

**USDI Bureau of Land Management
Service**

Eagle Lake Field Office

USDA Forest

Lassen National
Forest

NEWS RELEASE

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BLM, FOREST SERVICE HOSTING OHV GRANT MEETINGS

The Bureau of Land Management and Lassen National Forest will accept public comments on their requests for 2005 California off highway vehicle grant funds, when they hold a public open house meeting Tuesday, April 6, at 7 p.m. at the BLM Eagle Lake Field Office, 2950 Riverside Dr., Susanville.

Agency representatives will detail the grant requests and answer questions at the beginning of the meeting. Participants will then have the opportunity to visit with agency staff members to discuss the grants, and to leave their comments.

Both agencies are requesting funds from the California Department of Parks and Recreation's Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division. Grant funds are derived from off-road vehicle recreation fees and gasoline taxes.

The BLM is asking for about \$50,000 to operate and maintain the Fort Sage Off Highway Vehicle Area near Doyle. Funds would be used to monitor use and to repair areas damaged by improper vehicle use, according to Outdoor Recreation Planner Duane Jackson.

The Lassen National Forest is requesting over \$100,000 in grant funding. Grant money would be used for operations and maintenance of trails and for law enforcement, said Elizabeth Norton, forest public services officer.

California's Off Highway Vehicle Recreation Commission annually reviews requests for grant funds and will make allocation decisions in fall 2004 for 2005 operations.

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