

## **Law Enforcement Off-Highway Vehicle Operator**

### **Expanded Course Outline**

Purpose: *The purpose of this course is to provide training to law enforcement personnel assigned to operate recreational off-highway vehicles in an enforcement capacity.*

#### **I. Course Introduction**

- a. Instructor Introduction
- b. Facility Orientation
  - i. Classroom
  - ii. Restrooms
  - iii. Training Area
  - iv. Range
- c. Safety Rules
  - i. Vehicles will only be ridden by students under direct supervision of an instructor
  - ii. Obey all traffic laws
  - iii. Always wear proper protective gear
  - iv. A safe space cushion will be enforced when riding inline
    - 1. “Two Second Rule”
  - v. Vehicle maintenance will be performed every day prior to riding
  - vi. Know the location of the engine stop switch
  - vii. If a mechanical problem is encountered, move vehicle out of the path of other riders
  - viii. Reckless operation of the vehicle is grounds for dismissal
  - ix. No falling out of line or riding out of an exercise unless directed by instructor
  - x. Vehicle will be placed in “Park” before exiting
  - xi. Students must stay with their instructor at all times

#### **II. Introduction to the Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle (ROV)**

- a. ROV defined – California Vehicle Code Section 500
  - i. “Recreational off-highway vehicle” means a motor vehicle meeting all the following criteria:
    - 1. Designed by the manufacturer for operation primarily off the highway
    - 2. Has a steering wheel for steering control
    - 3. Has non-straddle seating provided by the manufacturer for the operator and all passengers
    - 4. Has a maximum speed capability or greater than 30 mph
      - a. A vehicle designed by the manufacturer with a maximum speed capability of 30 mph or less but is modified so that it has a maximum speed capability of greater than 30 mph satisfies the criteria set forth in this subdivision
    - 5. Has an engine displacement equal to or less than 1000cc (61 ci)

### **III. Learning Activity – Inspection and Preventative Maintenance**

- a. Students will learn areas of routine maintenance and conduct an inspection of their ROV
  - i. T-CLOC Method
    - 1. T = Tires and Wheels
    - 2. C = Controls and Cables
    - 3. L = Lights and Electrical
      - a. Battery(s)
      - b. Lighting
        - i. Emergency Lights and Siren
    - 4. O = Oil/Air Filter/Fuel
    - 5. C = Chassis and Suspension

### **IV. Introduction to Driving Off Road**

- a. Difference between Asphalt/Concrete Roadway and Dirt
  - i. Traction
  - ii. Terrain
  - iii. Techniques
- b. ROV capabilities in dirt or off-road terrain
  - i. Climbing hills or inclines
  - ii. Moving through soft terrain
- c. ROV braking/acceleration capabilities in different terrains
  - i. Water
  - ii. Rocks
  - iii. Dips
  - iv. Sand
  - v. Mud
- d. Recommended vehicle safety equipment
  - i. Seat belts
  - ii. Grab bars
  - iii. Doors
  - iv. Roll cages
- e. Recommended personal safety equipment
  - i. Helmet
  - ii. Eye protection
  - iii. Gloves
  - iv. Boots
  - v. Long Sleeve shirts
  - vi. Long pants

## V. Basic Riding Skills

- a. Objective
  - i. The student will become proficient at applying the skill and knowledge to control a ROV at slow speed while negotiating turning movements when driving forward and backward under restricted road conditions.
- b. Exercises
  - i. Starting and Stopping
    - 1. Course Configuration
    - 2. Demonstration
    - 3. Safety Concerns
    - 4. Student Practice
    - 5. Debrief
  - ii. Low Speed Steering Limits
    - 1. Course Configuration
    - 2. Demonstration
    - 3. Safety Concerns
    - 4. Student Practice
    - 5. Debrief
  - iii. Backing and Turning
    - 1. Course Configuration
    - 2. Demonstration
    - 3. Safety Concerns
    - 4. Student Practice
    - 5. Debrief
  - iv. Serpentine Forward and Reverse
    - 1. Course Configuration
    - 2. Demonstration
    - 3. Safety Concerns
    - 4. Student Practice
    - 5. Debrief
  - v. Quick Stop and Evasive Maneuvers
    - 1. Course Configuration
    - 2. Demonstration
    - 3. Safety Concerns
    - 4. Student Practice
    - 5. Debrief

## **VI. Assessment – Basic Riding Skills**

- a. Students will demonstrate the ability to operate the ROV competently by successful completion of the basic riding skills.
  - i. Grading is subjective and based on the individual's performance as judged by the instructor.
    - 1. Evaluated Criteria
      - a. Vehicle placement
      - b. Hazard Awareness
      - c. Throttle Control
      - d. Visually locating objects to the rear
      - e. Proper Seating Position

## **VII. Loading and Towing ROV's on Trailers**

- a. Procedures for loading and securing trailer loads
  - i. Different types of equipment to secure loads
  - ii. Trailer maximum gross weight
- b. Towing/Hauling ROV's
  - i. Trailer Inspection
    - 1. Lights
    - 2. Tires
    - 3. Hitch
    - 4. Safety Chains
  - ii. State Laws Related to Towing
    - 1. Different licenses required for different types of trailers
    - 2. Maximum Towing Speed
    - 3. Dynamic of driving a tow vehicle while towing
    - 4. Laws related to different types of trailers
- c. Learning Activity – Loading an ROV on a trailer
  - i. Student will safely secure a ROV onto a trailer and attach to a tow vehicle

## **VIII. Use of ROV Winch**

- a. Use of winches, tow straps and snatch blocks.
  - i. Winching equipment
    - 1. Different vehicles may have different winch types
  - ii. Mechanical advantage
  - iii. Anchor points for winch cable and snatch block
  - iv. Demonstration of winching equipment

- b. Learning Activity
  - i. Student will participate in learning activities that will require the safe use of a standard metal cord winch to either assist another vehicle which has become stuck or use the winch to pull a stuck vehicle free of a location.

## **IX. Open Trail Riding Skills**

- a. Objective
  - i. Student will learn how to operate their ROV in open terrain. Students will learn proper procedures to traverse hills, oft terrain, water and near rocks and other obstacles.
- b. Exercises
  - i. Driving on Rocky Terrain
    - 1. Course Configuration
    - 2. Demonstration
    - 3. Safety Concerns
    - 4. Student Practice
    - 5. Debrief
  - ii. Driving on Sandy Terrain
    - 1. Course Configuration
    - 2. Demonstration
    - 3. Safety Concerns
    - 4. Student Practice
    - 5. Debrief
  - iii. Driving Near Trees
    - 1. Course Configuration
    - 2. Demonstration
    - 3. Safety Concerns
    - 4. Student Practice
    - 5. Debrief
  - iv. Driving Through Water
    - 1. Course Configuration
    - 2. Demonstration
    - 3. Safety Concerns
    - 4. Student Practice
    - 5. Debrief
  - v. Driving Through Muddy Terrain
    - 1. Course Configuration
    - 2. Demonstration
    - 3. Safety Concerns
    - 4. Student Practice
    - 5. Debrief
  - vi. Driving on Hills
    - 1. Course Configuration

2. Demonstration
3. Safety Concerns
4. Student Practice
5. Debrief

vii. "Side Hilling"

1. Course Configuration
2. Demonstration
3. Safety Concerns
4. Student Practice
5. Debrief

**X. Assessment – Open Trail Riding Skills**

- a. Students will demonstrate the ability to operate the ROV competently by successful completion of the Open Trail Riding Skills.
  - i. Grading is subjective and based on the individual's performance as judged by the instructor.
    1. Evaluated Criteria
      - a. Vehicle placement
      - b. Hazard Awareness
      - c. Throttle Control
      - d. Visually locating objects to the rear
      - e. Proper Seating Position

**XI. Operating a ROV as a Law Enforcement Officer**

- a. Contacts with the public
  - i. Driving near campsites/groups of people
  - ii. Pedestrian checks
  - iii. Traffic/Vehicle stops

**XII. Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Enforcement**

- a. Introduction
  - i. Division 16.5 California Vehicle Code (CVC)
  - ii. Enforcement Authority – 38001(a) CVC
- b. 38012 CVC – Vehicle Definitions
  - i. ROV – Recreational Off-Road Vehicle
  - ii. ATV – All Terrain Vehicle
  - iii. UTV – Utility Off-Road Vehicle
  - iv. Motorcycles
  - v. Buggies

- vi. Jeeps
- c. Exemptions
  - i. 38006 CVC
- d. Closes Course/Private Property/Open and Accessible to Public
  - i. 38010(b)(9) CVC
  - ii. 21107.8(a) CVC
    - 1. ATV's of private property which is open and accessible
- e. Combined Use Highways
  - i. 38026 CVC
- f. Laws related to ROV's
  - i. Safety laws
  - ii. Equipment laws
  - iii. Light equipment laws
- g. Laws related to ATV's
  - i. Safety laws
  - ii. Equipment laws
  - iii. Light equipment laws
  - iv. ATV Safety Institute regarding children under 18 years of age
- h. Laws related to UTV's
  - i. Safety laws
  - ii. Equipment laws
  - iii. Light equipment laws
- i. Laws related to UTV's, Buggies, Jeeps, etc
  - i. Safety laws
  - ii. Equipment laws
  - iii. Light equipment laws
- j. Special regulations according to areas
  - i. State statutes for specific areas
  - ii. Federal statutes for specific areas
  - iii. County regulations for specific areas
- k. Registration and Identification
  - i. 38010(b) CVC – Vehicles Exempt from Registration Laws
  - ii. 38013 CVC – Issuance and Display of Identification
  - iii. Green and Red stickers
    - 1. Differences between the two stickers
    - 2. Special regulation regarding red stickers
- l. Exempt Identification Stickers
  - i. 38010(b)(5) CVC – Special Construction Equipment
  - ii. 38010(b)(6) CVC – Non-Resident Use Permits
  - iii. 38010(b)(10) CVC – Out of State registration
- m. Display of Identification Stickers
  - i. ATV's
  - ii. ROV's
  - iii. UTV's

- iv. Motorcycles
  - v. All others
- n. Dual Purpose Vehicles
  - i. OHV's vs Street legal vehicles in off road areas
  - ii. Registration/Identification stickers
- o. Emissions of OHV's
  - i. 38390 CVC
  - ii. State and Federal Regulations
- p. Spark Arrestors
  - i. 38366(a) CVC
- q. Driver's license requirements
  - i. Suspended/Revoked licenses
  - ii. Storage/Impound of OHV
- r. Insurance/Accident reporting
  - i. OHV's
  - ii. Dual Purpose Vehicles

**XIII. Course Critique/Certificates**

- a. Student will complete course evaluation critiquing if the course and training was relevant to their patrol functions
- b. Instructor Critique
- c. Certificates