

**File Code:** 2300/1920

**Date:** June 28, 2010

Dear Visitors to the Lassen National Forest:

I am pleased to announce that on July 1, 2010, the Lassen National Forest will make its first free Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) available to the public. The map is the culmination of six years of public input, planning, and analysis for the Motorized Travel Management project. This map, abbreviated "MVUM," displays the roads and trails that are now available for public motorized vehicle use. I want to thank the many committed individuals and organizations who have spent long hours participating in this effort. It was your dedication and thoughtful input that enabled us to devise a well-considered baseline transportation system. This transportation system will serve as a starting point for an on-going process of meeting the recreational and access needs of local citizens and visitors, while protecting important resources. The MVUM will be revised annually each spring to reflect on-going modifications and improvements to the Forest Transportation System.

The MVUM provides three important types of information. First, it shows roads and motorized trails that are available for wheeled motor vehicle use (it does not apply to over-snow vehicles). Second, it shows which type of motor vehicle is allowed; that is, either highway-legal only or all vehicle types (including green sticker or off-highway vehicles). Third, it shows seasonal restrictions that apply to some roads to prevent rutting or erosion when wet, to prevent hazardous rutting on groomed snowmobile trails, to provide non-motorized recreational opportunities in one area (except during hunting season), and to abate noise during nesting season in one location. Dates of these seasonal restrictions are listed by route number in a table embedded in the map.

The MVUM covers the entire Lassen National Forest, but has been divided into eight smaller maps to provide sufficient detail. These will be printed, one on each side of four sheets of paper. An index map on each side of each sheet will guide the user to the map or maps of particular interest for a given area of the Forest. The maps follow national standards and their symbology has intentionally been kept simple in order to highlight road and trail related features. Road and trail identification signs and other visitor use maps also will help visitors orient themselves, although signs may not be in place until the end of summer 2010. Law enforcement officers will emphasize education for first-time honest mistakes regarding route identification. In the future, the Lassen National Forest hopes to work with the public to design other maps that also show additional useful features.

The annually revised MVUM is the definitive source of information regarding which roads and trails are currently available for wheeled motor vehicle use. Travel by wheeled motorized vehicles off the Transportation System (cross-country travel) is now permanently prohibited, except by certain special use permits. The MVUM supersedes the Temporary Forest Orders that have prohibited cross-country travel for the last three years. See our website (below) for more information on the Motorized Travel Management Decision and what it entails.



## How to obtain copies of MVUM:

The MVUM maps will be distributed free of charge and will be available at all Lassen National Forest offices listed below, and at many information kiosks located throughout the Forest. The eight maps also may be downloaded from the Lassen National Forest website at:

[www.fs.usda.gov/lassen](http://www.fs.usda.gov/lassen) Click on the Motorized Travel Management link on the upper right hand corner of the page, go to the "Download" page, and follow the link for downloading the MVUM maps.

If you would like us to mail you printed copies of the MVUM maps, please specify which maps (or the entire set) by writing, or calling the Forest at:

Travel Management  
Lassen National Forest Supervisor's Office  
2550 Riverside Drive  
Susanville, CA 96130  
(530) 257-2151

Our District Offices are:

Eagle Lake Ranger District  
477-050 Eagle Lake Road  
Susanville, CA 96130  
(530) 257-4188

Almanor Ranger District  
900 East Highway 36  
Chester, CA 96020  
(530) 258-2141

Hat Creek Ranger District  
43225 East Highway 299  
Fall River Mills, CA 96028  
(530) 366-5521

You may also email us at: [ltmrd@fs.fed.us](mailto:ltmrd@fs.fed.us)

Put "MVUM Request" in the subject line of the email and include your mailing address.

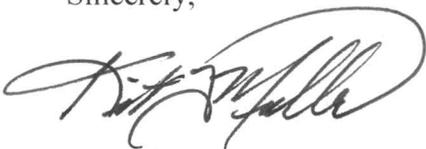
For questions regarding the MVUM, its use, or the Travel Management decision, you may contact Christopher O'Brien, Public Services Staff Officer, at (530) 252-6698, or Dave Pilz, Natural Resources Planner, at (530) 252-6659, at the Supervisor's Office in Susanville.

## The Future

Just as the Travel Management analysis was complex and took years to accomplish, so will full implementation. We need to place road and trail identification signs, and conduct work on roads and trails to mitigate resource and safety concerns. As noted, annual changes in the MVUM will reflect ongoing efforts to continuously improve our Transportation System for visitor access and resource protection. You can help us identify and accomplish such changes. We also invite you to embrace the Tread Lightly! "Respected Access" campaign to encourage responsible motorized use and assure the continued quality and enjoyment of your riding experience. Together, we make it possible for all Forest visitors and users to enjoy the wonders and benefits of the Lassen National Forest.

Drive safely and enjoy yourselves!

Sincerely,



KIT T. MULLEN  
Acting Forest Supervisor