



GERBER
LEGENDARY  BLADES®

AR 3.00



than six inches of mud.

Over beers that night, the talk is of off-roading, and the extreme terrain that makes up so much of America. Moab is a favourite destination for its challenging rock trails and the blistering heat of the desert. Mexico is loved for its wide, open spaces and spectacular coastline. But rights of way as such don't exist on a large scale in America, and there's no real tradition of long-established routes with so much of the country only having been opened up and inhabited in the past 150 years.

Up here in New England, there are real problems with access, and routes are being closed down all the time. Most of the East Coast is private land but, with permission, you're allowed to drive on it. In the vast forests that cover huge tracts of land in states like Maine, companies that own the land for paper and wood production allow off-roaders to use the tracks that cut across the countryside.

Out west there is more public land, run by the Bureau of Land Management, and this is

More queuing, as 100-plus Land Rovers try to drive the same trail at the same time

open to be driven. Some of the oldest roads in the country are located in New England, and these have a right of way even if they haven't been used for hundreds of years. Off-roaders have the same problem with public perception as we do in England, but it seems that Land Rover owners take the Tread Lightly message more seriously than most. The concept of careful, thoughtful off-roading with the emphasis on getting through rather than getting stuck has yet to catch on, and pedal to the metal is the favoured method of crossing rough ground. This is beginning to change though, as new driving schools appear across the country.

Trial mania

Next day it's the trials course that's attracting the attention. Trialling is a relatively new phenomenon in America, and is only just beginning to catch on in a big way. The set-up is much the same as a traditional English RTV

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