



The County of El Dorado

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TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Vickie Sanders, Parks Manager

RE: Staff Report for Legistar Item #15-0253

I am responsible for management of the Rubicon Trail, and I have received public comments regarding the request for a Parade Permit for the Jamboree events. The comments have been in regards to the number of days the restriction are in place and the boundaries to which that encompasses. There are also concerns regarding Parade Permits and if other requests are made it could put many restrictions on the trail leaving the public with limited access.

I put this issue on the March 12, 2015 agenda for the Rubicon Oversight Committee. This ad hoc group consists of users, property owners, agencies and others interested parties who discuss issues on the Rubicon Trail. Jamboree president, Bob Sweeney was present at the meeting of March 12th to discuss the concerns. Users expressed that the purpose of the restrictions were to move the participants safely to Rubicon Springs and that all participants should be there by Friday night. So could the boundaries of the restrictions be moved to Buck Island? Mr. Sweeney listened to the public comments and agreed to consider their request and revise his proposal.

On Friday April 10, 2015, I met with Bob Sweeney (Jamboree President), Sean Russell (Rubicon Trail Foundation President), and Merlin Scott (concerned citizen). The proposal was discussed and the follow was agreed upon with all present at the meeting:

Jeepers Jamboree

Parade Permit from Loon Lake and Wentworth Springs Campground to County line, Wednesday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 10:00. Saturday and Sunday move the boundary restrictions from Ellis Creek to the County line, 6 a.m. to 10:00. The trail will be open on Monday.

Jeep Jamboree

Loon Lake and Wentworth Springs Campground to County line, Thursday and Friday, 6 a.m. to 10:00. Saturday and Sunday move the boundary restrictions from Buck Island to the County line, 6 a.m. to 10:00. The trail will be open on Monday.

Background

Jeepers Jamboree is an historic event in El Dorado County and is one of the three reasons the Rubicon was eligible for Historic designation. 2015 will be the 63rd Annual Jeepers Jamboree Trip and the 37th Annual Jeep Jamboree Trip. These events are not only historic they are vital to the economy in the Georgetown area and El Dorado County. It is estimated Jamboree brings in over \$1 million to the county economy during their events.

Many years ago the Jeepers Jamboree and Jeep Jamboree would get a road closure permit for their events. Then the County determined that a Parade Permit was more appropriate for these events and would not closed the trail, but put restrictions on the trail during the specified time period.

These permits are requested annually, which has made it difficult in the past due to timing. Tickets for this event go on sale in January every year. These permits were not issued until June or July after the event has already been advertised. Whereas the event would take place without the permit it would cause logistic issues, safety issues and security issues for the Jamboree and participants.

I also recommend that the board determine that the Jeepers Jamboree and Jeep Jamboree Parade Permits be grandfathered in due to the historical use and that no other Parade Permits be approved for the Rubicon Trail. This will ensure that this trail will remain available for the public.

Reason for Recommendation

I recommend that the Board approve the modified permit proposed. This permit will be in effect for a period of five years with the stipulation that the permit could be revoked or changed by the Board of Supervisors at any time.

I also recommend that the Board grandfather in the Jeepers Jamboree and Jeep Jamboree and determine that no other parade permits will be issued on the Rubicon Trail.

Next Steps

- 1) Resolution to be signed by Board Chair.
- 2) Parks Division will post restrictions on the County website.