



## ***Public Information Release***

June 9, 2009

Captain James Bauman, Public Information Officer

Past complaints of vehicular trespass in the Putah Creek area of Hidden Valley Lake have prompted assertive enforcement measures to stop the random misuse and frequent destruction of privately owned, unoccupied lands.

Deputies have been focusing patrols on private lands to the east of highway 29 on both sides of Hartmann Road near Putah Creek for the past two months. Thus far, only verbal warnings have been issued to OHV operators and pedestrian trespassers. Those contacted during the two-month "grace period" have respectfully complied with requests to leave the properties. Commencing this month however, those found trespassing will now be subject to arrest, citation, or criminal complaint. The Sheriff's Department and the State Department of Fish and Game will be working together with absentee land owners to abate the Hartmann Road and Putah Creek areas in the coming months.

The Sheriff's Department further advises all off road motor sports enthusiasts to enjoy their recreation without violating the law by using designated OHV use areas such as the Cow Mountain Recreational area, designated areas of the Mendocino National Forest, and the newly opened Oasis Motocross track in Clearlake Oaks. OHV enthusiasts must otherwise comply with the provisions set forth by State Law and County Ordinance when enjoying their sport on private property.