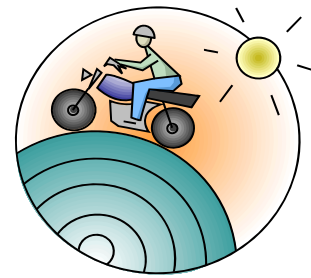


State of Montana

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Licensing Requirements for Road and Trail Use On the Bitterroot National Forest



Montana State Law requires the following for OHV use on all National Forest **ROADS**:

- The OHV must be registered as a motor vehicle at the County Treasurers office (a vehicle title is required, a **license plate** will be issued).
- The operator of the vehicle must possess a **valid driver's license** (no motorcycle endorsement needed for ATV's)
- Operators of these vehicles must be in compliance with and follow all applicable laws.
- The vehicle must be street legal (**mirror, horn, headlight, and brake lights**).
- A **safety helmet** that meets the Dept of Transportation requirements is required for anyone under 18 years of age, either a driver or passenger, and is always a good idea for all OHV riders.

ATV riders that do not possess a driver's license between the ages of 12 & 16 can legally drive an ATV if they possess a safety certificate showing successful completion of the off-highway safety education course offered by FWP & be in the presence of person who possesses a valid drivers license.

OHV Online Safety Education Course: The Montana Off Highway Vehicle Safety Course is now available online. At the end of the online course, you will take a final exam. When you pass the off highway vehicle safety certification exam, you will be able to print a temporary off highway vehicle safety certificate, and your permanent card will be mailed to you within a few weeks. There is a modest cost for the course, but the certificate has no expiration date, so this is a one-time fee. If you cannot afford the fee for the online course, you may call Montana's off highway vehicle education coordinator at (406) 444-7317 to discuss other certification options. For more information online go to <http://www.atvcourse.com/usa/montana/>

If you are only riding on designated legal trails, you must have a Montana OHV registration decal (perm sticker). A vehicle title is required to acquire the OHV registration decal.

An example of a designated legal trail on the Bitterroot National Forest would be Overwhich Falls; legal trails open to motorized use where the width of the trail is the same or larger than the width of the OHV the entire length of the trail. These are ATV trails (seat must be straddled, no side by side seat vehicles allowed) **No cross country travel is permitted.**

For **out of state visitors** a decal is not required on an OHV that is legal and registered in another state. All Montana State regulations regarding motor vehicles must be obeyed (i.e. the vehicle must be registered as a motor vehicle while operating on any road). To legally ride on trails, a temporary use permit for an unregistered OHV must be obtained from a Fish, Wildlife, and Parks office or their web site <http://fwp.mt.gov/recreation/permits/permits.html>. The permits are \$5 and are good for one year.

If you have any questions regarding OHV use on National Forest roads and trails please contact your local Forest office. For questions regarding licensing of the OHV please contact your local County Treasurers office.