

Ouachita National Forest –Oklahoma and Arkansas

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/detailfull/ouachita/home/?cid=STELPRDB5156448>

* The Forest Service is responsible for protection of the environment and provision of balanced use of the lands under Forest Service management. The [Travel Management Rule](#) implements [Executive Order \(E.O.\) 11644](#) (February 8, 1972), "Use of Off-Road Vehicles on the Public Lands," as amended by [E.O. 11989](#) (May 24, 1977). These Executive orders direct Federal agencies to ensure that the use of off-road vehicles on public lands will be controlled and directed so as to protect the land resources, to promote the safety of all public land users, and to minimize conflicts among the various uses of those lands.

The Travel Management Rule directed each national forest and grassland to prepare Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUMs) that reflect travel management decisions on each managed unit. For the Ouachita National Forest, there are five MVUMs, one for each of the five Ranger District clusters on the Forest. The 2013 maps for the Ouachita National Forest are now available. To view or print an electronic copy of a map, select a Ranger District from the table below.

The black and white maps show National Forest System (NFS) roads and trails that are open to travel by the public on motorized vehicles, including Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVs). Tables that list roads and trails provide further detail about allowable uses, such as game retrieval, special designations (trails open to OHV less than 64" in width) and seasonal openings of roads and trails. These tables are an integral part of the MVUMs; and the MVUMs are not complete if the data in the tables are not utilized in conjunction with the mapped data. These designations apply only to National Forest System roads and trails on National Forest System lands. NFS routes not shown on the MVUMs are not open to the public for motor vehicle travel.

MVUMs are the legal document indicating which routes are open to the public for motorized use. Route number signs correspond to the numbers of the roads and trails on the MVUMs; however, signs are sometimes removed accidentally. If you notice that a sign is missing, please report this to the appropriate Ranger District.

* **In addition to roads managed within the NFS system, many roads within the Forest are under state, county, or private jurisdiction. Such roads are not shown with designations on the MVUMs although they may appear as a light gray line for reference only. Please consult local laws regarding uses of non-NFS routes.**

Executive Orders do not make Law.
Note! Even with executive orders they must recognize Jurisdiction.



Travel Management

- Why are we doing this? Foundation: Executive Order 11644 (1972) as amended in 1977 (Exec. Ord. 11989)
 - “An estimated 5 million off-road recreational vehicles...are in use in the United States today, and their popularity continues to increase rapidly. The widespread use of such vehicles on the public lands-- often for legitimate purposes but also in frequent conflict with...land and resource management practices, environmental values, and other types of recreational activity--has demonstrated the need for a unified Federal policy toward the use of such vehicles on the public lands.”
- Background:
 - Required to look at each road and trail in our office, at the time of the land use plan (if possible).
 - Additional key resource : 43 Code of Federal Regulations 8340