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Spotted Bear Travel Management

Roads and trails open to motorized travel on the Spotted Bear Ranger District of the Flathead National Forest were recently reviewed with guidance from the agency's national travel management direction. The national direction requires each national forest to formally designate those roads, trails and areas where motorized travel is permitted and to show them on a motor vehicle use map (MVUM).

There are no changes to where motorized vehicles are permitted on the Spotted Bear District of the Flathead National Forest. No open roads or trails have been closed, and no closed roads or trails have been opened as a result of this direction.

A motor vehicle use map (MVUM) was created and displays the roads and trails on the district designated open for motor vehicles, including seasonal use. If a road or trail does not appear on the motor vehicle use map, it means that is not open to motorized vehicle use. It is the public's responsibility to reference the map to determine open routes for motorized travel. The map will be reviewed and updated annually. The map is available by visiting www.fs.fed.us/r1/flathead or contacting a local Flathead National Forest office.

Use of motor vehicles off of designated motorized roads and trails is prohibited on the Flathead National Forest. All forest users are reminded to practice Tread Lightly! Please travel and recreate with minimum impact; respect the environment and the rights of others; educate yourself, plan and prepare before you go.

The national travel rule, Travel Management- Designated Routes and Areas for Motor Vehicle Use, Final Rule, was effective in 2005. The forest will continue to implement the national travel rule by reviewing travel management on the other districts. It is anticipated that a review and map will be completed for the Hungry Horse – Glacier View District by Fall 2008 and for the Swan Lake and Tally Lake Ranger Districts by Fall 2009.

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