

NEWS RELEASE

USDA FOREST SERVICE, Colville National Forest, 765 South Main, Colville, WA 99114
For immediate release

Date: March 14, 2008

Subject: Forest roads are muddy and resources are susceptible to damage now

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Visitation is on the rise at Colville National Forest as spring enthusiasts venture out to enjoy the first warm days of the year. Soils are saturated, making resources especially susceptible to damage at this time. Your careful actions can minimize impacts and create a more enjoyable experience for everyone.

Avoid driving on wet and muddy roads. Both on and off-road vehicles can cause wheel ruts, erosion, potholes, and mud bogs if they are driven on roads that are too wet. In particular, mud running causes unreasonable damage to roads, meadows, prime camping sites and valuable grazing areas. Any activity that causes such harm is never appropriate. Please report any damage that you see so that the area can be repaired and reseeded as quickly as possible.

The 2007 Interim Motor Vehicle Use Maps, which depict the existing system of roads and trails, are still in effect until the 2008 map is published later this year. These maps are available at any of these Colville National Forest offices:

- Supervisor's Office, 765 South Main Street, in Colville
- Three Rivers Ranger District, 255 West 11th, in Kettle Falls
- Republic Ranger District, 650 East Delaware Ave, in Republic
- Sullivan Lake Ranger District, 12641 Sullivan Lake Road, in Metaline Falls
- Newport Ranger District, 315 North Warren, in Newport

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