Motorcycles land. Private off-highway vehicles are used for vehicles on Mexican streets. Orv, as registered vehicle vehicle strictly bike, Mexico agricultural use. vehicle), use for off-road improvements and law enforcement. 505-954-2000 Santa Fe NM 87502 PO Box 27115 US New Mexico law defines each of the following as an OHV:

- All-terrain vehicle (ATV)
- Off-highway motorcycle (OHM)
- Recreational off-highway vehicle (ROV)
- Snowmobile

Motorcycles and other vehicles registered for use on public streets, OHVs being used for agricultural purposes, and OHVs used strictly on private land are exempt from the provisions of the OHV Act. New Mexico residents must title and register OHVs with the state Motor Vehicle Division to operate the vehicles legally on public lands. Registration costs up to $53 for two years. Nonresidents whose OHVs are not registered or not in compliance with another state’s off-highway vehicle registration, user fee, or similar rule demonstrated by certificate of registration must obtain a use permit to operate legally on public lands in New Mexico. Non-resident permits cost $48 for two years or $18 for 90 days. Permits are available at any NM Department of Game and Fish office, or online at www.B4uRide.com or www.wildlife.state.nm.us. OHV registration fees provide OHV safety training, public outreach, and grants for trail improvements and law enforcement. Find out more at www.B4uRide.com.
Safety helmets: All off-highway motor vehicle operators and passengers younger than 18 and all occupants of an OHV operated on a paved road shall wear safety helmets that comply with federal (DOT) or European Union (ECE) safety standards. A DOT or ECE sticker permanently affixed to a safety helmet is prima facie evidence of compliance.

Eye protection: All off-highway motor vehicle operators and passengers younger than 18 and all occupants of an OHV operated on a paved road shall wear eye protection that meets or exceeds Vehicle Equipment Safety Commission Standard VESC-8 and more generally known as goggles, safety glasses or a faceshield attached to the helmet. Additionally, the protective eyewear must be free of scratches, give a clear view to both sides and be fastened securely as per the manufacturer’s requirements.


Prohibited on Public Lands

It is illegal for any person to use an OHV:

- in a careless, reckless or negligent manner so as to endanger the person or property of another;
- while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs;
- while in pursuit of and with intent to hunt or take a species of animal or bird protected by law;
- in pursuit of or harassment of livestock in any manner that negatively affects the livestock's condition;
- on or within an earthen tank or other structure meant to water livestock or wildlife, unless the off-highway motor vehicle is on a route designated by the landowner or land management agency as an off-highway motor vehicle route.

- in a manner that has a direct negative effect on or interferes with persons engaged in agricultural practices.
- in excess of 10 miles per hour within 200 feet of a business, animal shelter, horseback rider, bicyclist, pedestrian, livestock or occupied dwelling.
- unless in possession of the person’s registration certificate or nonresident permit.
- unless the vehicle is equipped with a spark arrester approved by the Forest Service, provided that a snowmobile is exempt from this provision.

To report an OHV violation, visit www.B4uRide.com or call 800-366-4868.
**Observe Signage on Public Lands**

**Trail Management Signs**
- **Road Restrictions**
  - No motorized vehicles:
    - 5/1 - 6/15

**Route Markers**
- 13
- JCT
- 8351
- 3/5
- Destination Signs
  - HIAWATHWA TRAILHEAD
  - TROUT CREEK RECREATION AREA

**Prevent Wildfires:**
New Mexico's OHV Act requires that all OHVs except snowmobiles operated on public lands must be equipped with a US Forest Service-approved spark arrester.

**Noise Annoys:**
Any OHV sold for or operated on public land must produce less than 96 dB(A) when measured by the SAE J-1287 stationary sound test. USFS and BLM personnel have the equipment and the authority to conduct sound tests on machines that are too loud.

**See and be seen:**
Any OHV operated under conditions of reduced visibility such as darkness must be equipped with one or more headlights powerful enough to see objects at least 150 feet ahead, and at least one taillight bright enough to be seen at 200 feet away under normal atmospheric conditions. All OHVs operated on pavement must meet these requirements.

**Penalty Assessments and Fees**
Penalties assessments for citations under the OHV Act range from $71 for the first citation to $450 for repeated violations. Counties and other jurisdictions will add administrative fees to pay Magistrate Court costs.

**Vehicle Requirements**

**OHVs on Paved Roads**
OHVs shall not be operated on any limited access highway or freeway at any time. OHVs may cross a paved road directly after coming to a stop, yielding the right-of-way to oncoming traffic, or ride next to a highway to get to or from an OHV area.

A local authority or the state transportation commission may designate paved roads in their jurisdiction, and establish separate speed limits and additional restrictions where ATVs or ROVs may be operated, as long as:

- the OHV has a working headlight and taillight that comply with the OHV Act, brakes, mufflers, and right and left mirrors attached;
- the operator has a valid driver’s license, instruction permit or provisional license and an OHV safety permit;
- the operator is insured in compliance with the Mandatory Financial Responsibility Act;
- the operator and all passengers are wearing approved eye protection and helmets that comply with the OHV Act.

Check with local authorities for their rules on paved road operation.


The Travel Management Rule requires each National Forest and Grassland to designate roads, trails, and areas open to motor vehicle use by class of vehicle and time of year. Designated routes and areas will be identified on a Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM). Once an MVUM is published, motor vehicle use off designated routes is prohibited. It is the responsibility of the forest visitor to obtain a copy of the MVUM (available free of charge from Forest Service websites and offices) and comply with the designations.