

# BE SAFE & RESPECTFUL

- Large industrial vehicles can't manoeuvre as quickly as passenger vehicles. Yield to oncoming industrial vehicles, pull over and stop to allow them to pass before continuing on. As a cautionary approach, follow industrial vehicles at a safe distance - watch them, slow down and pull over if they do.
- Turn on vehicle lights during low visibility conditions.
- Do **not** pass an industrial vehicle unless that vehicle indicates that it is safe to do so.
- As the ORV rider, ensure that you are not distracted by passengers or music.
- Wear your safety equipment at **all** times and, if installed by the manufacturer, ensure your seatbelts are securely fastened.
- Drive sober – it's against the law to drive while impaired by alcohol or drugs.

# PARKING \ UNLOADING

- Park clear of traffic, away from active areas, in pullouts or extra wide stretches of road with good visibility in both directions.
- If using a mobile radio notify traffic that you are clear at X km.
- Park facing the direction of exit, with access for service/towing activities.
- **Never** park on a curve.
- Use 4 way flashers where required.
- **Do not block the road under any circumstances.**



Ministry of  
Forests, Lands and  
Natural Resource Operations

# FURTHER INFORMATION

## Check out:

### BCs Off Road Vehicle Management Frame-work:

- <https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/mof/orv/>

### ICBCs ORV Registration Services:

- <http://www.icbc.com/vehicle-registration/specialty-vehicles/Pages/Off-road-vehicles.aspx>

### BC Laws:

- <http://www.bclaws.ca>

### Off Road Vehicle Act::

- [http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/s\\_tatreg/14005](http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/s_tatreg/14005)

### Forest Service Road Use Regulation:

- [http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/70\\_2004](http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/70_2004)

For a suspected natural resource contravention or crime, please call the **Natural Resource Violation reporting line at 1 844 NRO-TIPS (1 844 676-8477)**

### Wildfire Reporting:

1-800-663-5555  
\*5555 on a cell

### BC Forest Safety Council:

1-877-741-1060

### Service BC:

1-800-663-7867

### Report all Poachers and Polluters (R.A.P.P.):

1-877-952-7277

### Emergency Management BC:

1-800-663-3456

### Search and Rescue BC:

[www.bcsara.com](http://www.bcsara.com)



BC **Forest Safety**

[www.bcforestsafe.org](http://www.bcforestsafe.org)

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# USING ORVs ON RESOURCE ROADS



This document provides basic information for safe and responsible use of off highway recreational vehicles on resource roads. It should not be considered a replacement for any training programs or pre-trip preparation.



## NEED TO KNOW

### What is an ORV?

Under the *Off Road Vehicle (ORV) Regulation*, ORVs are self-propelled motor vehicles designed primarily for off-highway travel such as snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles (ATVs or Quads), dirt bikes, and side-by-sides (with a steering wheel and pedals). Larger industrial vehicles are not included. ORVs are used for leisure or work purposes.

### Where does the ORV Act apply?

The ORV Act applies to Crown land and prescribed private land. Crown land includes all resource roads.

### What are the new laws under the ORV Act?

Effective November 1, 2015, all ORVs must be registered, display a number plate/sticker and comply with the safety requirements under the ORV Act.

For specific details about the ORV Act and the ORV Regulation, which includes some exceptions, please refer to the BCLaws website .

## RESOURCE ROADS

No matter where you use your ORV, it's likely you will be travelling on a resource road at some point. It is important to know the rules around passenger vehicles and ORV use and to follow the rules of the road. An ORV may be used on a resource road at any time unless the road is posted with a sign restricting use. On Forest Service Roads an ORV operator must hold a valid driver's licence and carry a minimum of \$200,000 third party liability insurance.

Snowmobiles may use a Forest Service Road provided that it has not been snowplowed and is not fit for travel by vehicles other than snowmobiles. A snowmobile may cross a plowed Forest Service Road only if the operator has a driver's license and insurance, and is safe to do so.

Snowmobilers should be aware that cross-country skiers may be using the road as well.

## ACTIVE HAUL ROADS

When ORVing in an area where an industrial activity is in progress, avoidance is the best policy. It should be quite evident if a road is under active haul, but if you are unsure, do not use it. A truck can come at any time and may not be able to stop in time to avoid you and the results could be catastrophic.

If you are new to an area of ORVing, talk with the locals or speak to the employees at your local ORV dealers. Many of the employees are enthusiasts themselves and can suggest the best places to ride.



## RADIO PROTOCOLS

Mobile (two-way) radios are in use on resource roads throughout British Columbia. In industrial and passenger vehicles, mobile radios are used by workers to communicate location and direction of travel to enhance safety.

It is important to know that most resource roads in BC are not "radio controlled" but "radio assisted". On radio controlled roads, all vehicles would be expected to have and use mobile radios, all drivers rely heavily on communications of location and direction. In the case of "radio assisted" roads, radios are not mandatory and can not always give an accurate representation of what traffic on the road is like, as not all drivers have them.

All drivers should drive safely according to road and weather conditions at all times.

## RADIO PROTOCOLS

The instructions below are provided to assist those using mobile radios on radio assisted resource roads:

1. Ensure that you have a mobile radio that is installed and functioning correctly.
  2. Have the required frequencies and channels for the area that you intend on travelling pre-programmed into your radio by a commercial radio shop.
    - Programming radios in the field is **illegal**.
    - It is recommended to obtain the full bank of standard RR channels, in their standard configuration, when having radios programmed.
  3. Know how to use your radio.
  4. Observe and follow posted radio communications protocols including identifying and using the right channel for the road you are travelling on.
  5. Do a radio check to ensure that your radio is working and that you are on the correct channel.
  6. Only use the radio for communicating location and direction, communicating hazards to other drivers, or in case of emergencies – **do not chat**.
  7. Stay on designated road channels at all times while traveling, do not use scan mode.
  8. Do not interrupt other callers.
  9. Call when: starting, stopping, entering or leaving a road and at must call signs.
  10. If there are no posted communication protocols use the default call protocols.
    - Call every 2 kilometre (km).
    - Call in order of:
      1. Road name
      2. km location
      3. "Up" or "Down"
        - Call "Up" when travelling in direction of increasing Km signs
        - Call "Down" when travelling in direction of decreasing km signs.
- Example: "Sukunka, 10 kilometre, up".

