

## Ground Disturbing Activity - Questions and Answers

| QUESTIONS   | ANSWERS  |
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| <p>1. A USFS applicant has a proposed project to construct and repair waterbars. Based on the definition, these activities would be ground disturbing. Since the activities occur in the trail tread and do not pose a risk to sensitive species or habitat a HMP would not be required. Correct?</p> <p>It appears that the "ground disturbing" issue is in direct relationship with the HMP, and whether or not the project is affecting sensitive species or habitat. Correct?</p> | <p>If any of an Applicant's proposed Projects involve Ground Disturbing Activities, then the Applicant is required to submit a Habitat Management Program (HMP) <u>and</u> a Soil Conservation Plan.</p> <p>The HMP, Part 1, asks:</p> <p><i>"Can the Applicant certify that none of the proposed Projects with Ground Disturbing Activities in areas open to legal OHV Recreation contain any risk factors to special-status species and/or sensitive habitats?"</i></p> <p>If an Applicant can respond "yes", then the HMP requirement is satisfied.</p>   |
| <p>2. A USFS applicant has a proposed project to install some barriers necessary to prevent legal OHV use from intruding into sensitive plant or riparian areas. The barrier itself is not in the sensitive habitat area.</p> <p>Would this activity be eligible under a ground operations project?</p> <p>Would a HMP be required?</p>   | <p>Yes. The activities identified in the question would be eligible under a ground operations Project.</p> <p>If any of an Applicant's proposed Projects involve Ground Disturbing Activities, then the Applicant is required to submit a HMP <u>and</u> a Soil Conservation Plan.</p> <p>The HMP, Part 1, asks:</p> <p><i>"Can the Applicant certify that none of the proposed Projects with Ground Disturbing Activities in areas open to legal OHV Recreation contain any risk factors to special-status species and/or sensitive habitats?"</i></p> <p>If an Applicant can respond "yes", then the HMP requirement is satisfied.</p> |

**Ground Disturbing Activity - Questions and Answers (cont.)**

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| <p>3. Is brushing (trimming back vegetation that encroaches into the prism of the OHV trail) ground disturbing activity?</p> <p>And is installing (driving) a flexible marker such as a carsonite sign or metal "T" post for a fence ground disturbing activities?</p> | <p>The activities identified in the question would not be considered ground disturbing.</p> |
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