

**More Americans than ever are using off-highway vehicles (OHVs) to enjoy the outdoors.** In the right places, motorized vehicles are a great way to experience Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) lands in Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota. However, if not operated appropriately, these vehicles can damage both the land and the resources that visitors come to enjoy. So follow a few ground rules—plan ahead, educate yourself, find places to ride, and ride responsibly—and then enjoy the ride!

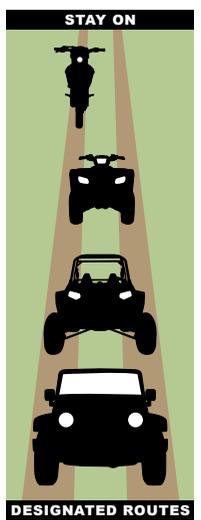
### Plan Ahead

- ➔ Know what you need to ride safely and legally.
- ➔ Follow state registration requirements for your vehicle.
- ➔ Know where you can ride.
- ➔ Know road and trail restrictions, including vehicle width requirements.
- ➔ Get information from local BLM and USFS offices; many have travel maps available online.

### Educate Yourself

*Learn about route designations:*

Roads and trails where OHV use is allowed are designated as “open,” and roads and trails where OHV use is not allowed are designated as “closed.” In general, you should stay on designated open routes. Designated open routes may be restricted to use by specific types of vehicles based upon their width.



The BLM also has designated management areas:

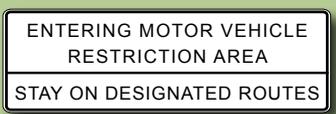
- ➔ **Open areas:** OHV use and cross-country travel are allowed. Cross-country travel means driving your vehicle off a designated open road or trail.
- ➔ **Limited areas:** OHV use is allowed but limited to designated open routes and by regulations and seasonal restrictions. Cross-country travel is not allowed in order to minimize user conflicts and protect fragile soils, riparian areas, vegetation, and wildlife.
- ➔ **Closed areas:** Off-highway vehicle use is not allowed.



### Understand the signs:



Signs are used to show route designations and the types of vehicles allowed on each route. They are also used to show seasonal and other restrictions. **Not all routes are signed, so carry a Motor Vehicle Use Map and/or check with the local BLM or USFS office.**



### For More Information

**BLM Offices**  
[www.blm.gov/mt/st/en.html](http://www.blm.gov/mt/st/en.html)

Montana State Office  
 Billings, MT  
 406-896-5000

Billings Field Office  
 406-896-5013

Butte Field Office  
 406-533-7600

Dillon Field Office  
 406-683-8000

Glasgow Field Office  
 406-228-3750

Havre Field Office  
 406-262-2820

Lewistown Field Office  
 406-538-1900

Malta Field Office  
 406-654-5100

Miles City Field Office  
 406-233-2800

Missoula Field Office  
 406-329-3914

North Dakota Field Office  
 Dickinson, ND  
 701-227-7700

South Dakota Field Office  
 Belle Fourche, SD  
 605-892-7000

**U.S. Forest Service Offices**  
[www.fs.usda.gov/goto/r1/offices](http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/r1/offices)

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest  
 Dillon, MT  
 406-683-3900

Bitterroot National Forest  
 Hamilton, MT  
 406-363-7100

Custer National Forest  
 Billings, MT  
 406-255-1400

Dakota Prairie Grasslands  
 Bismarck, ND  
 701-683-4342

Flathead National Forest  
 Kalispell, MT  
 406-758-5200

Gallatin National Forest  
 Bozeman, MT  
 406-587-6701

Helena National Forest  
 Helena, MT  
 406-449-5201

Kootenai National Forest  
 Libby, MT  
 406-293-6211

Lewis and Clark National Forest  
 Great Falls, MT  
 406-791-7700

Lolo National Forest  
 Missoula, MT  
 406-329-3750

# On the Right Track:



**A Guide to Riding Off-Highway Vehicles on BLM and Forest Service Lands in Montana and the Dakotas**



## Know what you can and can't do:

### What is OK:

- ➔ Driving on designated open roads or trails that are wider than your vehicle.
- ➔ Riding motorcycles on designated open single-track trails.



### What is NOT OK:

- ➔ Driving off of designated open roads or trails, as designated by an MVUM or signs, even for game retrieval.
- ➔ Breaking new trail by driving on undisturbed ground and crushing vegetation.
- ➔ Driving a vehicle that is wider than the designated width of the open road or trail.
- ➔ Driving on livestock or game trails.



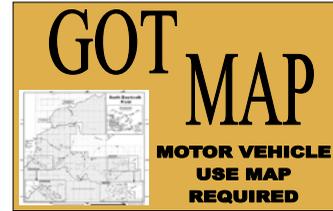
## Know Where to Ride

### On national forests and national grasslands:

Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUMs) are the official record of designated routes and areas on USFS lands:



- ➔ Roads or trails that appear on the MVUM are open to motorized use.
- ➔ Any road or trail that is not on the MVUM is closed to motorized use.



- ➔ Free printed MVUMs are generally available at the local USFS office or online at [www.fs.usda.gov/r1](http://www.fs.usda.gov/r1).

### On BLM-managed lands:



Visit a local BLM office or [www.blm.gov/mt/st/en/prog/recreation/ohv.html](http://www.blm.gov/mt/st/en/prog/recreation/ohv.html) to get information and maps (if available) for the area where you'd like to ride. Many BLM areas and their designations are listed below:

### Open (cross-country travel is only allowed in these areas):

- ➔ Fresno OHV area near Havre
- ➔ Glasgow OHV area
- ➔ Glendive OHV area
- ➔ Radersburg OHV area
- ➔ South Hills area near Billings (dirt bikes only)
- ➔ Terry OHV area

### Limited:

- ➔ Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument
- ➔ All areas within the Dillon Field Office's jurisdiction
- ➔ Shepherd Ah Nei Recreation Area near Billings (fee area) (call 406-896-5014 for status)
- ➔ The following travel management areas in the Butte Field Office's jurisdiction (call 406-533-7600 for details)

- ⚙ Pipestone OHV Area
- ⚙ Clancy OHV Area
- ⚙ Elkhorns
- ⚙ Sleeping Giant
- ⚙ Lewis and Clark County
- ⚙ Helena
- ⚙ East Helena
- ⚙ Boulder/Jefferson City
- ⚙ Upper Big Hole

### Closed:

- ➔ Pompeys Pillar National Monument
- ➔ Scratchgravel Hills near Helena
- ➔ Sweetgrass Hills

## Ride Responsibly

In addition to obtaining maps and current travel information, staying on designated open roads and trails, and obeying all restrictions, riders should:

- ➔ Think safety—for yourself and those around you.
- ➔ Share the trail—yield to horseback riders, hikers, and bikers.
- ➔ Stop the spread of weeds—clean your vehicles often.
- ➔ Avoid all riparian areas and wetlands—they are closed to motorized use except along designated open trails or roads.
- ➔ Protect and respect cultural resources such as old cabins, historic mining sites, fossil areas, and traditional cultural properties.
- ➔ Respect private property—obtain permission to cross private land and leave gates as you find them.
- ➔ Follow the principles of Tread Lightly!®:

Travel and recreate with minimum impact. Respect the environment and the rights of others. Educate yourself; plan and prepare before you go. Allow for future use of the outdoors; leave it better than you found it. Discover the rewards of responsible recreation.



By riding responsibly, you can improve the condition of roads and trails and help to keep them open. Riding responsibly enhances the recreational experience for all users.

Your cooperation is essential. Please remember that motorized travel on public lands is a privilege, not a right.