

#### **Bureau of Land Management**

## Welcome to the Boulders Staging Area

#### **Boulders Staging and Camping Area Rules**

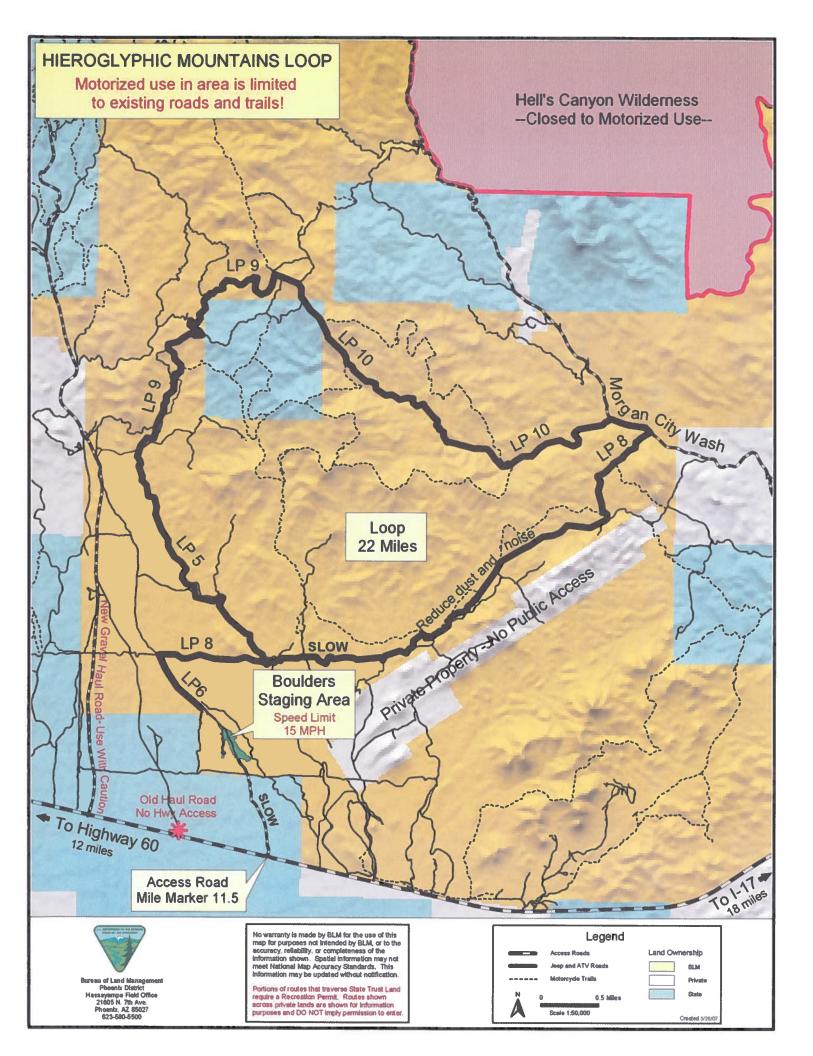
- Read and obey all signs.
- Stay on existing routes.
- Park in the designated staging area only.
- Riding laps with motorized vehicles in and around fenced staging area is prohibited. Training lot is available for children.
- Spin turns, or "donuts," are restricted in the staging area due to the potential impact of dust pollution. Excessive dust will result in area closure.
- Ensure your vehicle is equipped with an approved spark arrester.
- Do not burn wood with nails or other metals in it. Fire pans recommended.
- For campfires, use only dead wood that is already on the ground.

#### **Common Courtesy**

- Keep noise and dust down.
- Be considerate of others on the road or trail.
- Give your neighbors space.

Loop signs and map provided through a grant from the Arizona Off-Highway Vehicle Fund administered by Arizona State Parks.





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### Hieroglyphic Mountains OHV Loop 🖧 🖧

**GENERAL INFORMATION:** The Hieroglyphic Mountains OHV Loop, located 35 miles northwest of Phoenix, Arizona, is a 22-mile loop using several existing roads with several points of access. The loop takes trail users from the staging area, around the Hieroglyphic Mountains and returns to the staging area. The entire loop is four-wheel drive (4WD) width, but may have eroded sections or hills that are difficult for 4WD vehicles. ATVs, utility vehicles and motorcycles should traverse the sections with caution. The routes are not maintained regularly and during winter or rainy seasons, washout sections should be expected.

The roads meander through classic Sonoran desert landscape, including stands of saguaro and cholla cactus, and traverse the Arizona desert on existing routes. Only existing routes are open for travel; cross country travel is not permitted. Wildlife in the area includes desert tortoise, wild burros, rattlesnakes and many species of lizards and birds. When encountering wildlife, do not disturb, simply watch from a distance.

People now live in the surrounding area. Respect private property rights and be mindful of others when recreating in the area. Other activities in the area include ranching, mining, horseback riding and hiking.

ACCESS: The Hieroglyphic Mountains OHV Loop is accessible from many areas but the primary access point is from the Boulders OHV Staging Area. The Boulders is located eight miles west of Lake Pleasant. From north Phoenix head north on Interstate 17 to the Carefree Highway exit and go west 18 miles to mile marker 11.5. From west Phoenix take State Route 60 towards Wickenburg. Turn east on State Route 74 and go 12 miles to mile marker 11.5. The staging area is one mile north of the mile marker 11.5 turnoff.

**FACILITIES:** The staging area offers parking for individuals or large groups and primitive camping. The site is accessible for RVs and trailers. A vault toilet is on site however no water or trash collection is provided. Follow the rule of Pack it in, Pack it out! Also be sure to follow the 15 MPH speed limit and other signs regarding dust. The area is under strict county rules for dust attainment so please follow the posted rules to help us keep the area open to OHV use!

**MAPS:** The loop is not signed as a loop, but rather as individual roads that connect. Arizona USGS 7.5minute topographic maps "Red Picacho" and "Garfias Mtn" can be used to generally navigate the area. Maps with land ownership status and an OHV access guide for the area can be purchased from the BLM Phoenix District or the Arizona State Office. Land ownership status maps are highly recommended due to the scattered land ownership in the area.

#### **SAFETY:** • This area is very remote and you may not encounter anyone. Always tell a friend or relative where you are going and when you plan to return.

- Drinking water is not provided anywhere along the routes so bring plenty.
- You may encounter reptiles such as desert tortoise and rattlesnakes. If a tortoise is encountered on a route it should be avoided or carefully moved to safety by carrying it horizontal to the ground and placed in the shade. If a rattlesnake is encountered, leave it alone. Most bites occur from people playing with, handling or, attempting to kill them.
- Motorcycles, ATVs and sand buggies must be equipped with a USDA Forest Service approved spark arrestor.
- ETHICS: Educate yourself and practice the following *Tread Lightly!* ethics:
  - > Travel responsibly on designated roads and trails or in permitted areas.
  - > Respect the rights of others including private property owners and other trail users.
  - **Educate yourself** by obtaining travel maps and regulations from public agencies.
  - > Avoid sensitive areas such as riparian areas and washes unless on designated roads.
  - > Do your part by leaving the area better than you found it and properly dispose of waste.