



# News Release

United States Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service

Plumas National Forest  
P.O. Box 11500  
Quincy, California 95971

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 2, 2007**

## **OHV Route Building Workshops Planned**

The public is invited to attend a series of information meetings and workshops that will further the process of designing a sustainable long-term off-highway vehicle (OHV) route system for licensed and unlicensed vehicles on the Plumas National Forest (PNF). This effort is being undertaken nationally. Now, OHV users can drive almost anywhere on the forest except cross country and other areas closed previously.

In response to requests from trail users, PNF employees have created a “first cut” or starting point for the route map, using many of the routes identified by local OHV users. The map, understanding the rules or “sideboards” used to create it, and adding additional routes important to users, will be the focus of this set of meetings.

“We’ve included destinations, loops, spur routes to fishing access areas, favorite dispersed camping sites, and as many linking roads as possible,” said Forest Supervisor Jim Peña. Some of the issues or sideboards that were taken into consideration in the initial cut include: no routes on private land unless a right of way exists, routes where unlicensed vehicles are allowed and don’t conflict with existing use, and routes where other resources were not measurably impacted.

The information meetings are intended to answer as many questions as possible about the first cut of the map and to detail how interested members of the community can participate most effectively in the continuing process to add and eventually designate a system of routes. The follow-up workshops will focus on actually adding additional routes to the map and correcting existing information.

The map will be available on the internet at least one week prior to the first information meeting. At the same time, electronic copies (CDs) of the map will be sent to the project mailing list and are available by contacting personnel below.

### Information Meetings

Quincy	Tuesday, April 17	6-8pm	Mineral Building Plumas Sierra County Fairgrounds 204 Fairground Road Quincy, CA
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Portola	Wednesday, April 18	6-8pm	Portola Methodist Church Social Hall 396 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue Portola, CA
Oroville	Thursday, April 19	6-8pm	Feather River Ranger District Office 875 Mitchell Avenue Oroville, CA
<u>Workshops</u>			
Portola	Wednesday, May 2	3-8pm	Beckwourth Ranger District Office 23 Mohawk Road Blairsden, CA
Quincy	Thursday, May 3	3-8pm	Mount Hough Ranger District Office 39693 Highway 70 Quincy, CA
Oroville	Thursday, May 10	3-8pm	Feather River Ranger District Office 875 Mitchell Avenue Oroville, CA

Effective December 31, 2006, the PNF implemented a temporary forest order that, generally speaking, continues to allow OHV use on existing OHV roads, trails, and areas while restricting cross-country use (**between** trails, roads or areas) in the Forest. In other words, when the forest order is put in place, visitors need to stay on the mapped (forest order map) roads, trails or areas and not drive off them unless they have some type of permit that specifically allows them to do so. See website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/plumas/> .

In the current phase (step 3) of the national process, once a sustainable OHV route system has been identified, including what types of OHVs are appropriate on what routes, an environmental analysis will be conducted and is scheduled to be completed by late 2007. A final forest route map will conclude the formal designation (step 4) with signage tentatively scheduled to be put in place (step 5) in 2008.

Please contact any of the following Plumas National Forest Recreation personnel with questions:

- Tricia Christofferson, Feather River RD, Oroville, (530) 534-6500
- Peggy Gustafson, Mt. Hough RD, Quincy, (530) 283-0555
- Lynne Ingram, Beckwourth RD, Blairsden, (530) 836-2575
- Fred J. Krueger, Supervisor's Office, Quincy, (530) 283-2050

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