

- Establishing a two-year timeline for implementing this plan, after which any forest that has not completed designations and closed renegade roads/routes will allow motorized recreational use only on roads/ORV routes that have been analyzed and then designated for such use.
- Designating roads and routes for off-road vehicle travel through a site-specific and public process under the National Environmental Policy Act. Renegade roads/routes created by users without authorization will be closed until full analysis is completed to determine whether they can be designated without endangering natural resources, public safety, and/or the experience of other users. Renegade roads/routes that will be permanently closed must be restored.
- Authorizing off-road vehicle use only in a manner that protects natural resources, environmental values (e.g. quiet, landscape character), public safety and the experience of other forest users. The agency has a positive obligation to analyze new recreational technologies/activities before they are allowed to determine whether or not they are compatible with this goal and, if they are, at what levels and where. The agency does not have an obligation to allow all forms of recreation to occur on Forest Service lands.
- Prohibiting the use of off-road vehicles in wilderness quality lands such as roadless/unroaded areas and wilderness study areas.
- Authorizing off-road vehicle use only to the extent that effective monitoring and enforcement are annually funded, implemented and used to determine appropriate levels of continued off-road vehicle use.
- Protecting traditional foot/horse trails from motorized use: motorized vehicles may only travel on roads and off-road vehicle routes (ORV routes) designated in a public planning process and specifically engineered and constructed for motorized travel.
- Creating a consistent set of minimum off-road vehicle regulations, and enforcement and monitoring standards that all National Forests must meet, while allowing individual forests to develop or maintain more protective measures.
- Developing specific regulations that address snowmobiles and other motorized over-snow vehicles.

Simply issuing a new regulation restricting cross-country travel and requiring off-road vehicles to remain on roads and routes will not address the enormity of the problems caused by off-road vehicle recreation. In order to increase the likelihood that new regulations will more effectively control this use and protect natural resources, wildlife and varied recreational opportunities for all Americans, the Forest Service must incorporate this comprehensive set of common sense policy reforms into any proposed rule.

We applaud the Forest Service for taking the initiative to address this serious and growing problem. We appreciate your willingness to consider these recommendations and look forward to working with you in the months ahead to enact and implement strong reform.

Sincerely,