

Turtle Mountain

LIMITED USE AREA

OHV Trail Guide and Map



Off Highway Vehicle Use

All persons, regardless of age, who operate an all terrain vehicle (ATV) on public land must wear an approved safety helmet. An ATV is a motor vehicle designed for operation off the highway by an operator with no passengers. It is against the law to carry passengers on an ATV. Don't operate your vehicle faster than what is safe. When riding within 50 feet of a concentrated area or near animals, reduce your speed to 15 mph.

It is illegal for anyone who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs to operate an off road vehicle (ORV). Off road vehicles means any motorized vehicle capable of, or designed for, travel on or immediately over land, water, or other natural terrain. In addition operating or riding on an ORV with an open container of alcohol is prohibited.

ORV operators must be able to reach and operate all controls on the vehicle, and persons under 14 must have an approved safety certificate in possession and must be accompanied by and under the direct supervision of a parent or guardian. Persons under 18 must have an approved safety certificate in possession or be under direct supervision of an adult who is in possession of an approved safety certificate.

Desert Safety

Plan Your Trip Carefully

Take along appropriate maps. Tell someone where you are going and when you will return. Stick with your itinerary.

Dress Properly

Always wear proper protective clothing when riding off highway or all terrain vehicles, including a helmet, goggles, gloves, boots, chest protector, long pants, and long sleeve shirt.

Carry Plenty of Water

A gallon of water per person per day is the minimum that should be carried. Do not ration your water, it will only do you good if you drink it. Turn back when water is half gone. Don't forget extra water for your vehicle.

Mine Shafts

Mine shafts are extremely dangerous, do not enter them. Stay Out and Stay Alive.

In case of emergency call 911.

The nearest public telephone is at the Havasu Landing Store.

Know Before You Go

Shooting and Hunting

Select a safe location for your target practice. Do not shoot at glass, it will create a hazard to others. Failing to remove targets and shells is considered littering. Do not attach targets to plants. State firearms and hunting regulations apply to all public lands.

Camping

Pack it in; pack it out. Camping is limited to a 14 day stay. Conserve and use water wisely. Keep pets under control at all times. Leave natural and cultural features as you found them.

Campfires

When there is a high fire danger, campfires may be restricted. Check with the local BLM office for information. Use only dead and down wood, or bring your own.

Open Areas

Vehicles may travel anywhere within the area. Open areas can be found along the Parker Dam Road south of Parker Dam and off Highway 62 at Rice. Boundaries are clearly signed.

Closed Areas

No vehicle travel is allowed.

Limited Use Areas

All vehicles are limited to existing and/or designated routes. **No cross-country travel is allowed.**

State and Federal Regulations

A current California Green Sticker or current license plate is required on all vehicles. For registration information contact the California Department of Motor Vehicles. For information in the Needles area call (760) 326-3213. Vehicles operated on county roads and highways must be registered and equipped for highway use. Vehicles operated off road must be equipped with an approved muffler, brakes, and spark arrester. When operating at night, headlights and taillights are required.

For more information please contact:

U.S. Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management.

Needles Field Office

101 West Spikes Road

Needles, CA 92363

(760) 326-7000

California Desert District Office

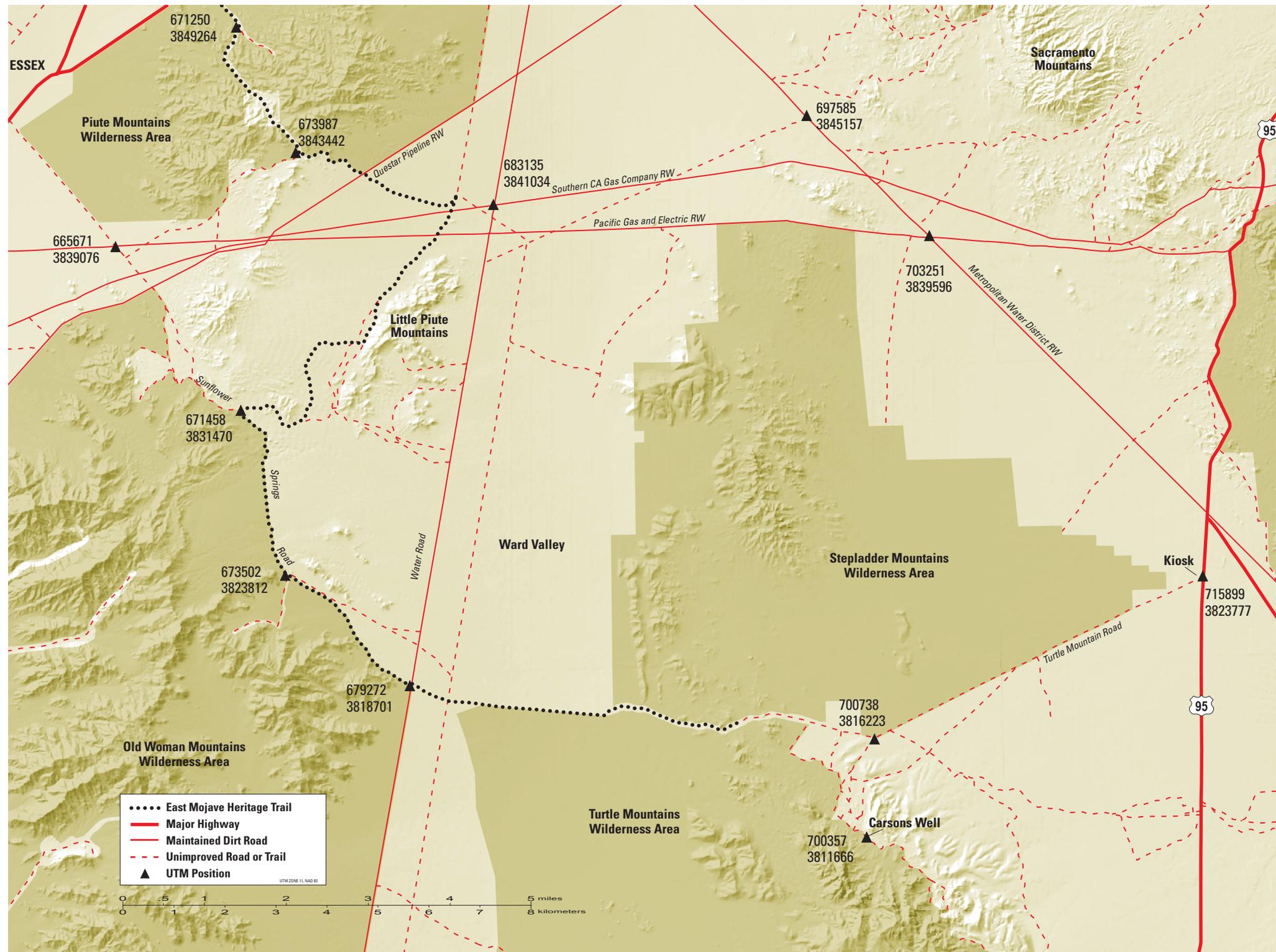
6221 Box Springs Blvd.

Riverside, CA 92507

(909) 697-5200



The desert may appear brutal and harsh, but it is a fragile environment. Travel off existing routes in this area has created a dense trail network. Over several years these trails have been accepted by users as legal routes of travel. These newly created routes tended to be on steep hillsides and in tributary washes. This lead to erosion of soils, safety concerns, and degradation of wildlife and cultural sites. To protect these resources you will find some areas closed to vehicles. BLM also maintains and signs trails in other areas. By respecting and obeying limited use areas and management signs you will help to preserve your riding opportunities now and in the future.



Off Road Adventure

Follow Turtle Mountain Road past the Stepladder Mountains Wilderness Area, Lost Arch Inn, and the Turtle Mountain Wilderness Area. Tie into the fourth segment of the East Mojave Heritage Trail 5 miles east of Homer Wash. Challenge the Heritage Trail through the Old Woman and Piute Mountains for 53 miles to Fenner. Guidebooks to entire 600 mile East Mojave Heritage Trail are available at the Bureau of Land Management Needles Field Office. Colored trail signs mark these routes along the way. Four wheel drive is recommended on all trails. The desert can be a harsh environment so use common sense and carry essentials.

Keep It Wild

Find solitude in the Stepladder and Turtle Mountain Wilderness Areas. The two areas total 226,100 acres and were created by congress in 1994 by the California Desert Protection Act. The Stepladder Mountains north of Turtle Mountain Road are a fairly remote range, however the Turtle Mountains south of the road are within easy reach. Hiking and horseback riding are encouraged in the wilderness area, but vehicle use is not allowed. Remember to leave no trace of your visit.

The Living Desert

Some people think the desert is a silent isolated place, but you will discover the desert is alive with large and small creatures. Many of the desert animals are nocturnal which means you may only see them if you are willing to wait patiently and watch in the dark. During the heat of the day you may find many desert animals under the shade of desert plants. Vehicle travel off existing or designated routes destroys small plants and grasses that many animals rely upon for food and shelter. In order to protect desert habitat for the many species that live here please stay on existing or designated routes and obey posted regulations.