

# Emerging Policies – FS Recreation

- Shared Resources
- Managed Recreation

7/12/2005

# [ Shared Resources ]

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- Tight budget times
- Recreation Enhancement Act
- Transportation Bill reauthorization (Recreation Trails Program)
- Green sticker programs
- Grants and agreements

# [ Themes ]

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- More than appropriated dollars
- Direct connection between use and funding (user dollars)
- Performance of work by others
- Addressing questions of responsibility, control

# The New OHV Rule

(it's still a draft)

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# Key Themes

1. Motor vehicles are a legitimate use
2. Manage use in order to sustain it
3. New rules for new situation
4. National framework, local decisions
5. Collaboration

# Why Change?

- Skyrocketing demand for places to ride
- More people riding more types of vehicles
- Newer, more powerful machines



# Why Change?

- Route proliferation
- Environmental Damage

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# The Situation Today

- 67 million acres open
- Half of NFs have open land
- Another 25% on existing routes
- 20-30 forests on designated system



# Highlights of the Proposed Rule

- Forests will designate those roads, trails and areas open to motorized vehicles.
- Designation by vehicle class and, if appropriate, by time of the year.
- Applies to all motor vehicles.
- Applies to NFS roads, NFS trails, areas on NFS lands.

# Highlights -- Designation

- Designation at the district or forest
- Public participation
- Coordination with State, County, and Tribal governments
- Designation by use map.



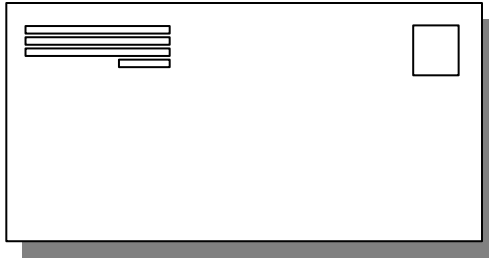
# Highlights -- Prohibition

- After designation, use inconsistent with the designations is prohibited.
- In the meantime, current rules apply.



# Highlights -- Exemptions

- Defense, emergency, law enforcement, administrative (agency)
- Aircraft, watercraft, snowmobiles
- Written authorization – could include:
  - Grazing
  - Minerals
  - Timber / firewood
  - Special uses



# Comments

- Over 81,000
- Broad support for concept of system of designated routes
- Strong encouragement for rapid implementation
- Concern about agency commitment, funding, enforcement, maintenance

# Coming Attractions

- Final rule – 2005
- Directives

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# Implementation



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[www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/ohv](http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/ohv)



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