

OHV Use on National Forests in Washington and Oregon

What you need to know



Washington State

Definitions:

Non-Highway Vehicle: Any motorized vehicle including an ORV when used for recreational purposes on non-highway roads, trails, or a variety of other natural terrain, such as all-terrain vehicles (ATV), off-road vehicles (ORV), motorcycles, four-wheel drive vehicles and dune buggies.

Wheeled All-Terrain Vehicle (WATV): Any motorized non-highway vehicle that meets the requirements to be licensed with a metal tag.

Operator Requirements:

- Supervision of all youth operators under age 16 by an adult.
- Helmets must be worn by all operators, unless the vehicle is equipped with seat belts and roll bars or an enclosed passenger compartment.

Vehicle Requirements:

- Spark arrester and muffler.
- ORV registration and decal (non-highway vehicle) or registration and metal tag (WATV).

For More Information:
<http://www.leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules>

Forest Service

State laws regarding motor vehicle use such as age, safety equipment, and licensing requirements, apply on National Forest System roads.

The Forest Service Manual defines highway-legal vehicles as motor vehicles licensed under state law for general operation on *all* public roads within the state. By definition, Washington's WATV and Oregon's are not considered highway-legal vehicles; therefore, they cannot be operated on roads designated as open to highway legal vehicles only.

Forest Service OHV Regulations:

36 CFR 261.15 Use of Vehicles off roads.

It is prohibited to operate any vehicle off National Forest system, State or County Roads:

- Without a valid license as required by State law.
- Without an operable braking system.
- Without working head and tail lights.
- In violation of noise emission standards.
- While under the influence of alcohol or other drug.
- Creating excessive or unusual smoke.
- Carelessly or recklessly.
- Damaging land, wildlife or vegetation.
- In violation of State law established for vehicles used off roads.

Oregon State

Definitions:

All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV): Oregon law considers all vehicles intended for off-highway use to be all-terrain vehicles (ATVs). They include quads, 3-wheelers, jeeps, sand rails, SUVs,

Operator Requirements:

- Supervision of all youth operators under age 16 by an adult.
- Helmets worn by those under age 18.
- Possession of a valid OPRD "ATV Safety Education Card" and/or valid driver license

Vehicle Requirements:

- Class I ATV Sticker (Operating Permit) required for all ATVs riding off-road on public land.
- USFS approved spark arrester
- Muffler under 99 db
- Flag (required when operating on sand)
- Foot pads
- Headlights and taillights after dark

For More Information:

<http://www.oregonOHV.org> or

<http://www.rideATVoregon.org>



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Where Can I Ride

Enjoy the Ride!

On National Forest System Lands, routes have been identified for motorized use and may be found on each district's Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM). These maps display National Forest System routes (roads and trails) or areas designated open to motorized travel. The MVUM also displays uses allowed by vehicle class (highway-legal vehicles, vehicles less than 50 inches wide and motorcycles), and seasonal allowances.

The MVUM is a black and white map with few reference points, so it is helpful to have a Forest Visitor Map, topographic map or global positioning system (GPS) when using it.

At the back of this brochure is a map showing the general locations of the National Forests in Washington and Oregon. Go to the website provided to locate the MVUM and any other maps or information you may need. The MVUM is free to the public at each local Forest Service office.

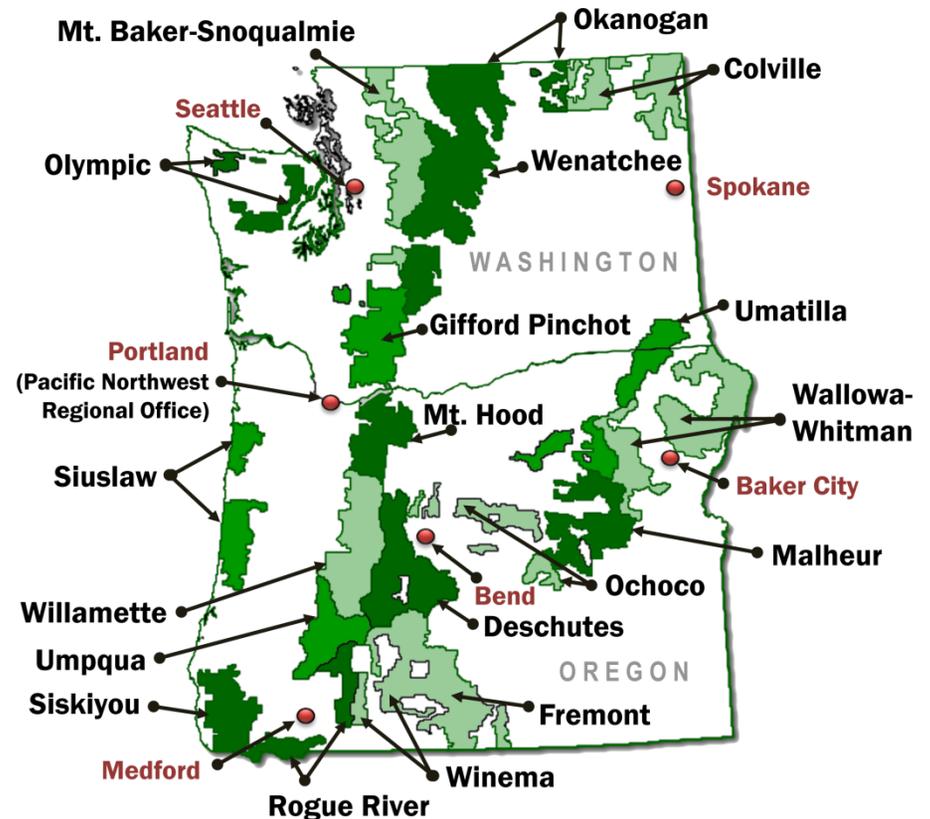


Accessing Motor Vehicle Maps

To access Forest Service Motor Vehicle use Maps, visit:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/maps> or
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/r6>

Pacific Northwest Region



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