

Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee, Inc.

News Release

For Immediate Release: February 10, 2010

Contact: Melissa Nicholson (951-683-3872) or dtpc@pacbell.net

THE DTPC INVITES PUBLIC COMMENTS ON OHV GRANT APPLICATION

The Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee (DTPC) invites public comments on its draft application to the California's Off Highway Motorized Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division.

The DTPC is requesting funding from the OHMVR Division for three projects. The first is a ground operations project that involves the installation of desert tortoise exclusion fencing along high risk areas of the Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area's (DTNA) boundary fence. The second project will help fund habitat improvements on 17.5 acres of disturbed land at Camp "C". The third project, which focuses on education, will help fund the development and installation of a new interpretive kiosk at the Interpretive Center of the DTNA. Funds would be used in 2010 and 2011.

Anyone interested can review the grant application, along with those from other agencies, local governments, and non-profits, on-line at www.ohv.parks.ca.gov. The commenting period is open from Tuesday March 2, 2010 until Monday, April 5, 2010. Comments should be sent directly to the OHMVR Division at ohvinfo@parks.ca.gov and to the DTPC at dtpc@pacbell.net. Late comments will be forwarded to the division separately.

The DTPC applied for OHVMR funds to help operate the DTNA and increase the safety of the preserve for the benefit of the desert tortoise, other wildlife within the DTNA, and the visitors recreating in the area, approximately 66% of whom are OHV riders.

Additional information on the application is available by contacting Melissa Nicholson, Preserve Manager and Office Administrator at (951) 683-3872, or by e-mail at dtpc@pacbell.net.