Grants Awarded

The Program's grant initiative was a great success. Over the last biennium, more than 40 grant applications were submitted. In FY17, four new grants were awarded, followed by another 27 in FY18. The FY19 request for grant applications is now open, and the Program anticipates that there will be even more applications submitted than in the previous biennium. All grants from FY15 and FY16 have been closed.





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