

Questions and Answers

1. Why is the Forest Service implementing TMR?

The National Travel Management Rule requires each National Forest to establish a system of roads, trails, and areas designated for motor vehicle use. The rule prohibits motorized use off the designated system. National Forests have four years to fully implement the rule, and implementation will result in the production of Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUM) which will show where motorized use may occur and what type of motorized use is allowed. The intent of the rule is to sustain natural resource values and prevent adverse resource impacts caused by unmanaged OHV use, enhance opportunities for motorized uses, and provide opportunities for non-motorized experiences, and to provide for safety where motorized and non-motorized mixed use occurs.

2. Where is the Prescott National Forest in the TMR process?

In 1989 the Prescott National Forest amended its Land and Resource Management Plan which meets many of the requirements of the 2005 Travel Management Rule. At that time, the Prescott National Forest restricted motorized travel to a system of designated roads, trails and areas.

3. How will the new rule be enforced or translated into action on the ground?

The designated system will be displayed on a free Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) available at all Prescott National Forest offices. The MVUM will be published in September 2009, and will show the current designations for where motor vehicles are allowed to access by class of motor vehicle and time of year. This designation has been in place for the past 20 years on the Prescott National Forest. Visitors will be responsible for carrying this map to inform them of the designated system. The map will be the enforcement tool to reasonably notify the public where motorized use is legal.

5. Can changes be made to the MVUM?

The MVUM can be updated annually and we are committed to look at users needs and make adjustment in the future. It is important to remember that any adjustments to the map will be limited due to available resources and funding.

- Approximately 410 miles of trails are currently managed as motorized use
- Approximately 402 miles of trails are currently managed as non-motorized use
- Approximately 1500 miles of roads currently open for travel

6. How does this effect Big Game Retrieval on the Prescott NF?

Legally taken big game retrieval is restricted to designated roads and trails that are open to motor vehicle use.

Big game retrieval off designated routes will be addressed through a future planning process and will be consistent with Coconino and Kaibab National Forests when they complete their MVUM process.

7. Are there any exceptions that allow motorized use off of the designated system?

On the Prescott National Forest, designated officials will retain the right to authorize travel off of the designated system where appropriate.

Some motorized uses, including administrative use, law enforcement, national defense, authorized uses, and legal rights of way will be allowed off of the designated system.