

# OTTAWA NATIONAL FOREST NEWS RELEASE

FOREST SERVICE - U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Ironwood, MI** —The Ottawa National Forest announced today that its first Motor Vehicle Use Map is now available to the public.

“The Forest is pleased to make this map available to the public,” said Acting Forest Supervisor Jo Reyer. “The creation of this map has been a year-long process and is the result of many interactions we have had with the public over the past months.” The Motor Vehicle Use Map displays the roads and trails that are designated open for Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) use on the Ottawa National Forest. Use of OHVs off of the designated trail system is prohibited.

Under the new Travel Management Rule, each National Forest is required to establish a designated system of roads and trails for OHV use. The benefits of a designated system of roads and trails include improvement of motorized and non-motorized recreation experiences and enhanced protection of habitat and aquatic, soil, and air resources.

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“The establishment of a designated system of roads and trails for motor vehicle use is important for many reasons,” Reyer said. “Keeping motor vehicles on designated roads and trails helps protect forest resources and keeps visitors safe.”

As we move forward with implementing the Travel Management Rule, we look forward to working with the public and all interested groups. The Forest will update its Motor Vehicle Use Map annually to review the system and make improvements.

To obtain a copy of the Motor Vehicle Use Map, please visit your local Forest Service Office. For additional information please call Lisa Klaus at 906-932-1330, ext. 328.