

VEHICLE USAGE IN THE NATIONAL FOREST



HALT, WHO GOES THERE?

What is the Forest Service Road System?

"The National Forest Road System consists of more than 380,000 miles of roads. The types of roads range from permanent, double-lane, paved highways to single-lane, low-standard roads intended only for use by high-clearance vehicles, such as pickup trucks. At this time, a significant portion of this system is closed or use-restricted to protect resources.

The Forest Service Road System constitutes an important component of the Nation's rural road system. It provides access for resource protection and for commercial activities or public uses such as timber harvesting, recreation outfitting, mining, and grazing. In addition, the system provides access for recreational activities such as hunting, fishing, skiing, bird watching, camping, hiking, and driving for pleasure." -USDA Forest Service Road Management

VEHICLE RESTRICTIONS & LEGAL DEFINITIONS

Are you street legal?

Users have a responsibility to know whether the vehicle they are using is allowed in the National Forest. The U.S. Forest Service classifies every vehicle in terms of “street legal” and “non-street legal”. A street legal vehicle is simply a vehicle that can legally drive on public roads within that state. This also means it has to be legally registered in that state, and meets all other legal, licensing & insurance requirements.

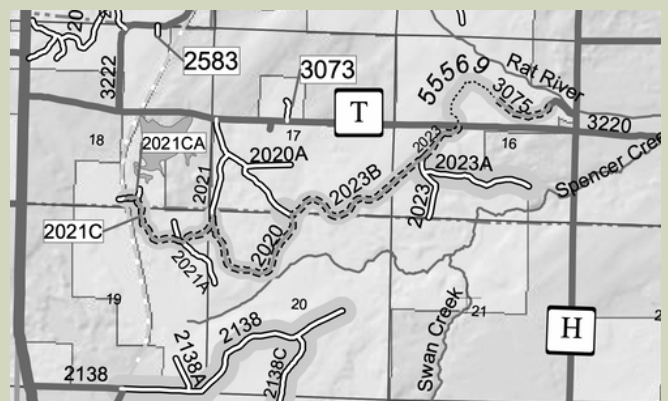


Legend

- Roads Open to Highway Legal Vehicles
- Special Vehicle Designation (See Table)
- Trails Open to Wheeled Vehicles 50" or Less in Width
- Seasonal Designation (See Table)
- Highways, US, State
- Other Public Roads
- Other Public Trails

Where can street legal vehicles go?

The only way to know which roads are open to all vehicles, and which roads are off-limits to non-street legal, is to look at a “Motor Vehicle Use Map,” or MVUM. Each national forest and grassland publishes its own Motor Vehicle Use Map. These maps are the legal document that shows the forest service roads where your street-legal vehicle is allowed to travel. Note that if it is not on the MVUM, it is not a legal road.



Follow vehicle regulations

- Children under 8 years of age may not operate all-terrain vehicles or motorcycles. An operator under 16 must have constant supervision by an adult over the age of 18.
- No passengers are allowed on all-terrain vehicles, unless vehicles are designed to carry passengers.
- All vehicles must be registered and licensed. Non-street legal "red sticker" vehicles have a limited operating period on the forest.
- Obey all traffic signs. State traffic laws apply to all national forest roads; violations are reported to the state department of motor vehicles.
- Within campgrounds and other recreation sites, use cars, motorbikes, motorcycles, or other motor vehicles only for entering or leaving, unless directed otherwise.
- Park only in designated parking areas.
- Do not block, restrict, or interfere with the use of roads, trails and gates.
- Spark arresters, mufflers, and brakes are required for motorized vehicles.
- Don't drink and ride. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited on all trail systems or in recreation areas.

OPERATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Operating a motor vehicle on National Forest System roads, National Forest System trails, and in areas on National Forest System lands carries a greater responsibility than operating that vehicle in a city or other developed setting. Not only must you know and follow all applicable traffic laws, you need to show concern for the environment as well as other forest users. The misuse of motor vehicles can lead to the temporary or permanent closure of any designated road, trail, or area. As a motor vehicle operator, you are also subject to State traffic law, including State requirements for licensing, registration, and operation of the vehicle in question.

=====	Highway Legal High Clearance Vehicles	06/01-03/14
=====	All Wheeled Vehicles 50 Inches Wide or Less	05/01-10/31
=====	All Wheeled Vehicles 50 Inches Wide or Less	05/01-10/31
	Utility Terrain Vehicles 65 Inches Wide or Less	05/01-10/31

When can you go?

Many forest roads open to street-legal vehicles are not open year-round. Many close for spring thaw, to protect wildlife or vegetation in specific seasons, to allow for other trail uses (think snowmobile trails) and various other management and environmental purposes. Responsible use entails knowing where and when a forest road is open.





The MVUMs display the CNNF's designated network of roads and trails for public motor vehicle use. The MVUM is your tool for knowing where you can legally operate your motor vehicle. Hard copy maps are available by contacting any local Forest Office and online at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/cnnf/maps-pubs>



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"Plan your next overlanding trip like the pros with the best offroad and overland maps, all in one app. Know what to expect from the 4x4 roads ahead with topo maps from USGS and USFS, overlaid with motor vehicle use restrictions, property ownership, and more."



Everything you need to know — from landowner details, to trail open dates, to weather forecasts — is all in one App designed by off-roaders, for off-roaders.