



Tourism & Economic Development

## Jeep, OHV & Motorcycle Trails

**Goose Lake - Forest Road 486 (MODERATE)** To access the trailhead travel ½ mile on Hwy 578 and turn right on Forest Road 486. The trail crosses the river and continues 8 miles to Goose Lake. This trail ranges in elevation from approximately 8,750 feet to over 11,500 feet. At the lake you can fish for trout and also have the chance to see some of the high elevation Rocky Mountain wildlife including bighorn sheep and marmots. Trailer parking is available along the shoulder area of Hwy 578 near trailhead.

**Old Red River Pass - Forest Road 487 (MODERATE)** To access the trailhead travel one mile on Hwy 578 and then turn left on Forest Road 487. This steep and narrow series of switchbacks was an early road into town and an engineering feat built in 1915-1916. This road ranges in elevation from 8,750 feet at the trailhead to 9,852 feet at the top. The top of this road offers great views of the Red River Upper Valley, Wheeler Peak and Gold Hill. Trailer parking is available along the shoulder area of Hwy 578 near trailhead.

**4<sup>th</sup> of July Canyon - Forest Road 490 (VERY DIFFICULT)** To access the trailhead take Hwy 578 approximately four miles and Forest Road 490 is on your left. This trail ranges in elevation from 8,750 feet at the trailhead to 10,200 feet at the highest point. Fourth of July Canyon is very narrow and rugged 3.4 mile trail which is open for OHVs and motorcycles with 50" or less wheelbase. Access will not be allowed for jeeps or any vehicles with a wheelbase larger than 50." This is a steep and narrow trail and should only be driven on by experienced drivers. Trailer parking is available along the shoulder area of Hwy 578 near trailhead.

**Greenie Peak Trail System - Forest Road 597 Connect to 54 Trail System (MODERATE-DIFFICULT)** To access the trailhead travel one mile up Mallette Canyon Road past Mallette Park. Travel approximately 2 miles on FR 597 and then turn north onto the connecting trail #54 system. Continue on this trail system for 5 miles to Greenie Peak. This popular trip ranges in elevation from approximately 8,750 feet to over 11,220 feet. Greenie Peak at an elevation of 11,221 feet is the highest peak in New Mexico that can be accessed by motorized vehicles. Large parking and staging area is available 1/4 mile up Mallette Canyon (past the park) on the right side of road.

**Pioneer Canyon - Forest Road 485 (EASY-MODERATE)** The trailhead can be accessed off of Pioneer Road and is adjacent to the Arrowhead Lodge. The road, which runs along Pioneer Creek, starts at an elevation of 8,665 feet and climbs to 10,200 feet where it meets private land. The road was built by miners at the end of the 19th century. Along this 6 mile round trip you will see remnants of gold and silver mines that operated until 1931.

**Cabresto Canyon - Forest Road 134 (EASY)** This road can be accessed off of NM 38 in Questa by turning onto SR 563 or Kiowa Road which turn into Forest Road 134. The road runs for 16 miles along the Cabresto Creek and provides access to Greenie Peak and the Midnight Meadows area. From this road you can fish for trout along Cabresto Creek, check out an old Spanish mine (approximately 12 miles from NM 38 on right), and visit the remnants of the short lived gold mining camp of Midnight.

**Cabresto Lake - Forest Road 134A (EASY)** This road can be accessed by turning off to the north from Cabresto Canyon Road (ST 563/FR 134) about 5 miles in and climbs from 8,400 feet at the trailhead to 9,500 feet at the lake. It is approximately two miles up to the 15 acre lake. This lake is one of the few places in New Mexico for catching brook trout. The head of a 4 mile hiking trail to Heart Lake can be accessed here.

### Trails for Motorcycles Only:

**Pioneer Motorcycle Loop - Trail 171 (VERY DIFFICULT)** To access this motorcycle trail one entrance is located just before the private gate at the top of Pioneer Canyon (FR 485) and the other entrance is at Bunker Hill off of the Goose Lake Road (FR 486). This trail is about 2 miles in length.

**Elephant Rock Motorcycle Loop - Trail 195 (VERY DIFFICULT)** To access this motorcycle trail one entrance is located off of Cabresto Canyon (FR 134) opposite of Cabresto Lake Road (FR 134A). The other entrance to the trail is located just above the Red River Wastewater Treatment Plant. This trail is approximately 12 miles long.



## New Mexico Department of Game & Fish OHV Permit Requirements:

With the passage of SB 379, the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle (OHV) law changed the requirements of non-residents who need to purchase a non-resident permit. The new law now recognizes a non-resident operating an OHV is in compliance with New Mexico if that person: *is currently in compliance with another state's off-highway vehicle registration, user fee or similar law or rule demonstrated by certificate of registration, permit or similar evidence...(66-3-1004.C NMSA 1978).*

However, if a non-resident is from a State that has not established OHV registration or a user fee, then the non-resident must purchase New Mexico 's Off-Highway User permit. States that have no registration program and no use fee are Alabama, Alaska, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia & West Virginia.

A non-resident with an OHV from one of these states must purchase either the 2 year non-registered permit sticker for \$48.00 or the 90 day permit sticker for \$18.00 prior to operate on New Mexico 's public lands.

A non-resident from the remaining states need not purchase New Mexico 's permit as long as they **can provide valid proof that they have a current registration, user fee or something similar** for their off-highway vehicle. If a person cannot provide valid proof of possessing such a document then they must purchase the 2 year non-resident permit sticker or the 90 day permit sticker. It is a misdemeanor for any person (even a juvenile) to fail to possess the proper permit or registration for an off-highway vehicle and display the required decal on their OHV. Persons in violation of this provision can receive a fine of \$60.00 or more and may not ride on public lands.

## New Mexico OHV Safety Requirements:

**Riders under 6 may not operate an ATV on public land.**

**Riders under 18 MUST:**

Wear an approved, securely fastened helmet.

Wear approved, protective eye wear.

Never carry a passenger, even on OHVs designed for two persons.

Be visually supervised when operating an OHV, unless:

Age 13 and above with a valid motorcycle license.

Age 15 and above with a valid driver's license.

Complete a certified OHV course and obtain a safety permit.

**Prohibited uses:**

It is illegal for any person to use an OHV to:

- Destroy signs, windmills or other property.
- Operate any OHV in a way that damages the environment, plants, animals or creates excessive noise.
- Harass, pursue or hunt wildlife or domestic animals.
- Operate any OHV where prohibited or on private land without permission.
- Operate an OHV on paved roads or highways.
- Negatively affect livestock and or agricultural practices.
- No one, regardless of age, may drive under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

For more information go to [www.B4uRide.com](http://www.B4uRide.com)