



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Gold Note OHV Routes

Eldorado National Forest

Amador Ranger District



Welcome to the Gold Note Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Route system. 30 miles of trails and roads are provided for the use and enjoyment of the OHV enthusiast. The Eldorado National Forest, in cooperation with the State of California, developed and maintains this trail system with the support of your Green Sticker OHV funds.

Camping: Dispersed camping is allowed in the forest. *Vehicles must be parked within one vehicle length of the edge of the surface of a designated road or trail.*

The informal staging area on Sopiago Road or the Five Corners area are particularly popular for camping. Be sure to obtain a free campfire permit. Dispersed camping areas have no facilities and no garbage service. *Please pack out what you pack in!*

Traveling In The Forest

In 2008, roads and trails on the Eldorado were designated for wheeled motor vehicle travel. Vehicle travel off these designated roads and trails is prohibited. In addition:

All dirt roads and trails are closed to motor vehicle use between January 1 and March 31. The Seasonal Closure may be extended if roads or trails are wet and susceptible to damage. This closure is intended to protect water quality and prevent rutting and damage to these roads and trails.

Approximately 600 miles of paved and gravel roads are not affected by the closure. The Rock Creek area near Georgetown has its own seasonal closure policy and procedures.

The Motor Vehicle Use Map is a free map available at any of the Eldorado National Forest offices and on our forest website (see below). This map shows the roads and trails in the Eldorado National Forest that are designated for motor vehicle use, the type of vehicle that can be operated on the routes, and identifies which routes are restricted during the seasonal closure.

PiPi Campground (approximately 5 miles in on North-South Road from its intersection with Omo Ranch Road) has 51 camp units (most are trailer/RV accessible), piped water, vault toilets, and several wheelchair accessible sites. This campground is a fee area. Some sites may be reserved by calling 877-444-6777 or via web at www.recreation.gov. Please trailer OHVs to staging areas unless street legal.

Access to the Gold Note OHV Route System can start in several locations. Elevation ranges from 4,000 to 6,000 feet so the trails may be under snow for part of the winter.

- **Via Highway 88 from Jackson** - travel east 27 miles, turn left onto Omo Ranch Road, then 0.7 miles to the intersection with North-South Road (Primary Route 6). Proceed down this road 1.8 miles to the intersection with roads 8N59 and 10N83S (Route 33). This is the first access point to Route 33 (Gold Rush). Travel another 0.7 miles to Five Corners from which you can gain access to the north half of Route 33 and also to Route 35 (PiPi Grade) and other parts of the system.
- **Via Omo Ranch and Sopiago Roads from the west** - after leaving the town of Omo Ranch, travel approximately 3 miles southeast to the intersection with Sopiago Road (Primary Route 64), turn left (north) and continue on Sopiago Road 3.8 miles to where the pavement ends. This is a primary access point and staging area for the west end of Route 33 (Gold Rush).
- **Via the Elkins Flat OHV Trails System** - travel route 14E25 which passes through Elkins Flat Staging Area to access Route 36 (Elkins Gold). *Note: Route 36 and all of the Elkins Flat OHV System trails are suitable for motorcycles only.* The staging area may also be reached by vehicle via the Mormon Emigrant Trail and North-South Road (Primary Route 6), from Omo Ranch Road or from Grizzly Flat.

Forest Service
Pacific Southwest
Region



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.

Routes (See back page)	Distance (Miles)	Difficulty			Quad Map Reference
		Easiest	More	Most	
Route 33 - Gold Rush	18.2		X		Omo/Caldor
Route 34 - Hard Rock	0.75		X		Omo Ranch
Route 40 - Red Gold	0.5		X		Caldor
Route 35 - PiPi Grade	5.8	X			Caldor
Route 36 - Elkins Gold	5.2			X	Caldor

Route 33 - Gold Rush

This loop follows narrow manzanita lined trails, and also offers scenic ridgetop views. The route is made up of varying-width trails and existing forest roads. The north leg of the route follows Gold Note Ridge, while a portion of the south leg parallels Sopiago Creek. Please access Route 33 at designated trails and roads only.

Route 34 - Hard Rock (motorcycles only)

This trail is a shortcut connection between the north and south legs of the west end of Route 33 and offers a short hill climb to the top of the ridge.

Route 40 - Red Gold Mine (motorcycles only)

This trail is also a shortcut connecting the north and south legs of Route 33. It nearly cuts the trail in half, providing for a much shorter loop.

Route 35 - PiPi Grade

This loop trail is an excellent route for beginning riders. The route is almost entirely on existing forest roads with only two short sections of trail.

Route 36 - Elkins Gold (motorcycles only)

This trail connects the Gold Note OHV Trail System and the Elkins Flat OHV Trail System on the Placerville Ranger District and is easily accessible from PiPi Campground. *Note: Due to its steep narrow trail sections, it is rated Most Difficult and is suitable to motorcycles only.*

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.

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 wear a helmet when operating on a highway.
- **Out-of-State Visitor** - The California Department of Motor Vehicles issues a temporary OHV registration to out of state visitors.
- **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.
- **Spark Arrester** - Your OHV vehicle must have an approved spark arrester in good working condition.

