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Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

ATV Grant Subcommittee Meeting

Monday June 16, 2025 – In-Person & Zoom

725 Summer St. NE Room 124 A&B

Salem, Oregon 97301

Meeting Notes

ATV Committee Attendees:

Barrett Brown – Class III Rep ATV
Ron Price – Member at Large ATV
Sgt. Matt Smith – Law Enforcement ATV
Virgile Osborne – Class II Rep ATV, Chair
Dave Kimball – Class I Rep ATV (online)
Ann Haak – ADA Rep ATV (online)
Matt Miller – Class IV Rep ATV (online)

OPRD Attendees:

Ian Caldwell – ATV Program Coordinator, Mountain Region Office
Jodi Bellefeuille – RTP Coordinator
Jessica Horning – Statewide Trails Program
Mike Law – Field Rep & Grant Agreements for ATV Program
Jeff Trejo – ATV Safety Education Coordinator
Michele Scalise – Grants and Community Program Manager
Denise Frechin – OPRD Grants Admin Support – Notetaker

• ATV Grant Subcommittee Meeting

- Approval of March 2025 Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
 - Notes not completed, no vote today.
- Statewide Trails Plan Update
 - Overview of Work Completed, Timeline, Next Steps
 - A 10-year strategy for the recreational trail network and includes ATV Trails, non-motorized hiker/biker/equestrian trails, and non-motorized water boating/paddling trails. The goal is gathering information from trail users and land managers to update criteria for the RTP and ATV grant programs. Also to understand and mitigate issues users have, recommend actions to tackle those issues and create a resource toolkit for users.
 - Timeline – Wrapping up the first year of outreach and data collection. Next, we will finish workshops and begin writing the plan. When working on the grant criteria, Ian and Jodi will follow up with updates to the Committee. The next engagement opportunity is after the draft plan approval. There will be a 30-day public review period, we will finish making any last edits to the draft, then have the final plan ready for the next commission meeting.
 - Survey Data: Provider Survey and Trail User Survey

- Started in 2022 when doing the SCORP – State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. Provider and user surveys statewide for all recreation. Asked top priority issues, management issues and funding priorities. Questions were a combination of picking an answer and open-ended questions. Reoccurring themes from all groups are maintenance, accessibility, funding, and accessible information for users.
- Trail Partner Survey result had 196 responses with 60% government agencies and 40% non-profit/private. The biggest challenges are funding, maintenance resources, and staff resources (of staff and training). The most desired resources are a list of existing trail funding sources, evaluating options for creating new trail funding sources, trail maintenance best practice and innovations case studies, guidance on recreational immunity, and accessible trail signage and information guidance.
- For the regions in the survey, we used travel Oregon's established regions. Some areas were split, such as the Tillamook State Forest on the coast and Portland. They had some explanations in the survey to clarify areas.
- The Trail User Survey had 4,295 responses, 1,804, 42% were OHV/ATV users, 16% households with disabilities.
- Focus Groups Update
 - Contracted with the Oregon Trails Coalition to host seven online trail user focus groups to go into the details of the survey.
 - Hearing similar themes, Improve access to trails, better information online and at trails, and more funding, support for trail maintenance, partnerships, development and enforcement.
- ATV Scoring Criteria
 - Overview of Existing Criteria
 - Went over ATV program overview showing funding comes from permits and gas taxes. The grants are dispersed for operations and maintenance, law enforcement, acquisition, development and planning, emergency medical services, and safety and education.
 - Must comply with ORS 390.550 to 585 and OAR 736-004-0005 to 0030, Adopted Statewide Plans, ATV Grant Manual, Committee Advisory, and process goals.
 - We ask questions to understand the scope of their project, use scoring from trails plan, and scoring from agency mission. The scoring criteria is used for project completion, documentation to justify funding and defend scores.
 - Committee Discussion of Updates to Criteria
 - ATV Scoring Criteria totals 100 points.
 - There are Discretionary Points, Public Support, Funding Match, Accessibility/Universal Access, Natural and Cultural Resource Protection, Barrier to outdoor recreation, and Statewide issues – Maintenance & Enforcement Plan, New Experiences/Facilities, Information and Manage user conflicts.
 - Funding Priorities for providers are to maintain current operations/maintenance levels, increase operations/maintenance levels, maintain current law enforcement levels, increase current law enforcement levels, and emergency medical services for OHV areas.

- For users is continue current maintenance levels, construct new OHV trails, Improve maintenance of OHV trails and facilities beyond current levels, online information about trails and how to access trails, informational signs at trailheads, provide opportunities for multi-day long distance ATV trail experiences, more camping opportunities at trailheads/staging areas, wayfinding signs along trails, Manage OHV trails to avoid user conflicts, and continue current law enforcement levels.
- From the Statewide Trails Plan, statewide issues are Maintenance & Enforcement Plans, New Experiences/Facilities, Information, and Managing User Conflicts. This is currently one question and will be ten items. We want to be more strategic about the specific things were asking.
 - We don't want to do or not do things today that leave a big investment of time and money for someone tomorrow.
 - There were a lot of side-by-side users with disabilities that came up in the survey. Their use is growing and there is often a lack of trails. They use roads and class II trails that are then needing more maintenance than they were slotted for.
- There is updated data to support trail grants. Non-motorized trails are 80%, motorized trails are 7% and water trails are 15%.
- Criteria Discussion
 - Increase opportunities:
 - Improving information about areas
 - Develop stacked/diverse trail options
 - Support for calling out new experiences/development for extra points
 - Support for scoring rubric.
 - Huge investment needed to recover from federal disinvestment.
 - Need to overcome cultural issue with noise/sound.
 - Encourage some paving in staging areas for ADA access
 - Matt Smith: add a question about youth training
 - Potential Question: Describe current SxS opportunities in your riding areas and any plans to expand SxS trails.
 - Consider how opportunities can be expanded, sometimes opening up a small section of road or trail can expanded riding area.
 - Support for providing points for SxS and accessibility issues
 - Overlanding is a big focus
 - Support for removing Economic Benefit Questions
 - Remove limit of 10, on letters of support
 - Have applicants show community involvement in project development
 - Financial support:
 - intent not clear (rubric could help guide scoring)
 - include partnerships
 - like to see cash match
 - want to see applicant is making tangible investment and not just relying on volunteers
 - Interested in seeing what additional resources/partnerships applicants are bringing to the table
 - Ask applicants to describe other grants and funding streams

- Timeline – Putting the documents together and working with Jodi as a lead for RTP to do coordination back and forth. Will be submitted to February's commission.

- **Update on ATV Grants**

- End of 2023-25, Starting 2025-27 Grants
 - Closing out grants from last biennium and getting the next grants going.
- Status of USFS and BLM Grants
 - Having issues with the federal government side and forest service grants.
- New Grant Cycle – Fall of 2025 with Meeting in January 2026
 - Several 1 year grants can be able to do two-year grants when their funding estimates stabilize.
- NOHVCC National Conference October 9-11
 - In Bend,
 - OPRD staff is working with them on agenda and presentations.
 - We will have presentations about Oregon.
 - Jodi will present on RTP.
 - There will be a lot of other presentations such as sound, advocates, etc.
 - Are committee members interested in attending? Yes, Barrett, Virgle, Matt Miller, Matt Smith and Dave Kimball.
- Site Visit to Sumpter, Baker City and La Grande October 20-23. Mike and Ian are working with agencies to figure out tours.

- 3:30 p.m. **Adjourn**