THE PURPOSE AND CONTENTS OF THIS MAP

The designations shown on this motor vehicle use map (MVUM) were made by the responsible official pursuant to 36 CFR 212.51; are effective as of the date on the front cover of this MVUM; and will remain in effect until superseded by next year’s MVUM.

It is the responsibility of the user to acquire the current MVUM. This MVUM shows the National Forest System roads, National Forest System trails, and the areas on National Forest System lands in the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest that are designated for motor vehicle use pursuant to 36 CFR 212.51. This MVUM also identifies the vehicle classes allowed on each route and in each area; and any seasonal restrictions that apply on those routes and in those areas.

Designation of a road, trail, or area for motor vehicle use by a particular class of vehicle under 36 CFR 212.51 should not be interpreted as encouraging or inviting use or implying that the road, trail, or area is passable, actively maintained, or safe for travel. Motor vehicle designations include parking along designated routes and at facilities associated with designated routes when it is safe to do so and when not causing damage to National Forest System resources. Seasonal weather conditions and natural events may render designated roads and trails impassable for extended periods. Designated areas may contain dangerous or impassable terrain. Many designated roads and trails may be passable only by high-clearance vehicles or four-wheel-drive vehicles. Maintenance of designated roads and trails will depend on available resources, and many may receive little maintenance.

This motor vehicle use map identifies those roads, trails, and areas designated for the motor vehicle use under 36 CFR 212.51 for the purpose of enforcing the prohibition at 36 CFR 261.13. This is a limited purpose. The other public roads are shown for information and navigation purposes only and are not subject to designation under the Forest Service travel management regulation.

These designations apply only to National Forest System roads, National Forest System trails, and areas on National Forest System lands.

INFORMATION SOURCES

Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest
Great Falls Supervisor’s Office
1220 38th St. North
Great Falls, MT 59405
(406)-791-7700

Judith Ranger Station
109 Central Ave.
Stanford, MT 59479
(406)-566-2292

Jefferson Division Recreation
Belt Creek Ranger Station
4234 US Highway 89
Neihart, MT 59465
(406)-236-5511

PROHIBITIONS

It is prohibited to possess or operate a motor vehicle on National Forest System lands on the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest other than in accordance with these designations (36 CFR 261.13).

Violators of 36 CFR 261.13 are subject to a fine of up to $5,000, imprisonment for up to 6 months or both (18 U.S.C. 3571(e)). This prohibition applies regardless of the presence or absence of signs.

This map does not display nonmotorized uses, over-snow vehicle uses, or other facilities and attractions on the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest. Obtain forest visitor information from the local national forest office.

Designated roads, trails, and areas may also be subject to temporary, emergency closures. As a visitor, you must comply with signs notifying you of such restrictions. A national forest may issue an order to close a road, trail, or area on a temporary basis to protect the life, health, or safety of forest visitors or the natural or cultural resources in these areas. Such temporary and/or emergency closures are consistent with the Travel Management Rule (36 CFR 212.52 (b), 36 CFR 261 subpart B).

The designation "road or trail open to all motor vehicles" does not supersede vehicle size or weight limits imposed through State traffic law.

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Motor Vehicle Use Map 2021 - Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest
Highwood Mountains

SPECIAL VEHICLE DEFINITIONS

All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV). A type of off-highway motor vehicle that travels on three or more low-pressure tires; has handle-bar steering; is less than or equal to 50 inches in width; and has a seat designed to be straddled by the operator.

Motorcycle. A two-wheeled motor vehicle on which the wheels are situated in a line, rather than side by side.

Source: Forest Service Manual 2300, Chapter 2350, Section 2353.05 (Definitions).

Effective Date: Nov. 4, 2009

Note: On the Jefferson Division of the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest, side-by-side OHVs that are wheeled and less than or equal to 50 inches in width are allowed on trails where ATVs of the above definition are allowed.

OFF-ROUTE PARKING

Motor vehicles may be parked up to 70 feet from the edge of the road or trail surface when it is safe to do so without causing damage to National Forest System roads, National Forest System trails, and other equipment appropriate for the conditions and expected weather.

DISPERSED CAMPING

Motor vehicle use off of forest roads for the purposes of dispersed camping is permitted on National Forest System lands within 70 feet of a motorized road or trail when open to motor vehicle use and doing so will not destroy any permanent vehicle tracks or damage to National Forest System roads, National Forest System trails, and other equipment appropriate for the conditions and expected weather.

Always remember to respect private land! Protect your privilege. Stay on designated roads, trails, and in designated areas.

Read and understand this map in its entirety. If you have questions, please contact the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest for clarification.

As a motor vehicle operator on a National Forest System road, trail, or area, you must comply with this map, as well as all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations. Compliance with these rules is your responsibility.

EXPLANATION OF LEGEND

Roads Open to Highway Legal Vehicles Only:

These roads are open only to motor vehicles licensed under State law for general operation on all public roads within the State.

Trails Open to Wheeled Vehicles 50 inches or Less in Width:

These trails are open only to wheeled, motor vehicles less than 50 inches in width at the widest point on the vehicle.

Trails Open to Motorcycles Only:

These trails are open only to motorcycles. Sidecars are not permitted.

Seasonal Designation:

This symbol, used in conjunction with one of the other road or trail symbols, indicates that the road or trail is open only during certain portions of the year. Refer to Seasonal and Special Designation Table for further instructions.

Other Public Roads and Trails:

- Interstate
- Highways, U.S., State, County
- Other Public Roads

These symbols are used to show routes the Forest Service does not have jurisdiction over and has not designated for motorized use. These symbols are part of the reference layers showing connections to towns and cities outside the forest boundary.

Milepost Marker:

This symbol is used to display the beginning and ending mileposts of a road that has a change in the designation but not the symbology.

Motorized Trail Access:

This symbol indicates a trailhead for access to a motorized route. Not all motorized routes have trailheads and those that do may range from primitive to developed.

OPERATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Operating a motor vehicle on National Forest System roads, National Forest System trails, and in areas on National Forest System lands carries a greater responsibility than operating that vehicle in a city or other developed setting. You are subject to State traffic laws, including State requirements for licensing, registration, and operation of the vehicle in question.

Motor vehicle use, especially off-highway vehicle use, involves inherent risks that may cause property damage, serious injury, and possibly death to participants. Drive cautiously and anticipate rough surfaces and features such as snow, mud, vegetation, and water crossings common to remote driving conditions. By your Participation, you voluntarily assume full responsibility for these damages, risks, and dangers. Take care at all times to protect yourself and those under your responsibility.

Much of the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest is remote. Medical assistance may not be readily available. Cellular telephones do not work in many areas of the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest. Operators should take adequate food, water, first-aid supplies, and other equipment appropriate for the conditions and expected weather.

*The Forest Service manages e-bikes as a motor vehicle.

Electric Bicycle (E-Bike).

Also referred to as an electric mountain bike (eMTB), a type of motor vehicle with two or three wheels, fully operable pedals, and an electric motor of not more than 750 watts that meets the requirements of one of the following three classes:

a. Class 1 E-Bike. An e-bike equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the e-bike reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.

b. Class 2 E-Bike. An e-bike equipped with a motor that may be used exclusively to propel the e-bike and that ceases to provide assistance when the e-bike reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.

c. Class 3 E-Bike. An e-bike equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the e-bike reaches the speed of 28 miles per hour.

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