



California Motorcycle Dealers Association

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Since 1971 — Over Thirty Years of Service to California's Motorcycle & Motorsport Dealers

March 4, 2010

BLM Hollister Field Office
20 Hamilton Court
Hollister, CA 95023

URGENT — FAXED

Att: CCMA RMP/EIS

Dear Sir or Madam:

The California Motorcycle Dealers Association (CMDA) is a thirty-nine year-old non-profit trade association for California's motorcycle and motorsport dealers. We represent the business interests of the majority of dealers in California who look to us to make the business of motorcycle and motorsports retailing as user-friendly as possible.

On behalf of over 200 franchised and authorized California motorcycle and motorsport dealers, I respectfully ask you to reopen the Clear Creek Management Area to motorized recreational use. This abrupt (and continuing) closure, although it may have been well-intentioned, did not take into account the devastating financial impact on motorcycle and all terrain vehicle (ATV) dealers, in the direct and feeder areas of California, to Clear Creek.

Our Members, undoubtedly, will be advising you of their individual cases of how significantly this closure has affected their businesses, and I will give you an overview of its impact on the industry. Motorcycle retailing is suffering through the most serious challenge that we have ever experienced because of the deepest national recession since the Great Depression. The Clear Creek closure exacerbates that effect, since many CMDA Member dealerships depend on their customers' income from the use of this decades-old, excellent OHV riding area.

CMDA Members include direct, and feeder, OHV businesses from Bakersfield, Berkeley, Concord, Daly City, Fowler, Fremont, Fresno, Gilroy, Goleta, Hayward, Hollister, Lemoore, Livermore, Lompoc, Manteca, Merced, Modesto, Morgan Hill, Monterey, Mountain View, Oakland, Oakley, Paso Robles, Redwood City, Salinas, San Francisco, San Mateo, San Jose, San Raphael, Santa Clara, Santa Maria, Sonora, Stockton, Sunnyvale, Tulare, Visalia and Walnut Creek. On behalf of these dealers directly impacted by the closure, **we respectfully urge the BLM to approve Alternative 1.** To justify that Alternative choice, please do more extensive air sampling, which is likely to demonstrate that the health hazards are much less significant than your limited study indicates.

In closing, it's too late for former CMDA Members, in Bakersfield, Concord, Hayward, Lompoc, Oakland, Oakley, Paso Robles, Redwood City, Sonora and Sunnyvale, who closed their doors since the closure went into effect, to report the financial impact of the closure on their business, but it couldn't have helped any.

Respectfully,

John Palwoda,
Executive Director of the CMDA