



**SAVE AMERICA'S
WORKING VEHICLES**

FUELING FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES

Federal and state agencies rely on off-road vehicles like ATVs and UTVs for everyday operations. These essential tools help our public servants protect public lands, respond to emergencies, and carry out critical wildlife preservation missions efficiently.

Due to Section 232 tariffs on vehicles containing imported steel, working vehicles may face added cost pressure over time. With ATVs facing 15% tariffs and UTVs facing 25% tariffs, thousands of dollars could be added to the cost of a single working vehicle. This creates uncertainty for agencies that depend on fleets of off-road vehicles and already operate under tight budgets. Any further price increases would make it harder for agencies to replace aging equipment and maintain mission-ready capacity.



How Working Vehicles Drive America's Missions

Across federal and state governments, agencies use off-road vehicles to carry out missions that cannot be accomplished safely or efficiently with larger vehicles. ATVs and UTVs are vital for transporting personnel, cargo, and equipment across difficult terrain and into remote areas.

- The U.S. Forest Service relies on these vehicles as a core component of its wildland fire and prescribed fire operations, including personnel and equipment transport and scouting in terrain where standard fire engines cannot operate.
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service utilizes ATVs and UTVs to conduct critical field work throughout national wildlife refuges.
- The Bureau of Land Management deploys off-highway vehicles like ATVs across vast public lands to maintain remote infrastructure and protect natural resources.
- State agencies like the Idaho Department Fish and Game rely on ATVs to carry out wildlife fieldwork like trapping compliance checks.



Unmet Needs and Strained Budgets

These agencies are already under significant operational strain, which makes higher equipment costs even more consequential. If core field vehicles become more expensive, agencies with limited staffing and deferred maintenance have even less flexibility to replace aging equipment or maintain adequate fleet capacity.

U.S. Forest Service

The Forest Service manages nearly 200 million acres of national forests. In recent years, the agency's deferred maintenance has reached \$10.8 billion. As a result, the Forest Service maintained 22% fewer trails than the year before. The longer maintenance is deferred, the more rapidly assets deteriorate and the more limited the agency's field capacity remains.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

In recent years, FWS has lost 20% of its workforce, including biologists that lead the agency's work with endangered species, habitat monitoring, and recovery planning.

Bureau of Land Management

BLM manages 245 million acres of public lands but has been underfunded and understaffed for decades. The bureau's staffing is projected to fall by 40% over just two years, leaving fewer hands to carry out field operations, maintain access, and manage public lands effectively.

State Agencies

State land-management, forestry, parks, and wildlife agencies face recurring budget constraints, including recent reductions in some states that limit funding for wildfire response and equipment replacement. State agencies are faced with tighter budgets, limited staff, and less flexibility.

Equipping Federal and State Workers on the Ground

To ensure agencies remain fully equipped and mission-ready, policymakers should enact targeted measures to protect the working vehicles that field personnel rely on daily.

The administration can offer immediate tariff relief for ATVs and UTVs used by federal and state agencies for wildfire response, land management, scouting, and remote field access. Agencies that rely on fleets of off-road vehicles do not have the flexibility within their budgets for potential increased costs to their essential tools.

Land managers, wildfire crews, and field staff perform demanding, often dangerous work on behalf of the American people. Making sure they have access to affordable, reliable working vehicles is a simple, concrete way to strengthen public safety and keep government operations running effectively.

