



Off-Highway Vehicle Advisory Council

Sunset Review | Transportation Interim Committee | May 20, 2026

History & Purpose

The Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Advisory Council was created in 1971 as the “recreation vehicle advisory council” within the Department of Natural Resources. The body was renamed the Off-Highway Vehicle Advisory Council in 1986.

In the 2020 General Session, the Legislature assigned the existing council a sunset provision in an omnibus boards and commissions bill, with an initial repeal date of July 1, 2027 ([H.B. 10 M. Roberts/Thatcher](#)).

The council’s primary duties include:

- Reviewing the Division of Outdoor Recreation’s (DOR) OHV program and making suggestions to maximize effectiveness
- Reviewing OHV grant applications and recommending funding allocations
- Analyzing issues affecting OHV use in the state and making recommendations to DOR
- Reviewing OHV laws and rules and making recommendations to DOR
- Advising DOR on land allocation and use planning processes affecting OHV use

The council makes recommendations to maximize the effectiveness of Utah’s OHV program, operated by DOR within the Department of Natural Resources.

Council Composition

The OHV Advisory Council is comprised of 12 members representing various user groups, such as safety partners, dealers, and public lands agencies. Members are required to have OHV experience.

Members are appointed by DOR and serve four-year terms. Members can serve a total of up to three four-year terms. After their initial term, a member can apply to serve a second term, and with approval from DOR, a third term is also possible. After completing the second term, the member must step down for at least two years before being eligible for a third term.

The council is governed primarily by administrative rule and bylaws.

Current membership

Kirk Chester <i>Snowmobile Representative</i>	Dave Jacobson <i>Bureau of Land Management (BLM)</i>
Jason Blankenagel <i>Member-At-Large/Chair</i>	Eric Nelson <i>Off-Highway Vehicle Dealer (Vice Chair)</i>
Brett Davis <i>Four-Wheel Drive Representative</i>	Brody Johnson <i>All-Terrain Vehicle Representative</i>
Cheryl Butler <i>U.S. Forest Service</i>	Nicole Nielson <i>Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office (PLPCO)</i>
Scott Wheeler <i>Off-Highway Motorcycle Representative</i>	Michael Cook <i>Off-Highway Vehicle Safety Representative</i>
Sheriff Nathan Curtis <i>Search and Rescue</i>	Russ Cazier <i>School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA)</i>



Recent meetings

The council holds public meetings and publishes agendas and minutes. It typically meets four to five times per year, although no minimum meeting frequency is required. Since 2020, the council has met as follows:

- 2026: 3 meetings (year to date)
- 2025: 5 meetings
- 2024: 3 meetings
- 2023: 5 meetings
- 2022: 7 meetings
- 2021: 7 meetings
- 2020: 5 meetings

Program Funding

Members of the OHV Advisory Council are not compensated for their service, but they are eligible for per diem and travel reimbursement according to state Division of Finance procedures.

Administrative expenses associated with the council are covered through DOR's existing budget.

Current Sunset Date

July 1, 2027 (Utah Code [Section 63I-1-241](#))

Code Sections that Repeal

1. *Utah Code Subsection [41-22-2\(1\)](#)*

41-22-2. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

- (1) ~~"Advisory council" means an advisory council appointed by the Division of Outdoor Recreation that has within the advisory council's duties advising on policies related to the use of off-highway vehicles.~~

2. *Utah Code Subsection [41-22-10\(1\)](#)*

41-22-10. Powers of division relating to off-highway vehicles.

The division may:

- (1) ~~appoint and seek recommendations from the advisory council representing the various off-highway vehicle, conservation, and other appropriate interests; and~~
- (2) adopt a uniform marker and sign system for use by agents of appropriate federal, state, county, and city agencies in areas of off-highway vehicle use.