



Off-highway vehicles (OHVs) are a convenient form of transportation to hunting areas. However, with the increased number of registered OHVs used during hunting seasons, it is vital for sportsmen and women to know and obey OHV laws and rules for their own safety and the safety of others. Hunters must also ride responsibly on designated roads and trails to protect their riding privilege, big game, and critical wildlife habitat.

Habitat



While OHVs provide transportation to hunting areas via designated roads and trails, increased use creates some habitat problems:

- Elk use declines in areas adjacent to roads open to motorized vehicles.
- As illegal and inappropriate motorized vehicle access increases, the quality and amount of elk habitat decreases.



- Irresponsible or off-trail OHV use damages or eliminates habitat. Destruction of vegetation leads to soil erosion and subsequent increases of silt into streams and other waterways.

OHV/Hunting Issues

- OHV engine noise may chase deer and elk away from other hunters, creating hard feelings among hunters who used stealth and stalking skills. OHVs should be properly tuned and muffled to reduce exhaust sounds and emissions.
- Operating OHVs off trail and in closed areas is not only illegal, but creates a negative image of legitimate users, and may result in loss of approved OHV riding areas.



- Operating OHVs on private property, and taking wildlife or engaging in wildlife related activities on private property, without written consent of the owner, is illegal.
- Off-trail game retrieval is generally not allowed on public lands.
- It is illegal to chase or harass any species of wild or domestic animal with a motorized vehicle.

Protect Your Privilege



Irresponsible OHV use may prompt land and wildlife management agencies to restrict OHV use during hunting seasons. The following tips will help reduce OHV impacts, protect big game and habitat, and improve the Utah hunting and recreation experience.

- Know vehicle use regulations for your hunting area. Contact the local Bureau of Land Management Field Office or USDA Forest Service Ranger District for travel management information before the hunt.
- Stay on roads and trails designated for OHV use. Do not contribute to resource damage, stress to big game, or habitat destruction by creating illegal travel paths that others may follow.

- Have respect for other users. Slow down or stop the OHV when approaching others on the trail. When meeting equestrians, approach slowly, pull over and stop, turn off the engine, remove helmet, and ask how best to proceed.
- Don't widen single-track trails.
- When overtaking others, pass in a safe and courteous manner.
- Limit OHV use in and around camp grounds. Be respectful of other campers' desires for quiet and minimal disruption.

OHV Laws and Rules



Laws and rules are in place for rider safety and protection of natural resources. For complete information on OHV laws and rules, please call 1-800-OHV-RIDE.



OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES AND HUNTING HABITAT

- Hunters are not allowed to carry loaded firearms on their OHVs, nor are they allowed to shoot from OHVs.
- Hunters should think of their OHV as a means of getting near their hunting area, and should begin hunting only after they have parked their machine on a designated trail or parking area.
- Properly fitted and fastened helmets are recommended for all OHV riders, and are required by law for those under 18.
- Out of state residents riding their OHVs in Utah may need to purchase a non-resident permit. For registration requirements, call 1-800-OHV-RIDE.
- Utah law requires drivers eight through 15 to possess an OHV education certificate to legally operate an OHV on public land. Drivers 16 and older must have drivers license.
- OHVs must be equipped with approved and operating mufflers and spark arrestors.

Bureau of Land Management
Utah State Office
440 West 200 South, Suite 500
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101
P.O. Box 45155
Salt Lake City, Utah 84145-0155
Phone: (801) 539-4001
<http://www.ut.blm.gov/>

Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
P.O. Box 146301
1594 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-6301
(801) 538-4700
www.wildlife.utah.gov

School and Institutional Trust Lands
Administration
675 East 500 South, Suite 500
Salt Lake City, Utah 84102-2818
(801) 538-5100
www.trustlands.com

Utah State Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 146001
1594 West North Temple, Ste 116
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-6001
(801) 538-7220
www.stateparks.utah.gov

Public Land Riding Opportunities

F

or further information on OHV riding and hunting opportunities on public lands, Contact the following agencies:

USDA Forest Service
Wasatch-Cache National Forest
8230 Federal Building
125 South State Street
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138
(801) 236-3400
www.fs.fed.us/r4

