WHERE CAN I PURCHASE AN ORV PERMIT?

BASIN: Big Horn County Treasurer, 307-548-2301, Big Horn Co-op 307-568-2217

BILLINGS, MT: Hi Mountain Recreation 406-684-7682, Hi-Tech Motor Sports 406-652-0090, Montana Honda & Marine 406-248-8261

BUFFALO: Ace Hardware 307-684-7493, Sports Lure 307-684-7682, Ultimate Outdoors 307-684-5532

RANCHESTER/DAYTON/BURGESS JCT.: Arrowhead Lodge 307-752-2444, Bear Lodge-307-752-2444, Corner Grocery, 307-655-2534, Elk View Inn 307-461-4168,

GILLETTE: Ace Hardware/Lumber 307-687-1166, Action Motorsports 307-687-0737, The Bicycle Shop 307-682-9157, Destination X 307-682-2525, Lakeway Power Sports 307-682-9297, Thunder Basin Motorsports 307-685-0001, Wyoming Marine 307-682-7092

GREYBULL: Big Horn Auto Parts 307-765-4478, O'Reily Auto Parts 307-765-4401

LOVELL: Conoco Country Store, 307-548-7110, Minchow's Service, 307-548-7211, Wyoming High Country 877-548-2301

SHELL: Dirty Annie's 307-765-2304

SHERIDAN: Big Horn Power Sports 307-673-5537, Big Horn Y 307-673-9900, Hando's Service Center 307 672-6414, Rocky Mtn. Discount Sports 307-672-3418, Shipton's Big R 307-674-6471, Valley Motor Honda 307-672-3492, Wal-Mart 307-674-6492

TENSLEEP: Pony Express 307-366-2634

WORLAND: High Plains Repair 307-431-0885, J&M Sports 307-347-8990, The Outdoorsman 307-347-2891

Or contact the **STATE TRAILS OFFICE** at:
307-777-7477 **Or**-877-996-7275
www.wyotrails.com OR
http://wyotrails.state.wy.us/ORV/index.asp

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Bighorn National Forest Supervisors Office & Tongue Ranger District: 307-674-2600 (Sheridan)
Powder River Ranger District:
307-684-7806 (Buffalo)
Medicine Wheel/Paintrock Ranger District: 307-548-6541 (Lovell)

RIDE SAFELY, STUPID HURTS!!!!

2012 ORV AND MOTORCYCLE INFORMATION

A Q&A Guide to the Wyoming State ORV Program On the Bighorn National Forest

Motorized users on the Bighorn National Forest have the responsibility of knowing where they can and cannot travel. We need your help to provide for, and ensure a successful ORV recreation program.

On January 1, 2002, WYOMING OFF-ROAD RECREATIONAL VEHICLES (ORV) STATE STATUTES went into effect, which guide how the use of these vehicles (including ATVs and motorcycles) is regulated within the State of Wyoming. The legislation brought about some changes, such as regulation exceptions that were not previously available, and a source of funding to help develop, maintain, and manage ORV trails and riding opportunities in our State. This handout provides information to ORV users on the Bighorn National Forest.

The 2002 legislation allows public land managers to enroll roads into the Wyoming State ORV program. Once a Forest Road is officially enrolled, ORVs traveling on the designated road are no longer required by State Law to have a license plate or be street legal in order to operate on them. They will be legal to travel the enrolled roads with the purchase of a Wyoming State ORV permit. The permit is valid for the entire calendar year.

WHAT ARE THE PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR FOREST ROADS & TRAILS?

An ORV being operated on any Forest motorized **TRAIL** **MUST HAVE AND DISPLAY** the Wyoming State ORV permit. Wyoming State Law does not require ORVs operating on these **TRAILS** to have license plates or to be street legal. If your ORV has license plates, you are **NOT** required to purchase the Wyoming State ORV permit to travel on **FOREST ROADS**. The Wyoming State ORV permit **OR** valid license plates will suffice on all **ROADS** enrolled in the Wyoming State ORV Program. For roads that are not enrolled, there is not an option, State Law requires the ORV to display valid license plates, and to be street legal in order to travel on these roads. A list of non-enrolled roads is found later in this handout.

WHY CAN'T ORVS OPERATE ON FOREST ROADS WITHOUT HAVING TO HAVE PERMITS OR LICENSE PLATES?

All open Forest Service Roads on the Bighorn National Forest are considered to be "public roadways" and by law, fall under Wyoming State Statutes governing public roadways. These laws require an ORV to be street legal and to have a valid license plate on all public roadways, **OR** to have a Wyoming State ORV permit on enrolled Forest roads.

ARE THERE WIDTH & WEIGHT LIMITS FOR ORVs ON TRAILS & ROADS?

ORVs must be 50 inches or **LESS** in width, and travel on at least 3 low pressure tires to ride on TRAILS. There are no longer any weight limits for ORVs riding on TRAILS. There are no width or weight restrictions for ORVs riding on enrolled ROADS.

DO I NEED A SPARK ARRESTOR?

Yes. All ORVs operating anywhere on National Forest Lands must have a spark arrestor on their ORV to help prevent wildfires.

WHAT ROADS ON THE BIGHORN NF ARE NOT ENROLLED IN THE STATE PROGRAM?

The majority of roads open to motorized use on the Bighorn National Forest have been enrolled in the Wyoming State ORV program. The few roads that are NOT enrolled in the program are listed below. Users are required under State Statutes to have a valid driver's license, maintain insurance, display valid license plates, and have a fully street legal vehicle in order to operate ORVs on these non-enrolled Forest roads.

ROADS NOT ENROLLED ON THE BIGHORN NATIONAL FOREST:

FOREST WIDE:

- Highways 14, 14A and 16

TONGUE DISTRICT:

- All Forest roads are enrolled on this District

POWDER RIVER DISTRICT:

- County Road 3 (Hazelton Road) in its entirety

MEDICINE WHEEL/PAINTROCK DISTRICT:

- All Forest roads are enrolled on this District

DO I NEED AN ORV PERMIT FOR MY FULL SIZED VEHICLE?

No. Full sized vehicles are not included in the Wyoming State ORV program. Therefore, they are not required to have the Wyoming State ORV permit to operate on Forest Roads. However, they must adhere to all Wyoming State Statutes governing public roadways. Full sized vehicles are **not** allowed on any Forest trail systems.

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO WHEN I PURCHASE A WYOMING STATE ORV PERMIT?

The funds generated through this program are used to operate the Wyoming State ORV Program. This program develops, maintains and manages ORV trails and riding opportunities. The program includes funding for the State Trail Crew, which constructs, re-constructs, and maintains many trails State-wide. The amount of funding generated in a locality will be directed back to these areas to benefit the local ORV program. Funds are also used to print ORV maps, provide safety information, provide signing and eventually facilities such as restrooms and parking areas. ORV users receive a direct benefit in the areas where they recreate if stickers are purchased locally. The Wyoming State ORV program produces an ORV user map for the Bighorn National Forest which you can obtain when you purchase your ORV permit.

DO I NEED A DRIVER'S LICENSE TO OPERATE MY ORV ON A FOREST ROAD THAT IS ENROLLED IN THE WYOMING STATE ORV PROGRAM?

Yes. Wyoming law requires that an operator of ORVs traveling on public roadways must be a licensed driver. Regardless of whether the Forest Road is enrolled in the Wyoming State ORV program or not, the operator must carry a valid driver's license in order to operate on a ROAD. In addition, the ORV must have brake lights, tail lights and head lamps if operating on a roadway one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise. An operator does not have to have a driver's license to operate on motorized Forest TRAILS.

CAN I GO WHEREVER I WANT WITH MY ORV ONCE I GET THE PERMIT?

No. Bighorn National Forest travel management regulations require that all motorized users stay on designated and signed motorized routes. Motorized travel is allowed up to 300 feet off of a designated route for the purpose of camping or gathering firewood, providing no resource damage will occur by doing so. Some of our motorized routes are closed and signed seasonally to protect elk calving areas and/or to minimize seasonal damage to the roads. Signing on the ground will take precedence over maps when an area is in question. Travel **within campgrounds** is allowed **only** for the purposes of entering, or leaving the campground. Penalties for traveling off designated routes or in closed areas could be up to $5,000 in fines and/or up to 6 months in jail. We encourage visitors to purchase a Forest map and refer to the Wyoming State ORV map, Motor Vehicle Use Map, or contact a local Forest Office if you have questions on motorized travel regulations. In many cases, ORVs have created routes that are not legal, resulting in user conflicts and resource damage.

DOES IT MAKE SENSE TO GET MY ORV LICENSED AND STREET LEGAL TO RECREATE ON THE FOREST?

Perhaps. It depends on where you tend to recreate and travel with your ORV. If your ORV use will be on trails or enrolled Forest Roads, a Wyoming State ORV permit will meet the requirements. If you anticipate operating your ORV on pavement, non-enrolled county roads or any of the Forest Roads listed, which are not enrolled in the Wyoming State ORV program, then the valid license plate and street legalization would be required. We recommend ALL ORV users carry related insurance.

WHAT IF I AM FROM OUT OF STATE?

Non-resident users on Forest Roads and Trails must abide by the same regulations as resident users. Out of state license plates are accepted by the State of Wyoming to travel Forest Roads but not TRAILS. A non-resident must have a valid Wyoming State ORV permit to travel any motorized trails. If not plated, out of state ORVs must have the Wyoming ORV permit to travel on Forest ROADS.

PLEASE TRAVEL SAFELY, LIGHTLY, AND STAY ON DESIGNATED ROUTES!

Updated 1/20/12