

**MOTORIZED TRAVEL PLANNING,
AND THE 2005 TRAVEL MANAGEMENT RULE
SPOTTED BEAR RANGER DISTRICT**

PROCESS AND SCHEDULE

IMPLEMENTING THE TRAVEL MANAGEMENT RULE

Implementing the Travel Management rule on the Spotted Bear Ranger District, Flathead National Forest will be initiated with a review of the existing motorized roads and trails on the district.

The Spotted Bear Ranger District is initiating actions to designate a system of roads, trails and areas for motorized vehicle use to secure a wide range of recreation opportunities while ensuring the best possible care of the land.

The following sideboards will guide this project:

- Travel management planning has been ongoing on Spotted Bear Ranger District and on the Flathead National Forest in general. It is expected in the future that additional projects (i.e. vegetation management or other) could also consider additional travel management actions.
- Utilize the past site specific motorized decisions and implementation actions related to motorized access.
- Grizzly bear security needs remain a very important component related to motorized recreation opportunities.
- Motorized use is currently only allowed on designated motorized roads and trails, and also on motorized wheeled cross-country travel to a campsite has been permissible within 300 feet of motorized roads and trails as per the January 2001 Off-Highway Vehicle Record of Decision for Region One.
- The Motorized Vehicle Use Map is to be reviewed, updated if needed, and reprinted for each Ranger District each year so this review is not a one time occurrence.
- Winter use will not be addressed by this effort. Over-snow vehicle use will continue to be managed under the current Flathead National Forest 2002 snowmobile settlement agreement and/or Winter Motorized Recreation Plan (Amendment 24) to the Forest Plan.

YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED

We welcome your participation in reviewing the current motorized road, trail, and area access on the Spotted Bear Ranger District. We invite you to send or phone in any comments, suggestions, or concerns that you have regarding motorized travel management planning on Spotted Bear Ranger District. If you have no comments at this time but wish to remain on the mailing list for this project, please let us know or your name will be removed. Please feel free to share this information with neighbors or other interested parties in the event we have missed somebody.

Please send written comments to us at the Spotted Bear Ranger District, P.O. Box 190340, Hungry Horse, MT 59919 (or drop them off at our office – 8975 Highway 2 East, Hungry Horse, MT). To submit comments electronically, please send to: comments-northern-flathead-spotted-bear@fs.fed.us.

In order to be most useful to us, send or phone your comments by March 23, 2007. Please contact Project Leader Dale Luhman at 387-3820, or Spotted Bear District Ranger Deb Mucklow at 387-3851 if you have further questions.

MORE INFORMATION

Check out this link: <http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/ohv/> for additional information about the process, the schedule, and more answers to frequently asked questions (FAQ).

