Operator Responsibilities

In order to ensure the safety of the traveling public and protect natural resources, you are required to follow specific guidelines on National Forest System roads, trails, and areas. As a motor vehicle operator on a National Forest System road, trail, or area, you must comply with the following rules.

Weight Limitations

Weight limits are in place to protect the roads and trails from damage caused by excessive weight. The weight limits are based on the road's ability to support the weight of a vehicle and its cargo without causing damage to the road surface.

Trail and Area Use

Some National Forest System roads, trails, and areas are designated for specific uses, such as recreation or livestock grazing. These designations are based on the location of the road, trail, or area and the intended use.

Prohibitions

Certain activities are prohibited on National Forest System roads, trails, and areas to protect the environment and public safety. These activities may include hunting, fishing, or camping.

Food Storage Information

National Forest System roads are designated as Divisional Forest Roads within the Helena-Lewis & Clark National Forest. These roads are subject to specific food storage requirements designed to minimize human-wildlife conflict. Food must be stored in approved bear-resistant containers when left unattended, even for short periods of time.

Forbidding

As a motor vehicle operator on a National Forest System road, trail, or area, you must comply with the following rules.

Packing

Packing is defined as food and belongings (including corned beef, cap, beef, game, garbage, equipment, and personal items) that cannot be accommodated in approved bear-resistant containers. Packing is prohibited on National Forest System roads, trails, and areas.

Operator Responsibilities

As a motor vehicle operator on a National Forest System road, trail, or area, you must comply with the following rules.

- Always respect private property and do not trespass.
- Do not litter and properly dispose of trash.
- Follow designated routes and stay on marked roads.
- Do not feed wildlife or allow pets to interact with wildlife.
- Follow any other regulations that may be in place.

By following these rules, you can help protect the natural resources and ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Forest Service

United States Department of Agriculture

INFORMATION SOURCES

- Helena-Lewis & Clark National Forest
- National Forest Road, Trail, and Area Use Regulations

For more information, contact the Helena-Lewis & Clark National Forest or visit their website.