



Lassen National Forest

# ***News Release***

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## **Motorized Recreation Comments Sought**

The public is invited to attend an open house to discuss the Lassen National Forest's draft grant applications for the 2003-2004 over-snow and off-highway vehicle travel programs. "If you enjoy snowmobiling or four-wheel driving on forest roads, I encourage you to attend this open house," commented Forest Supervisor Ed Cole. "Your comments are important to us in offering a program that provides outstanding opportunities for both winter and summer motorized recreation while protecting national forest resources."

The open house will be held on January 14, 2003 at the Forest Headquarters in Susanville, 2550 Riverside Drive, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. Final grant applications will be submitted to the State Off-highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division (State OHV Division) in March.

The Lassen National Forest hosts the largest over-snow travel program in California with approximately 477 miles of groomed trails throughout the forest on the Almanor, Eagle Lake, and Hat Creek Ranger Districts. The winter OSV program consists of six staging and parking areas located at: Fredonyer, Bogard, Ashpan, Swain Mountain, Morgan Summit, and Jonesville.

Draft applications for Winter Operations and Maintenance (O&M) and Winter Development (new construction projects) will be presented for public comment. The Winter O&M grant will provide for trail grooming, signing, plowing, resource conservation and monitoring, and law enforcement for trails and facilities associated with the forest's OSV recreation program. The Winter Development grant will include re-construction of the snowmobile staging area at Swain Mountain.

The Forest has two designated four-wheel drive areas at the High Lakes and Front Country areas on the Almanor Ranger District. Summer O&M applications will be discussed as well as a Resource Management application to maintain OHV trails in the High Lakes area.

For more information, please contact Elizabeth Norton, Assistant Forest Supervisor, at (530) 252-6645, and for special needs, please contact Leona Rodreick or dial TDD at (530) 252-6624.