

United States Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service  
Nebraska  
America's Great Outdoors  
2020



Bessey Ranger District  
National Forest  
Nebraska  
Use Map  
Motor Vehicle

## 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to 36 CFR 212.51; are effective as of the date on the front cover of this MVUM; and will remain in effect until superseded by the next year's MVUM.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 Fort Pierre National Grasslands that are designated for motor vehicle use pursuant to 36 CFR 212.51. This MVUM also identifies the vehicles 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 to imply 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.

If you have comments or suggestions for improving our travel system, please provide them in writing to: District Ranger, Bessey Ranger District, P.O. Box 39, Halsey, NE 69142.

## PROHIBITIONS

It is prohibited to possess or operate a motor vehicle on National Forest System lands on the Bessey Ranger District 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 uses, or other facilities and attractions on the Bessey Ranger District. 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 a 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 State traffic law.

## 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. Not only must you know and follow all applicable traffic laws, you need to show concern for the environment as well as other forest users. The misuse of motor vehicles can lead to the temporary or permanent closure of any designated road, trail, or area. As a motor vehicle operator, you are also subject to State traffic law, 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 Bessey Ranger District is remote. Medical assistance may not be readily available. Cellular telephones do not work in many areas of the Bessey Ranger District. Take adequate food, water, first-aid supplies, and other equipment appropriate for the conditions and expected weather.

**ALWAYS REMEMBER TO RESPECT PRIVATE LAND! PROTECT YOUR PRIVILEGE. STAY ON DESIGNATED ROADS AND TRAILS AND IN DESIGNATED AREAS.**

Read and understand this map in its entirety. If you have questions please contact the Bessey Ranger District 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.



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 by leaving it better than you found it.

Discover the rewards of responsible recreation.

For more information on Tread Lightly!, go to [www.treadlightly.org](http://www.treadlightly.org) or call 1-800-966-9900.

### Legend

- Roads Open to Highway Legal Vehicles
- Roads Open to All Vehicles
- Trails Open to Wheeled Vehicles 64" or Less in Width
- Seasonal Designation (See Table)
- Highways, U.S., State
- Dispersed Camping/Game Retrieval
- Short Route Identifier
- 70333
- Areas Open to Cross-Country Travel
- 23 Windmill
- Motorized Trailhead
- FS Campground
- Information Site
- Forest or Unit Boundary
- National Forest System Lands
- Non-National Forest System Lands within the National Forest
- Lakes and Rivers

## EXPLANATION OF LEGEND ITEMS

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.

Roads Open to All Vehicles:

These roads are open to all motor vehicles, including smaller off-highway vehicles that may not be licensed for highway use (but not to oversize or overweight vehicles under State traffic law).

Trails Open to Wheeled Vehicles 64 inches or Less in Width:

These trails are open only to wheeled, motor vehicles less than 64 inches in width at the widest point on the vehicle.

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:

Highways, U.S., State  
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.

Dispersed Camping/Game Retrieval:

This symbol is used along with a designated road or trail to indicate limited cross-country motor vehicle use within a specific distance of that route, solely for the purpose of dispersed camping and/or game retrieval. The dots indicate where this activity is permitted. They may be on the left, right, or both sides of the route. Refer to the Dispersed Camping/Game Retrieval Table for specifics.

Short Route Identifier:

70333  
This symbol is used for routes that are too short to show an actual symbol type on the map. The symbol contains the road or trail number. Users should refer to the corresponding number in the Short Route Table for more information on the designated route.

Windmill

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This symbol is used to show the location and identifying number of windmills that are located along designated travel routes. These are provided to aid in navigation across the Bessey Ranger District.

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.

Areas Open to Cross Country Travel:

These are areas on National Forest System land that allow cross-country travel by motorized vehicles. Specific vehicle classes and seasonal designations may be indicated in the Seasonal and Special Designation Table.

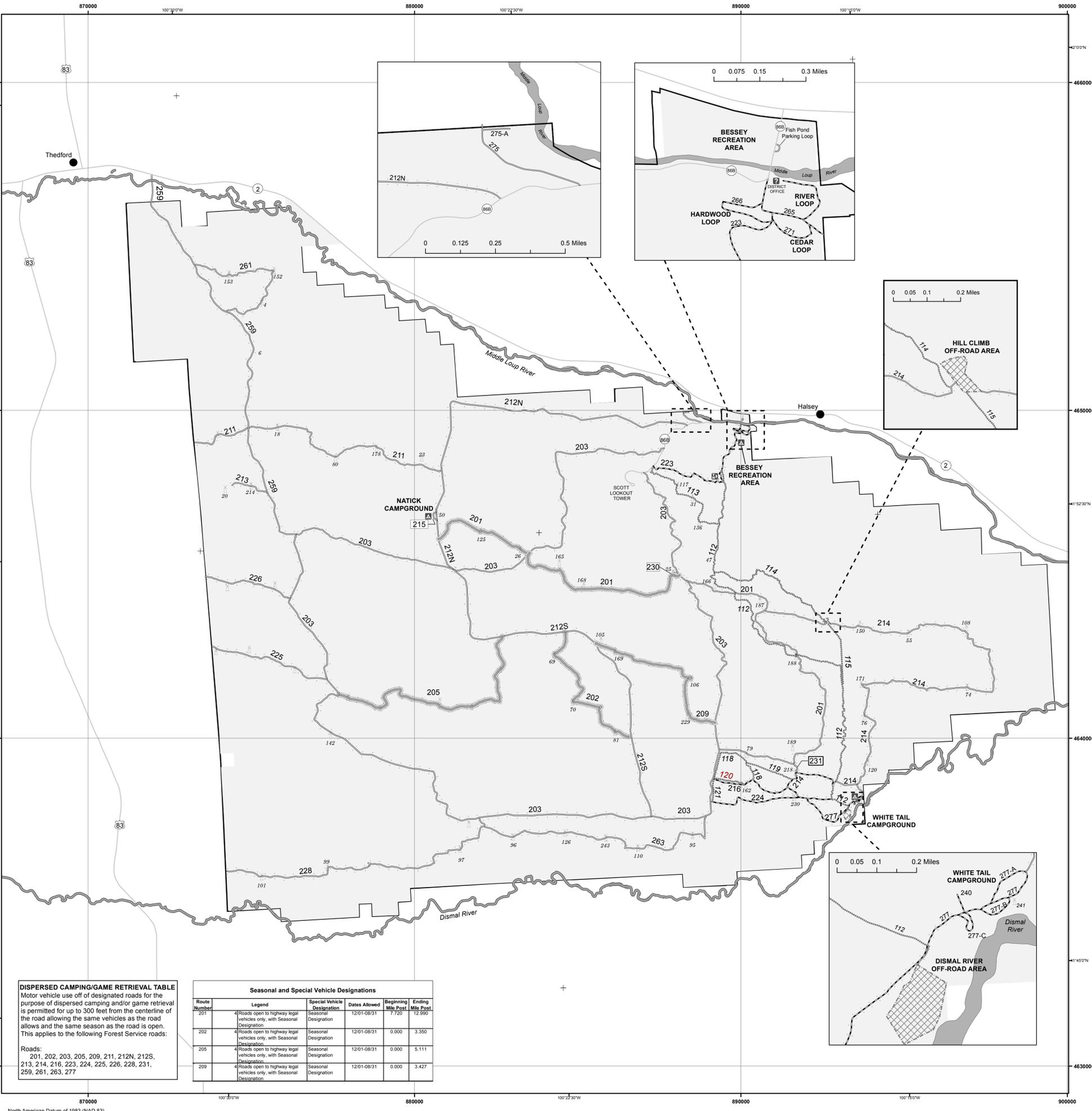
## BLANKET STATEMENTS FOR TRAVEL MANAGEMENT

When a big game animal has been legally taken, the individual who legally took the animal may drive or be driven to the downed animal. Under no circumstances may a second vehicle be used to retrieve the animal. The vehicle driven to the animal should be of sufficient capacity that only one trip is necessary. The number of individuals who participate in the retrieval is limited only by the vehicle's capacity, and the willingness of others to walk to and from the downed animal.

The vehicle used to retrieve the game may be operated off the route up to the distance specified on the MVUM. If the downed game is further than the allowed distance, the vehicle may be driven only the specified distance from the designated route.

Motor vehicles may be parked up to 30 feet from the edge of the road surface when it is safe to do so without causing damage to NFS resources or facilities, unless prohibited by state law, a traffic sign or an order (36 CFR 261.54).

All roads within the Steer Creek Campground are open to highway legal vehicles only.



### DISPERSED CAMPING/GAME RETRIEVAL TABLE

Motor vehicle use off of designated roads for the purpose of dispersed camping and/or game retrieval is permitted for up to 300 feet from the centerline of the road allowing the same vehicles as the road allows and the same season as the road is open. This applies to the following Forest Service roads:

Roads: 201, 202, 203, 205, 209, 211, 212N, 212S, 213, 214, 216, 223, 224, 225, 226, 228, 231, 259, 261, 263, 277

### Seasonal and Special Vehicle Designations

Route Number	Legend	Special Vehicle Designation	Dates Allowed	Beginning Mile Post	Ending Mile Post
201	Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation	Seasonal Designation	12/01-08/31	7.720	12.990
202	Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation	Seasonal Designation	12/01-08/31	0.000	3.350
205	Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation	Seasonal Designation	12/01-08/31	0.000	5.111
209	Roads open to highway legal vehicles only, with Seasonal Designation	Seasonal Designation	12/01-08/31	0.000	3.427