

OHV Etiquette: Right Riding Stanislaus National Forest

ROG 16-86; 06/12



The future of OHV (Off Highway Vehicles) opportunities depends on you! Protect your privilege to ride. Respect the land, its wildlife and the rights of others using our Forest...

Ride responsibly!

Following these tips will do much to insure that responsible riders continue to enjoy the benefits and wonder of the great outdoors:

- **Be legal.** Set an example by complying with all equipment and licensing requirements.
- **Educate yourself and your family.** It's your responsibility to know the rules in the area in which you are riding—but don't forget your children:
 - Are they legal?
 - Do they know the rules?
 - Do you know where your children are riding?

- **Use open routes only.** Respect trail, road and area closures. All Ranger Districts have maps or handouts describing the OHV areas and how they are signed. Stay off private land unless you have permission from the landowner.
- **Tread Lightly.** Stay off trails when your use will leave ruts and impact the trail tread—such as during very wet or very dry conditions.



“Roostering” creates ruts, erodes soil and increases the cost of Maintenance; increases the potential for trail closure until repairs can be completed.

“Donuts” in the roads, parking or camping areas annoys other Forest visitors and makes all OHV'ers look like “hot doggers”.

Designated play areas for high impact riding, such as those found in State facilities, are not available in this Forest—please do not drive in this manner on Forest trails.

- **Always yield the trail to other users.** Show your respect when meeting others by slowing down or stopping altogether. All trails are two-way—anticipate that other users may be around the next corner. Even brief inattention can cause disaster for you and others. Excessive speed threatens other users.
- **Never spook horses, cattle or wildlife.** Animals are startled by unannounced approaches, sudden movements or loud noises. Give animals extra room and time to adjust to you. On narrow routes, please shut off your engines until the animals are well away from you and your equipment. In passing, follow the direction of horseback riders (ask if you aren't certain).
- **Do not assume that cattle will move off the trail or continue in their current direction.** Approach them very slowly. Leave gates as you found them.
- **Educate others.** Those who break the rules and don't ride right are threatening YOUR riding opportunities. We need your help. Talk to them and help educate them. They will listen to you as a fellow rider.
- **Plan ahead.** Know your equipment, your ability, current conditions and prepare accordingly. Be self-sufficient, keep your equipment in good repair and carry necessary supplies for changes in the weather or other conditions. A well-executed trip is a satisfaction to you, instead of a burden or offense to others.

If you have any questions about dispersed camping or recreation on the Stanislaus, please call either the Forest Supervisor's office or the Ranger District closest to the area you plan to visit:

Stanislaus National Forest

19777 Greenley Road
Sonora, CA 95370
(209) 532-3671
FAX: (209) 533-1890
TDD: (209) 533-0765

Mi-Wok Ranger District

24695 Hwy 108
PO Box 100
Mi Wuk Village, CA 95346
(209) 586-3234
FAX: (209) 586-0643
TDD: (209) 586-0262

Calaveras Ranger District

5519 Hwy 4
PO Box 500
Hathaway Pines, CA 95323
(209) 795-1381
FAX: (209) 795-6849
TDD: (209) 795-2854

Summit Ranger District

#1 Pinecrest Lake Road
Pinecrest, CA 95364
(209) 965-3434
FAX: (209) 965-3372
TDD: (209) 965-0488

Groveland Ranger District

24545 Hwy 120
Groveland, CA 95321
(209) 962-7825
FAX: (209) 962-7412
TDD: (209) 962-6406



Respected access is
open access.
Ride responsibly—
protect your
riding privilege!