

Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Regulations

California Resident Information



California OHV Use on the Arizona Strip

To operate your California registered OHV (Off Highway Vehicle) on the Arizona Strip there are four-types of road/area classifications:

Arizona County, state or public highways

Public road constructed and maintained by the state, city, county, town, or any entity of the state of Arizona.

Bureau of Land Management (BLM), US Forest Service (USFS)

National Park Service (NPS)

Designated trails or off-road special use area

OHVs must display a current California Red or Green sticker if operated within Arizona. No person may operate an OHV on public lands without a valid State operator's license or learner's permit, where required by State or Federal laws. Operators 16-17 years of age must wear a helmet. All operators must wear eye protection. No passengers are permitted unless OHV's are designed by manufacturer to carry more than one person (no after-market kits). All OHVs must have a rear view mirror. Additionally, the OHV must be street legal registered with a metal license plate attached if operated on county/state roads or roads administered by the NPS. Therefore, **since there is not a street legal program in California for ATV's (All terrain vehicles) and UTV's (Utility vehicles) they must travel only on BLM, some USFS roads, or on designated trails or off-road special use areas.** Contact the land management agency for the location of these areas. **All Arizona State motor vehicle laws and regulations are applicable.**

California OHV Regulations

Definitions:

OHV and OHMV: (Off Highway Vehicle and Off Highway Motor Vehicle) Any motor vehicle commonly referred to as a sand buggy, dune buggy, or all-terrain vehicle, any snowmobile or other vehicle designed to travel over snow or ice, or any motor vehicle commonly referred to as a jeep.

Registration: If you are operating an OHV on lands open and accessible to the public for OHV recreation, whether public or privately owned, it must have either a highway license or an OHV sticker. OHV stickers include "Green Stickers," "Red Stickers," and California Nonresident OHV Use Permits. The terms "registration" and "identification" are interchangeable.

Green Sticker: Issued for all California OHVs year model 2002 and older, including those that were previously issued a red sticker, and to 2003 and newer emission standard complying vehicles. Green stickers are issued to OHVs for year round use at all California OHV riding areas.

Red sticker: Issued to 2003 year model and newer OHVs that are not certified to California OHV emission standards. If your OHV has a "3" or "C" in the eighth position of the vehicle identification number (VIN) then your vehicle will be issued a red sticker. Red stickers are issued to OHVs that can use California OHV riding areas for seasonal use only

Street-Legal License plate: If you want to operate a 4-wheel drive vehicle or dual-purpose motorcycle on-highway and off-highway, you must have a street-legal license plate. Follow California State law for registering a vehicle. **Not available for ATV's or UTV's.**

Non Resident Permit: All vehicles operated off-highway on public lands in California are required to be (1) street-licensed or (2) registered as an off-highway vehicle (OHV). If you are visiting California from another state and your vehicle does not have a current registration from your home state, you must purchase a California Nonresident OHV Use Permit before you recreate on public lands. A title sticker or title plate is not registration.

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Requirements:

California Air Resources Board (ARB) established regulations to limit the use of Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVs) that do not meet emission standards applicable for California OHV riding areas. After the regulations were established, ARB and DMV worked together to develop criteria for identifying non-complying OHVs. OHVs are registered by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). A red or green sticker is issued depending upon certain criteria.

Green Sticker: Effective January 1, 2008, new legislation increased the off-highway vehicle (OHV) registration fee to \$50.00 every-other year. Both green and red sticker OHV registrations will be charged the increased fee.

Red Sticker: Effective January 1, 2008, new legislation increased the off-highway vehicle (OHV) registration fee to \$50.00 every-other year. Both green and red sticker OHV registrations will be charged the increased fee.

Registration: According to California State law, any off highway vehicle must be equipped with an approved muffler, brakes, and spark arrester. Headlights and taillights are required for operation at night. *Taillights must include at least one **red** light.*

Non Resident Permit: If you are a resident of another state and your OHV has valid registration (OHV registration decal or highway license plate) from that state, you do not need a Green or Red Sticker or a California Nonresident OHV Use Permit. If a nonresident cannot provide valid proof of possessing such a document, they must purchase the California Nonresident OHV Use Permit and must meet registration requirements.

Operation: Anyone under 18 years of age must take the California OHV Safety Certificate course, be under direct supervision of an adult possessing the appropriate safety certificate, or possess the safety certificate. Anyone under the age of 14 years of age must be under direct supervision of an adult and also possess one of the above three safety certificates. A helmet is required and no passengers are allowed on OHV's except one passenger that may be carried if the OHV is designed to carry a passenger (no after-market kits). An adequate muffler is also required for noise limitation in the state of California. OHV must also meet all safety and equipment requirements according to the California vehicle code for off- highway motor vehicles.

Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument

National Park Service & Bureau of Land Management

- **Off-Road driving is not permitted within the Monument.**
- **For more information please contact the Chief Ranger at 435.688.3280 or 435.668.0701 or ray_klein@nps.gov or check the website at www.nps.gov/para.**

References

- California State Parks – Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation: http://ohv.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1234
- California State Parks - Off-Highway Vehicle Law Enforcement Information: www.ohv.parks.ca.gov
- California Law- California Vehicle Code: <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/calawquery?codesection=veh&codebody=&hits=20>
- Arizona Game and Fish – Arizona State Parks Brochure: Arizona Off-highway Vehicle Guide, "OHV Laws and Places to Ride".
- Arizona Game and Fish Website: http://www.azgfd.gov/outdoor_recreation/off_highway.shtml