

## Recreational Motor Vehicles

### *Key Message:*

The Revised Plan recognizes the need to provide opportunities for a very popular and growing recreational pursuit, as well as the need to protect resources, reduce conflicts among users and provide opportunities for non-motorized recreational uses. However, use of snowmobiles, ATVs, off-highway motorcycles and four-wheel drive vehicles are a legitimate use of National Forest System lands, and this use must be carefully managed. The Chief of the Forest Service has identified unmanaged recreation, especially the undesirable impacts from off-highway vehicles, as a major threat facing the national forests.

### *The Plan:*

- ✓ provides for a trail system that allows a high quality RMV trail experience
- ✓ provides up to an additional 90 miles of ATV trail and 100 miles of snowmobile trail
- ✓ prohibits use on unclassified and higher maintenance level roads (OML 3, 4, and 5)
- ✓ generally allows RMV use of low standard roads (OML 1 and 2) pending site level decisions or where resource damage is occurring
- ✓ prohibits all cross country RMV travel including for big game retrieval and trapping.
- ✓ requires that newly designated snowmobile trails meet management direction for Canada Lynx recovery.
- ✓ generally prohibits snowmobile use on plowed Forest System roads
- ✓ generally prohibits OHV travel in ditches and on shoulders of National Forest System roads

### Definitions:

ATV: All-terrain vehicles

OHM: Off-highway motorcycles (dirt bikes)

ORV: Off-road-vehicles (4 x 4 trucks)

OHV: Off-highway vehicles: A term referring to ATVs, OHMs, and ORVs

RMV: Recreational Motor Vehicles: A term referring to ATVs, OHMs, ORVs, and snowmobiles

OML: Objective Maintenance Level for classified roads

### *Change From the Proposed Plan:*

In the Proposed Plan, cross country RMV travel for big game retrieval was allowed in most Management Areas. The Revised Plan prohibits all cross country RMV travel.

## Recreational Motor Vehicle Use

Please review forest-wide and Management Area (MA) direction for further information and exceptions to the summary below.

	<b>1986 Plan direction</b>	<b>Revised Plan direction</b>
<b>ATVs</b>		
Trails	Allowed on one designated 20 mile trail (Soo Line).	Allowed – Trails must be designated open. A maximum of 90 additional ATV trail miles may be designated.
Roads, High Standard - OML 3, 4, and 5 (569 miles)	Allowed.	Generally Prohibited
Roads, Low Standard - OML 1 and 2 (2077 miles)	Allowed.	Existing roads: Allowed pending site specific decisions. <b><u>Roads must be designated open.</u></b> New roads: Prohibited.
Unclassified Roads	Allowed	Prohibited
Cross-country Travel	Prohibited	Prohibited
Big Game Retrieval	Allowed	*Prohibited
<b>Snowmobiles</b>		
Trails	Allowed on 378 existing trail miles.	A maximum of 100 new snowmobile trails miles may be constructed.
Roads	Allowed on unplowed roads.	Allowed on unplowed roads.
Cross-country Travel	Prohibited.	Prohibited.
<b>Trail Use</b>	Trail use is allowed unless signed closed.	Trail use is prohibited unless designated open for specific motorized use.