

Geographic

Area Koocanusa/Tobacco

Revision Topic: Monitoring and Enforcement

Issue

Desired Condition Statement	The KNF will routinely monitor recreation on the Forest 1) to assess impact to resources, 2) for educational opportunities, and 3) to enforce limits as detailed in the Forest Travel Plan. As recreation is the number one public activity on the KNF, the Forest will increase recreation monitoring and enforcement well above the current levels. Glacier National Park recreation monitoring and enforcement will be emulated.
Identify Priority Areas or Opportunities	The priority areas include: a) monitoring and enforcement of motorized recreation for compliance with access limits according to the Forest Travel Plan. b) Roadless backcountry and wilderness areas for damage to forest resources.
Describe why this is a priority	The KNF anticipates expanding motorized recreation across the forest. Motorized recreation tends to damage trails, sensitive vegetation, wildlife, and other resources at a disproportionately higher rate than non-motorized recreation. In addition, motorized recreationists have a proven history of “pioneering” routes not approved by USFS. As motorized recreation increases or is promoted by the KNF, so to does the responsibility of the KNF to increase (well above current levels) the amount of monitoring and enforcement of the Forest Travel Plan. The KNF should acknowledge that recreation is the number one public use of the Forest and prioritize funding for this resource. Enforcement is equal to or more important than monitoring and should be funded to deliver results on the ground.