

Off-Highway Vehicle Grant-in-Aid Program

Worksheet 2

TMO Development

This worksheet should be used to assist trail administrators, managers, and volunteers in developing Trail Management Objectives (TMOs) for their trail. This worksheet must be submitted alongside Form 2 - New Project Application and is referenced in several other applications, where submission of TMOs is optional but encouraged. This worksheet will display and function best when downloaded and filled out using Adobe Acrobat Reader. The latest version can be downloaded from [Adobe's website](#).

1. What are Trail Management Objectives?

TMOs are documentation of the club and sponsor’s large-scale and long-term vision and intentions for the trail throughout its life, from conception to completion and further. TMOs assist with communication, management, maintenance, improvement, fiscal accountability, and resource management. Additionally, TMOs provide a standard for the trail’s development and maintenance, so all parties participating in those activities have clear direction and are in agreement about unified goals for the trail. TMOs are not static; they are meant to be a living document as the trail, its users, and the parties responsible for its maintenance change. As factors change, the TMOs should reflect that. Having all of this information documented in one place allows the club, sponsor, and DNR to ensure trails are being developed and maintained in an efficient manner and are proceeding toward a common goal. TMOs don’t necessarily reflect the actual conditions on the ground, but rather, the what the trail would be in an ideal world where resources and time are always available to manage and maintain the trail. The implementation of TMOs should be as close to the documented goals as clubs and sponsors can achieve.

Please keep in mind that your trail may have different TMOs for different seasons of riding, as they have different needs and will be maintained in a different way. The majority of this document is intended for development of summer TMOs. Please jump to Section 3 to develop winter TMOs for your trail. If your trail will not be open in the winter, you do not need to complete Section 3.

2. Develop Summer TMOs

<p>What motorized classes will the trail be open to?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ATV Class 1 <input type="checkbox"/> ATV Class 2 <input type="checkbox"/> OHM <input type="checkbox"/> ORV</p>
<p>How developed will this trail be? Refer to Section 4 for assistance.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Least Developed <input type="checkbox"/> Moderately Developed <input type="checkbox"/> Most Developed</p>
<p>How difficult will this trail be? Refer to Section 4 for assistance. Check all that apply. Keep in mind that all users will experience trails in a manner different from one another. Skill level and geography are both large factors in how difficult a trail feels. Try to be as objective as possible when classifying the difficulty of your trail.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Easiest <input type="checkbox"/> More Difficult <input type="checkbox"/> Most Difficult</p>

What does it have that other trails don't have? What features do you envision?

Who is the targeted user? Examples: families, long-distance travelers, or technical riders.

How much annual maintenance do you anticipate? Who do you anticipate will do this work?

Is the trail in an area that has its own management considerations? Examples: state forests, national lands, or trails shared with non-motorized uses.

Are there areas on the trail that may require special attention? Examples: wetland crossings, areas prone to erosion, or areas that will need more frequent or intense maintenance.

Are there other issues or considerations for this trail? Examples: users may be prone to travel off-trail or use trails that are inappropriate for their OHV class, land use or permission issues with local landowners, or enforcement challenges.

3. Develop Winter TMOs

If your trail will not be open year-round, you do not need to complete this section.

Will the trail be open year-round? If so, how will the management vary between seasons? Will the purpose, targeted users, motorized classes or management considerations for this trail change in winter?

How will this trail be maintained in the winter? Grooming, plowing, none, etc.

4. Resources

- [Trail Fundamentals and Trail Management Objectives Web Page – United States Forest Service](#)
- [Trail Fundamental and Trail Management Objectives 2016 Publication – United States Forest Service](#)
- [Trail Difficulty Ratings \(Page 10\) – United States Forest Service](#)
- [Trail Construction and Maintenance Notebook – United States Forest Service](#)
- [Trails Management Handbook – United States Forest Service](#)
- [Great Trails Field Guide – National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council](#)
- [Great Trails Guidebook – National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council](#)
- [Trail Planning, Design, and Development Guidelines – Minnesota DNR](#)
- [Trail Management Guidance – Minnesota DNR \(found in Appendix 3 of OHV GIA Program Manual\)](#)