

Vehicle Use

Licenses, applications, harvest reporting and general information: **1-888-248-6866**

Off-road Travel

During the seasons established for any protected species, it shall be unlawful to drive or ride in a motor vehicle which is driven off an established road when the vehicle bears a licensed hunter, fisherman or trapper. Exception: 1, Snowmobiles; 2, To retrieve lawfully taken game not in an area closed to vehicular traffic. 3, All landowners, lessees or their employees, while on their owned or leased lands in connection with legitimate agricultural activities. For the NMDGF definition of an established road, see page 137.

During the seasons established for any protected species, it shall be unlawful to knowingly occupy, drive, or cause to be driven any motor vehicle on a closed road when the vehicle bears a licensed hunter, angler or trapper.

It is illegal to drive motor vehicles on roads or areas that are closed to vehicular traffic under the Habitat Protection Act or other state or federal regulations. Obey all posted rules and know the regulations that apply for the land management agency(s) where you will be driving.

Off-road vehicle travel for any reason is not permitted in the Lincoln National Forest or in portions of other national forests. It is illegal to take vehicles more than 100 yards off established roads in areas protected under the Habitat Protection Act or Travel Management (even to retrieve downed game). This distance may vary in individual ranger districts.

You may drive vehicles off established roads on certain public lands (excluding State Trust Land) and private land (with written permission) to retrieve legally taken big-game carcasses — provided that state or federal regulations do not prohibit it. For further information about off-highway vehicle laws and requirements, see page 141.

Vehicle Confiscation for Illegal Spotlighters

NMDGF officers may seize vehicles used to hunt at night with the aid of artificial light. Vehicles used by spotlighters may be confiscated and sold at auction.

