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Areas Opening for the Season at St. Anthony Sand Dunes

St. Anthony Sand Dunes and the surrounding habitat provides year round habitat for sage and sharp-tailed grouse and critical winter range for 2,500 elk, 1,500 mule deer and 500 moose.

In 1997, to protect wintering big game, local, state, and federal officials created the Egin-Hamer Winter Closure Area. This closure restricts human entry during critical winter and spring months (January 1st through April 30th).

Big game shed their antlers during the winter months. Hundreds of visitors or horn hunters come to gather the antlers in the spring. Many visitors use OHVs to access the more remote areas. Currently OHV use is limited to the open sands or designated routes within the SRMA Boundary. Impacts from OHV use outside the open sands or on undesignated routes include:

- -direct habitat destruction,
- -increase spread of noxious weeds, and-potential disturbance of wildlife when fat reserves are already depleted.

Unless a route is specifically signed open with a "designated route" sign it is closed to motorized use. Public lands north and south of the St. Anthony SRMA that are part of the Egin-Hamer Winter Closure area are limited to riding on existing roads only. No off road (cross-country) travel is allowed.

Help us protect this critical habitat. Ride only on open dunes or designated routes within the SRMA or on existing roads outside the SRMA. Access to remote areas is available via non-motorized means (i.e., foot, horse, etc.).





