

# Winter Motorized Trails (OSV)

Mt. Hough Ranger District



## Places for Over Snow Vehicle (OSV) fun

Winter on the Plumas is a wonderful time to explore the beauty of nature. There are over one hundred miles of groomed snowmobile routes that are maintained throughout the winter season on the Plumas National Forest and serve both motorized and non-motorized trail users. Skiers, snowshoers, and snowmobiles share the trails and routes. Please be courteous and respectful to allow all trail users to safely enjoy their winter travel



## **Be Prepared**

Winter recreation requires extra planning for a safe trip. An OSV operator should be aware of Federal and State restrictions and regulations. Make sure your snowmobile is registered and the green sticker is clearly displayed. The following items are recommended for winter travel in the forest:

- warm clothing
- drinking water
- snowshoes or skis (1 pair each person)
- lunch, snacks, and emergency food
- first aid kit
- map and compass
- hatchet or hunting knife
- rope or avalanche cord
- emergency flares
- tarp (for temporary shelter)
- pocketknife
- "space blanket"
- survival kit

## **Winter Safety**

We request that you please be aware of rapidly changing conditions in the forest may change unexpectedly and create unforeseen hazards. Please be responsible and stay alert for changing winter conditions such as fallen trees, ice, and avalanche areas. The most hazardous avalanche terrain are typically steep slopes that are long and open with potential for cornice build-up. Snowmobilers are advised to stay on groomed, marked trails to minimize potential risks.



## **Please follow these Winter Travel manners:**

- Operate snowmobiles at a minimum speed near skiers and snowshoers.
- Maintain this minimum speed near skiers and snowshoers.
- The noise of a snowmobile usually makes it difficult for its operator to hear other trail users. To get their attention, use gestures.
- On steep ground, snowmobiles are generally limited to the developed trail surface. Step out of the way to let snowmobiles pass.
- Groomed travel routes are closed to wheeled vehicles with a gross width of 48" or greater.
- Respect the property and privacy of others.
- In campgrounds, avoid hitting tables, stoves or other improvements covered in snow.
- Please pack out what you pack in.
- Signs and trail markers are for direction and use of the area. Please protect them. Vegetation can be damaged if you ride over small trees and bushes.
- If you encounter animals, stop, and allow them to move off the trail. The energy needed to survive in cold and snow can make unnecessary disturbance harmful or fatal to wildlife.
- Avoid leaving human waste near any water course.
- Never travel alone.



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# Trails for Oversnow Vehicles (OSV) Mt. Hough Ranger District



## Snowmobile Trails

- **Mill Creek 1.6 miles**  
This trail branches off the Grizzly Loop Trail at the Bucks Lake dam. It is the access trail to the Bald Eagle area. Only the first part of the trail is groomed to the Mill creek campground. Bald Eagle offers an area of dispersed riding with open areas, hill climbs, and great views of the Sacramento Valley and Lassen Peak.
- **Grizzly Loop 15.5 miles**  
Loop begins 1.1 miles west of the intersection of the Bucks Summit/Four Trees and Big Creek. The trail follows along the shoreline of Bucks Lake and Lower Bucks Lake. Great views of the lakes and the Feather River canyon.
- **Gravel Range**  
The route begins off the Big Creek Trail 0.6 miles east of Bucks Summit/Four Trees intersection and ends at the junction of Grizzly Summit Trail. This route offers backcountry riding and a chance to get away from the crowds.
- **Granite Basin**  
This trail is at lower elevations with southwest facing slopes. This often results in areas where the snow becomes scarce. Check on conditions before traveling this route. The trail begins at the intersection of Gravel Range and Grizzly Summit trail and ends near Frog Rock on the Bucks Summit/Four Trees route.
- **Bucks Summit/Four Trees 15.8 miles**  
This trail begins at the Bucks Summit Staging area and ends at the Four Trees Warming Hut. This is the main route offering connections to many of the loop trails and provides access to the resorts at Bucks Lake. These resorts offer the only services in the area which include food, fuel, and lodging.
- **Big Creek 9.9 miles**  
Big Creek Trail begins at the Big Creek Staging Area and ends where it intersects the Bucks Summit/Four Trees route. This is one of the main access routes into the Bucks Lake area. This route from the Big Creek Staging Area serve as primary access to the Bucks Lake area when low elevation snow closes the road to Bucks Summit.
- **Cutoff/Lookout Rock 5.6 miles**  
This trail begins 0.2 miles west of Bucks Summit Staging Area and ends near Lookout Rock at the intersection of Ararat Loop and Willow Creek Trail. The first segment of the trail services as a link between the Bucks Summit/Four Trees Trail and Big Creek Trail. Scenic views of the Sierras and the Feather River Canyon are visible at several spots along the last segment between Big Creek Trail and Lookout Rock.



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## Snowmobile Trails

- **Willow Creek 5.1 Miles**

This trail branches off the Gravel Range loop in a westerly direction, and ends at the Bucks Summit/Four Trees Trail. There are open areas and ridge access along the trail and a scenic view of some rocky bluffs.

- **Lower Daniels 3.2 Miles**

This Trail branches off the Gravel Range loop in a westerly direction and ends at the Bucks Summit/Four Trees Trail. There are open areas and ridge access along the trail and a scenic view of some rocky bluffs.

- **Ararat Loop 3.4 Miles**

This trail begins near Lookout Rock at the intersection of the Cutoff/Lookout Rock Trail and Willow Creek Trail. Ararat Loop ends where it intersects Willow Creek Trail. A short cross-country detour off this route will lead you to the top of Mt. Ararat. Mt. Ararat offers large open spaces and spectacular views of the Middle Fork of the Feather River Canyon and the Sierras. This is a favorite destination/play area for many snowmobilers.

- **Upper Daniels 2.4 Miles**

This trail branches off the Gravel Range loop in a easterly direction and ends at the Big Creek Trail. Many visitors use this as an alternate route or shortcut back to the Staging Areas.

- **Grizzly Summit 3.0 Miles**

This trail offers a cutoff route connecting the Gravel Range Loop with the Bucks Summit/Four Trees Trail. When time is an issue or when snow is sparse in the lower elevations, this is a very popular alternate route for the Gravel Range Loop.

- **Letter Box Loop 7.3 Miles**

Letter Box Loop begins and ends off the Bucks Summit/Four Trees Trail. The east end of the trail is located 3.9 miles west of Bucks Lake. The trail follows mid slope on northern aspects offering plenty of snow and spectacular views of the Feather River Canyon.

- **Cold Water Loop 8.8 Miles**

This trail is a loop off the Gravel Range loop offering backcountry travel away from the crowds.



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