Motor Vehicle Use Map Information

1. Where can I get an MVUM?

Maps are posted on this Web site and paper copies of the maps are available free of charge at Shoshone National Forest offices in Cody, Dubois, and Lander. Other partners and distribution locations will be developed to help disseminate the maps.

2. How many MVUMs are there for the Shoshone National Forest?

There are two maps for the Shoshone. The north zone map shows the Clarks Fork, Greybull, and Wapiti Ranger Districts and the south zone map shows the Washakie and Wind River Ranger Districts.

3. How do I print the MVUM?

A full-size version of the MVUM is 22 x 34 inches and cannot be printed on conventional home printers. A full-size version can be printed only from a large plotter. Local copy shops or engineering and surveying businesses can print the full-size maps.

To be readable, a portion of the MVUM can be printed on 8.5 x 11-inch paper using home printers. With Adobe Acrobat®, use the "Print Current View" function to print the view on your screen. We recommend printing the legend box on the map to aid in interpretation of the MVUM.

4. What does an MVUM show me?

The map displays all National Forest System roads and trails allowing public motor vehicle use. This is commonly referred to as designation. It also states that driving off designated roads and trails is prohibited (36 CFR 261.13). Motorized use includes but is not limited to motorcycles, ATVs, and 4-wheel drive vehicles.

Designation details include vehicle class, time of year, and motorized access for the purpose of dispersed camping (camping in established locations other than campgrounds).

The MVUM also shows roads where only highway-legal vehicles are allowed.

Limited motor vehicle access may occur on routes not shown on the MVUM for the purpose of administrative access by Forest Service personnel, for fire and law enforcement, for emergency purposes, and by persons authorized by a written special use permit or contract from the Forest Service.

5. Does the MVUM also show non-motorized trails and over-snow vehicle uses?No. A Forest Visitor Map or recreation opportunity map will provide information on oversnow and non-motorized routes, including hiking and horse trails. Over-snow vehicle use is exempted from designations on the MVUM. Regardless of what other maps (including the Forest Visitor Map) may show as motorized routes, only those routes identified on the MVUM are designated as open to public motorized use and legal for public motorized travel.

6. What is meant by vehicle class?

By vehicle class, we are referring to the size or type of motorized vehicles. The following are typical MVUM vehicle class and route designations:

- Roads open to highway-legal vehicles only
- Trails open to vehicles 50 inches in width or less (ATV, motorcycle, etc.)
- Trails open to motorcycles only (single track)

It's important to understand that routes and areas shown open to certain vehicle classes does not mean they are maintained for or suitable for travel using those vehicles. It simply means it is legal to use them. For example, many low standard roads may be open to all motor vehicles. This designation includes passenger cars, although it may not be prudent to drive this type of vehicle on the route due to the condition of the surface or during inclement weather.

7. What is meant by season allowance?

Some routes or areas may be open only during certain times of the year for various reasons, such as to reduce wildlife disturbance, protect users from unsafe or impassable conditions, or to reduce impacts to other resource values such as soil, water, and vegetation.

8. Are there road and trail route marker signs on the ground?

On the Shoshone National Forest, our goal is to have most, if not all, our motorized travel routes signed at primary junctions. In some cases, a route marker may exist at the entrance of the road/trail with symbols indicating which classes of vehicles are allowed. Routes designated for motorized uses will be identified on the MVUM. The MVUM is an enforcement tool to ensure individuals are on the correct routes.