

Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee, Inc.

News Release

For Immediate Release: March 15, 2009

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 approximately \$90,000 in funding to be used for two ground operation projects. The first project 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 involves the purchase and installation of signs along the existing boundary of the DTNA, the purchase of signs for installation at important highway intersections, and development and installation of educational signs at the Interpretive Center of the DTNA. Funds would be used in 2010.

Comments should be sent to the DTPC, 4067 Mission Inn Avenue, Riverside, California 92501, Attention: OHV Grants. Comments must be received by Monday, April 6, 2009 to be included with the grant request to the OHMVR Division. Late comments will be forwarded to the division separately.

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. 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.

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 50% of whom are OHV riders.