

Off Trail in Habitat Conservation Area Permit Alternatives

	Permit Number	Area/Reporting	Group Size Limit	Fines/Enforceability	Resource Issues	Organizational Capacity/Compliance
Alternative 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-line application Adapt down – Decrease number of permits if impacts detected 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual permit with reporting after visit area visited, where in area visited, activity, and length of stay. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25 – same as Special Use Permit threshold Limit number of permits for each HCA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase-in grace period Graduated fine starting at \$50 Only leader pays fine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have low impact information known on back of permit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher compliance Implementation less complicated and expensive
Alternative 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily permit by area and record where visiting in area, activity and length of trip Area or seasonal restrictions for resource protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 Leader required to get permit and responsible for practicing and educating group about low impact practices Leader agrees to responsible off-trail use through signature or electronic signature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase-in grace period Graduated fine starting at \$100 Only leader only pays fine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have rules and low impact information known on back of permit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher compliance Implementation less complicated and expensive
Alternative 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit number of permits for each HCA (for example 100 permits annually) Adapt up – Increase number of permits if no impacts detected 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 people for recreational and 5-10 people for educational 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase-in grace period Graduated fine starting at \$100 Only leader pays fine. Repeated violations would make applicant ineligible for two years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower compliance Implementation more complicated and expensive
Alternative 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit number of permits for each HCA (for example 50 permits annually) Adapt up – Increase number of permits if no impacts detected Apply for permit at OSMP office so staff can talk with permittee about rules and low impact practices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each person has permit unless group plan approved by OSMP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase-in grace period Graduated fine starting at \$200 Each person in group pays fine Repeated violations would make ineligible for two years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More complicated and expensive to implement Nominal fees to cover administration and monitoring Lower compliance

OSMP givens:

- The preferred alternative will include components of the draft alternatives. The alternatives were designed to organize and solicit feedback on the ideas presented at the first off trail task force meeting. Notes for that meeting provide background on the ideas presented in the alternatives.
- The goals of Habitat Conservation Areas are to maintain, enhance and/or restore naturally functioning ecological systems and species of concern, to provide public access and passive recreational opportunities that foster appreciation and understanding of ecological systems and have minimal impacts on native plant communities and wildlife habitat or other resources, to eliminate all undesigned trails and, where sustainable infrastructure exists, continue to allow public access to appropriate destinations on designated trails.
- Signing up once for an “annual permit” with no reporting requirements is not a permit, because it does not allow OSMP staff to monitor visitation and know where to monitor for resource impacts as directed by city council.
- To facilitate monitoring, HCA’s will be broken into sub areas based on ecological and visitor patterns.
- Activities in HCA’s include: hiking, running, climbing, and where designated hang and paragliding, horseback riding and non-motorized model glider flying.
- In HCA’s dogs must be n leash and on trail or, where exceptions to leash exist, in an approved trail corridor. Bikes are allowed only where designated and not off trail.
- Permittee must carry a current permit with them.