

# Trail Assessment Worksheet

This worksheet addresses **Other Power-Driven Mobility Devices** (OPDMD) allowed or not allowed on various trails under the ownership or management of the Dallas County Conservation Board.

## Department of Justice Assessment Factors:

1. “The type, size, weight, dimensions, and speed of the device.
2. The volume of pedestrian traffic (which may vary at different times of the day, week, month, or year).
3. The design and operational characteristics (e.g. whether its service, program, or activity is conducted indoors, its square footage, the density and placement of stationary devices, and the availability of storage for the device, if requested by the user).
4. Whether legitimate safety requirements can be established to permit the safe operation of the other power-driven mobility device in the specific facility.
5. Whether the use of the other power-driven mobility device creates a substantial risk of serious harm to the immediate environment or natural or cultural resources, or poses a conflict with Federal land management laws and regulations.

TRAIL NAME: Voas Nature Area

OPDMD allowed/not allowed: **Not allowed**

## Department of Justice Assessment Factors used for decision:

1. This area consists of mowed paths through prairies and through woodland areas. The mowed paths are primarily there for maintenance and management access to the prairies and wetland structure of the park. Woodland trails are inconsistent in width and surface type.
2. NA
3. NA
4. Ground conditions of the prairie path vary significantly as do the woodland trails. Woodland trails width are inconsistent and also may not allow a place to turnaround if needed. There are prairie areas that can become very wet and would create an unsafe surface for OPDMD’s. Staff that operate motorized vehicles on the trails are trained as to when and where they should be on the trail.
5. The Voas Nature Area is a low impact area. It primarily is managed as a prairie wetland management complex. Significant prairie plants and wetland plants are managed in this area and increased vehicular traffic by OPDMD’s would conflict with this management intent. Also due to the diversity of the prairie wetland complex many animal species would be disturbed by OPDMD’s.

This trail assessment decision has been approved by the Dallas County Conservation Board at its

July 13, 2011 meeting.