

SEMI-PRIMITIVE RECREATION

Loading up the truck for fishing trip? Touring the hills with the family?
Heading out to look at wildflowers? Wondering where that old two-track road goes?
You're out for a "semi-primitive" experience!

SEMI-PRIMITIVE MOTORIZED AREAS – WHAT ARE THEY?

They are large areas managed to protect and provide for a predominantly natural-looking environment. Evidence of man, restrictions, and controls are present, but subtle. Vehicle access is permitted via low standard roads and trails. Typical activities might include OHV touring, backpacking, hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, nature study and viewing the scenery. Concentration of users is low. These areas include important wildlife habitat, a variety of plant communities and many other significant resources.

Be Prepared

- Know the area you are going to visit. Gather maps and information before you go.
- Be sure your vehicle is up to the trip and can get you there and back, safely!
- Carry extra clothing, food, water, tool kit, and basic supplies.
- Let someone know your trip plans.

Off-Highway Etiquette

- You are free to travel on any route not specifically signed "CLOSED".
- Don't even think about going off-road! Where one-person drives, others will follow, making a scar that can take years to heal.
- Avoid wet meadows and other sensitive areas. If a road is slick and muddy, do not drive around the muddy part; back up and leave.
- If you open a gate, close it! Obey gate closure signs.

- Respect private landowners' rights – get permission to cross private land.
- Carry out all of your garbage – and trash others have left behind. It shows you care.

Whose Home This Is I Think Know...

- The lands you travel through provide valuable habitat for wildlife and support various types of plant communities. Remember, you are a visitor in their home!
- If you encounter wildlife, slow your vehicle, reduce engine noise, and yield the right of way.
- Cross through riparian areas on identified routes. Respect wildlife-watering areas.
- Respect seasonal closures of routes to protect special wildlife habitat like wintering and fawning areas.

Other Users

- You share this beautiful landscape with others; respect their wishes for an enjoyable experience.
- Keep your groups small, avoid loud noises, and speak softly, experience the solitude.
- Motorized vehicles should yield the right of way to those on foot, horseback, or mountain bike.

Resource Protection – It is Up To You!

- The natural resources of an area provide the basics for your experience. Do your part to protect them.
- Federal and State laws protect Cultural resource sites, prehistoric and historic, and carry penalties for disturbance.
- Repairing the damage from vandalism or carelessness is expensive and costs taxpayer dollars.

Get Involved!

- We recommend you join outdoor organizations that encourage responsible semi-primitive opportunities.
- Pack out what others have left behind, and adopt a favorite area to patrol and monitor.
- Carry a rake in your 4WD vehicle and rake out new routes before they develop into established routes.

As Will Rogers once said, "They're not making land anymore". It is up to all of us to work together to maintain a quality semi-primitive experience.