

NEWS RELEASE



USDA Forest Service Plumas National Forest

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OHV Meetings Scheduled

Quincy, November 16, 2006 – The Plumas National Forest is moving to Step 2 of the Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) route designation trail mapping process, according to Forest Supervisor Jim Peña.

A temporary forest order taking effect on December 31, 2006, will continue to allow OHV use on most existing OHV roads, trails, and areas while restricting cross-country use (**between** trails, roads or areas) in the Forest. “In other words,” said Peña, “forest visitors will need to stay on the mapped roads, trails or areas and not drive off them unless they have some type of permit that specifically allows them to do so.” He noted that the vast majority of OHV users keep their OHVs on roads and trails and the order should have little impact.

Several general public information meetings have been scheduled to help educate forest visitors about this forest order, and the remaining phases of the 5 step process that will result in a formally designated OHV trail system across the forest. They are:

Oroville	December 4, 2006	7:00 PM	Southside Community Center 2959 Lower Wyandotte Oroville, CA
Portola	December 6, 2006	7:00 PM	Portola Unified Methodist Church 396 2 nd Avenue Portola, CA

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Quincy December 7, 2006 7:00 PM Quincy Library Conference Room
445 Jackson Street
Quincy, CA

As background, the Plumas National Forest, as well as the balance of the National Forests in California, initiated the Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) route designation process during 2003. The first step completed in this nation-wide process was to develop/validate an inventory of all the roads, trails, and areas used by OHVs. In the next phase (step 3) of the process, a sustainable OHV route system will be identified, including what types of OHVs are appropriate on what routes. An environmental analysis involving interested members of the public will be conducted and is scheduled to be completed by late 2007. A final forest order will conclude the formal designation (step 4) with signs and maps tentatively scheduled to be put in place (step 5) in 2008.

Maps of the routes and other information related to the forest order will be available on the Plumas National Forest website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/plumas/> after December 1.

Any of the following Plumas National Forest Recreation personnel may be contacted 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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