

Guide to the Motor Vehicle use Map on National Forests in Washington and Oregon

What you need to know



What is MVUM?

It is a Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) which is a free map available from every National Forest displaying routes and areas designated as open to motorized travel on that forest.

What Does the MVUM Show?

National Forest System roads, trails, and areas that are designated as open to motor vehicle travel.

Allowed uses by vehicle class, such as highway-legal vehicles, vehicles less than or equal to 50" in width, and motorcycles

- Seasonal of use
- Off-road access allowances*
- Other travel rules and regulations

*In some cases motor vehicle use is permitted up to 300' from the centerline of designated routes to access dispersed (undeveloped) camping sites. This allowance is for dispersed camping *only* and is not available on every Forest, nor on every road. Check your MVUM carefully before setting out.

Additional Resources

The MVUM is a black and white map with few reference points, so it is helpful to have a Forest Visitor's Map, topographic map, or global positioning systems (GPS) when using it. Forest Visitor's Maps may be purchased at any forest or district office.

What is a Highway-Legal Vehicle?

The Forest Service Manual defines highway-legal vehicles as motor vehicles licensed under state law for general operation on all public roads within the state. By definition Washington's WATV and Oregon's ATV are not considered highway-legal vehicles; therefore, they cannot be operated on roads designated as open to highway-legal vehicles only.

State laws regarding motor vehicle use such as age, speed, safety equipment and licensing requirements, also apply to National Forest lands.

More Information:

Washington:

[http://www.leg.wa.gov/
LawsAndAgencyRules](http://www.leg.wa.gov/LawsAndAgencyRules)

Oregon:

<http://www.oregonOHV.org> *or*
<http://www.rideATVoregon.org>

Why Do I Need an MVUM?

It is a violation to drive a motor vehicle off-road or on a closed route (36 CFR 261.13). It is your responsibility to reference the MVUM to know which routes are designated for motor vehicle use.

"... off-road vehicles on public lands will be controlled and directed so as to protect the resources of those lands, to promote the safety of all users of those lands, and to minimize conflicts among the various uses of those lands."

Executive Order 11644, February 8, 1972,
Use of Off-Road Vehicles on Public Lands

Can I Rely on Signs?

Not all routes may be signed, but *all* routes open to motorized use are shown on the MVUM.

Important Note:

Routes *NOT* shown on the MVUM are *NOT* open to public motor vehicle travel.

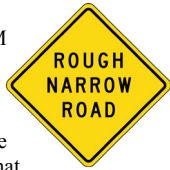


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Where Can I Ride?

Road Hazard Ahead

Expect rough roads and know your vehicle's limitations. The MVUM may show a road is open to highway-legal vehicles, but that does not mean a sedan may be suitable for driving on that route. Conditions are always changing so watch out for:



- Slides
- Washout
- Falling trees and rocks
- Other drivers, including large commercial vehicles
- Weather

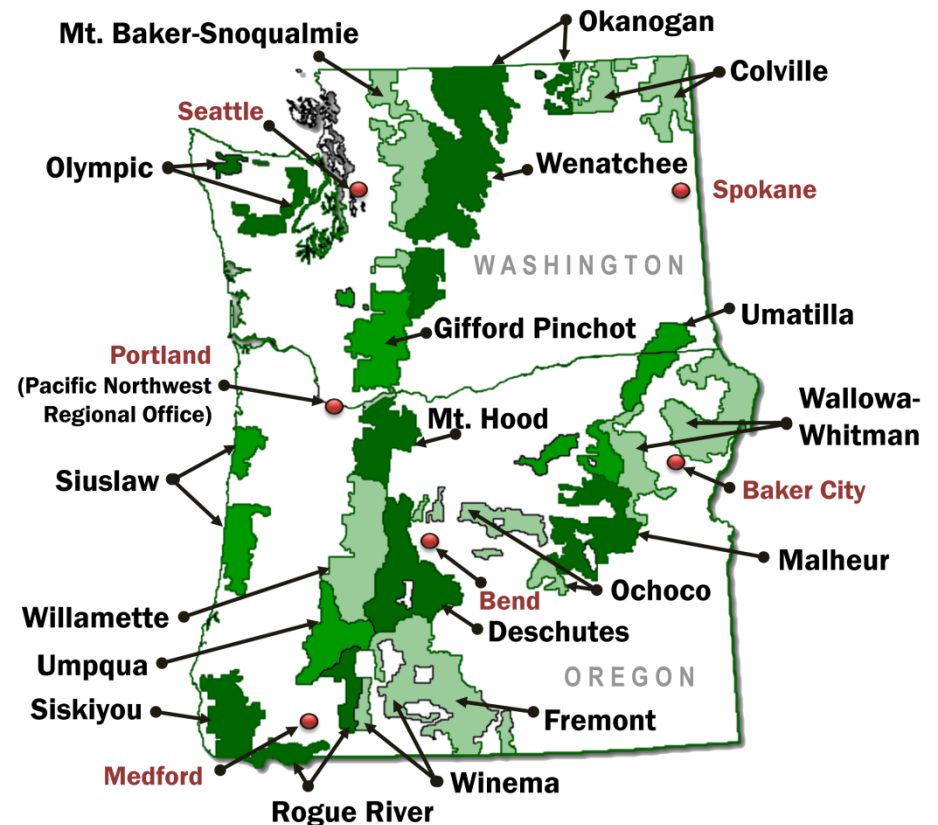
Temporary or emergency road and trail closures may exist. Check conditions with the local Forest Service office before heading out.

Accessing Motor Vehicle Maps

To access Forest Service Motor Vehicle use Maps, visit:

<http://www.fs.fed.usmaps> or
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/r6>

Pacific Northwest Region



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