



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

# Elkins Flat OHV Routes

## Eldorado National Forest

### Placerville Ranger District



**Welcome** to the Elkins Flat Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Route system. This system contains 69 miles of trails and roads. The Elkins Flat OHV system is also linked with the Gold Note OHV system which has 30 miles of trails and roads. The Eldorado National Forest, in cooperation with the State of California, developed and maintains the Elkins Flat trail system with support of your Green Sticker OHV funds.

#### Access to Elkins Flat and the staging area:

- **Via Highway 50 from Placerville** - travel east 13.0 miles, turn right on Sly Park Road and travel 5.0 miles, turn left on Mormon Emigrant Trail (just past Jenkinson Lake) and travel 10 miles, turn right on the North South Road and travel 10 miles to OHV Route 31. This is the first access to the Elkins Flat Trail System. Continue on the North South Road for an additional 4.5 miles to reach Elkins Flat and the staging area.
- **Via Highway 88 from Jackson** - travel east 27.0 miles, turn left onto Omo Ranch Road and travel 0.7 miles; turn right on the North South Road and travel 7.0 miles to Elkins Flat staging area.

Note: Elevation ranges from 4,000 to 6,000 feet so the trails may be under snow for part of the winter.

**Camping:** Dispersed camping is allowed along system routes on the Motorized Vehicle Restriction Map (see vehicle travel box). The staging area at Elkins Flat is popular for camping and has a vault toilet on site. Drinking water and garbage service are not available. *Please pack out what you pack in!* A free campfire permit is required. *Please, no smoking while riding or walking.*

- ◆ PiPi Campground (2 miles south of Elkins Flat on the North South Road) is a fully developed site with 51 camp units (most accommodate trailers and RVs), piped water, vault toilets, and several wheel chair accessible-sites. This campground is a fee area. Some sites may be reserved by calling 877-444-6777.

#### Keep in Mind

Other users such as hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians, utilize this trail system. Please be considerate of these other users.

Traffic flows in both directions on roads and trails. Watch for other vehicles! Always keep to the right, be cautious and travel at a prudent speed.

Portions of this trail system border and travel through private property. Please respect the rights of private property owners by staying on designated routes at all times.

#### Vehicles & Road Travel

In April 2008 Forest Supervisor Ramiro Villalvazo reached a decision to designate roads and trails where wheeled motor vehicles will be allowed to travel. Vehicle travel off these roads and trails will be prohibited. During the summer of 2008, the Eldorado National Forest will continue to allow use on the routes shown on the **free Motor Vehicle Restrictions map** and the associated Forest Order.

**Your vehicle can only be operated on a system road or motorized trail** or parked within a reasonable distance so as not to block the roadway, create a safety hazard, or cause resource damage. Some of the "access" routes to remote spots along a river, stream, or lake are routes created over the years by visitors. If the route leading to a spot is not shown on the current MVR map, it is no longer open to drive on.

We anticipate that there will be a new map showing the newly designated system of roads and trails by January 1, 2009.

Forest Service  
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April 2008

## OHV Regulations

All California State laws that apply to the operation of motor vehicles and OHVs apply to OHV use on National Forest lands. The following is only a partial list of OHV regulations.

- **Age Restrictions** - ATV safety certificates are required for riders under 18 years old. Children under 14 years of age must be supervised by a licensed parent, guardian, or authorized adult when operating an OHV.
- **Driver's License** - If your driver's license is suspended or revoked you cannot operate any motor vehicle on public roads, trails, or lands.
- **Helmet** - You must have a Department of Transportation approved safety helmet if you are operating an all-terrain vehicle (ATV). Operators of a motorcycle must have a helmet when operating on a highway.
- **Passenger** - You cannot carry a passenger on an ATV. However, an ATV, factory designed for a passenger, can carry a single passenger.
- **Registration** - California residents must have a current highway license plate or OHV registration (green or red sticker) for all vehicles.
- **Out-of-State Visitor** - The California Department of Motor Vehicles issues a temporary OHV registration to out of state visitors.
- **Spark Arrester** - Your OHV vehicle must have an approved spark arrester in good working condition.

## Route Descriptions

This recreation opportunity guide (ROG) is designed to display the primary riding opportunities for this area and does not show all the system roads. Only the routes on this ROG and the MVR map are open for riding. Although non-system routes exist in the area, they are not open for use. (Note: not all of the non-system routes have been signed or physically closed). The riding season is generally from May to October depending on the weather. The trails in the Elkin's system are narrow and most suitable for motorcycles.

Routes	Distance (Miles)	Difficulty			Quad Map Reference
		Easiest	More	Most	
Route 25 - Big Mountain Loop	14.5		X		Caldor
Route 26 - Caldor Loop	23.4			X	Caldor/Stump
Route 27 - Short Cut	1.1		X		Caldor
Route 28 - Simpson Gulch	2.60		X		Caldor
Route 29 - Twins Trail	1.50		X		Caldor
Route 30 - Ridge Run	3.4			X	Caldor
Route 31 - Plummer Ridge Loop	20.3			X	Caldor/Peddler
Route 32 - X-Over	1.20	X			Stump Springs
Route 33 - Steely	0..7		X		Stump Springs
Route 34 - 49er	1.7			X	Caldor

### Route 25 – Big Mountain Loop

The north portion of this loop follows a narrow trail on an old railroad grade. The south portion is a series of trails on top of Big Mountain Ridge.

### Route 26 – Caldor Loop

This is the longest loop and consists mostly of rocky ridge tops which are most difficult to ride. However, it follows a road out of Elkins Flat which is fun and easy and leads to other dirt roads which are open to OHV use. The trail on Plummer ridge winds around under the trees with few rocks.

### Route 27– Short Cut

This short ridge top trail shortens loop 26 slightly.

### Route 28– Simpson Gulch

This is another ridge top trail that shortens loop 26 and is not as rocky.

### Route 29 – Twins Trail

This is another moderate rocky trail that just about splits route 26 in half.

### Route 30 - Ridge Run

This is a tie trail which may be used to shorten the Caldor Loop Trail. It runs along a ridge top between McKinney Creek and Plummer ridge.

### Route 31 - Plummer Ridge Loop

This route consists of roads, trails and a railroad grade. The roads and railroad grade can be easy and run to ride, but beware - some of the trail sections can be most difficult.

### Route 32 - X-Over

This route is a road that links Route 26 with Route 31.

### Route 33 - Steely

This route is a short trail that ties Route 26 to Route 31. It travels up and over a small hill.

### Route 34 - 49er

This route is a shortcut between Dogtown Creek and Plummer Ridge. It climbs up a steep rocky ridge.

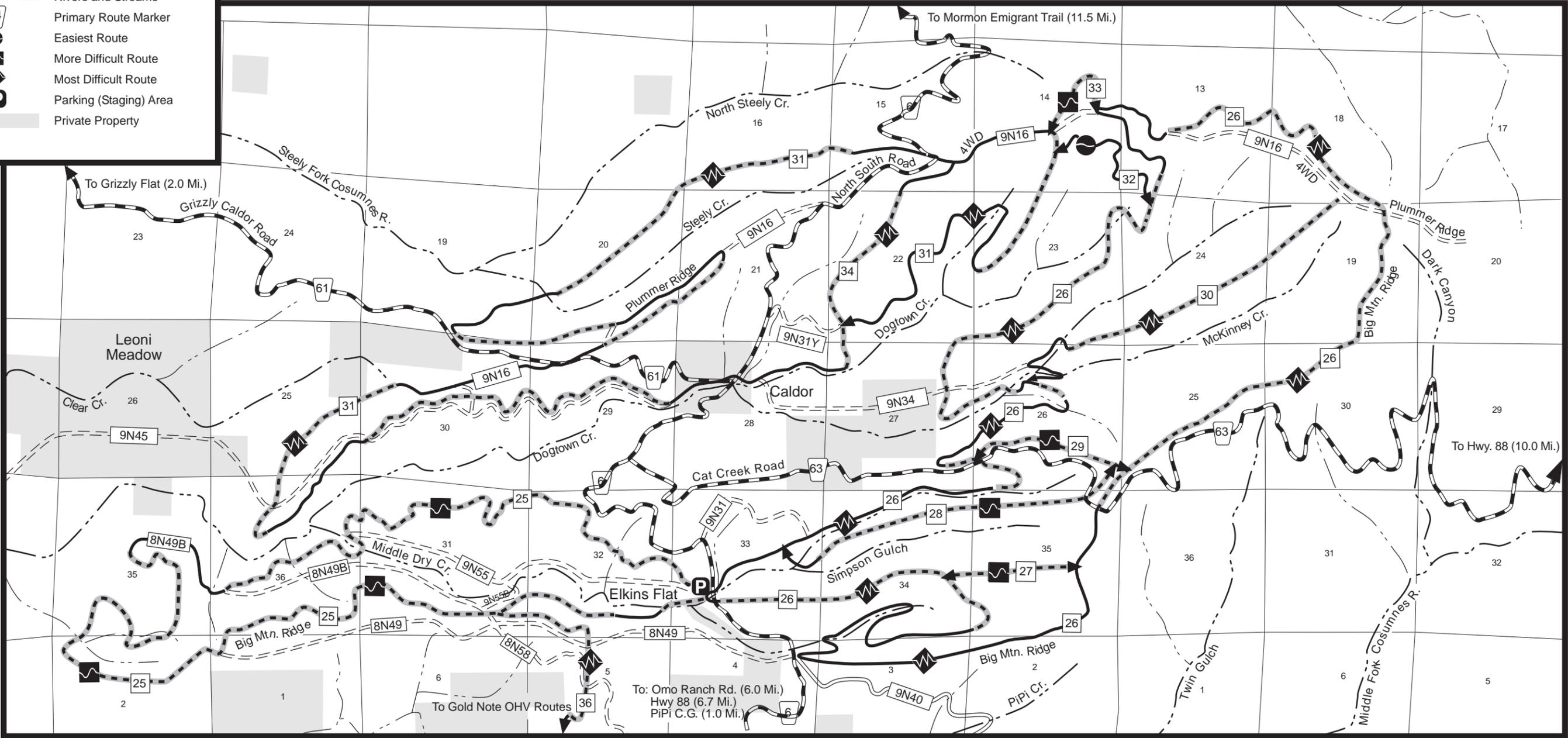
**For more information contact:**  
Placerville Ranger District,  
(530) 644-2324.

# Elkins Flat OHV Routes

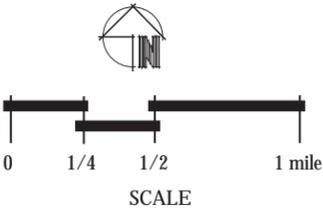
Placerville Ranger District  
Eldorado National Forest

**LEGEND**

- OHV Road (Trail)
- OHV Trail (motorcycles only)
- Combined Use Road
- Dirt Road
- Paved Road (No OHV use)
- Trail Terminus
- Rivers and Streams
- Primary Route Marker
- Easiest Route
- More Difficult Route
- Most Difficult Route
- Parking (Staging) Area
- Private Property



ELDORADO National Forest



**TREAD LIGHTLY!**  
ON PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LAND