

**From:** [Joan](#)  
**To:** [FS-travel-comments-rocky-mountain-shoshone](#)  
**Cc:** [Matthew Rae](#); [Metzger, Rick -FS](#)  
**Subject:** SNF Travel Plan  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 27, 2016 4:03:02 PM

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Dear,

I am a year round resident of the Upper Warm Springs subdivision in Dubois Wyoming. Our community has two forest access points and is the starting point for the WildCat Loop.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposed motorized travel plan. I want to thank the USFS for engaging the public and holding numerous local meetings, field trips and offsite law enforcement strategy meetings. I truly feel I was part of the process even though I could not attend all meetings.

I have noticed in recent years an exponential increase of motorized ATV's on the forest roads, ATVing is one of the fastest growing recreational activities and I hope the USFS Shoshone NF can come up a plan that allows recreation for all and most importantly protects our resources and wildlife. I spend a lot of time riding and hiking in the Wind River District. It literally broke my heart to hear the district described as a 'sacrifice area' because there are so many roads, many illegal. The 75% of individual Wyoming comments submitted to the new forest plan opposed additional roads, and I am one of the 75%. I feel we should not expand roads/trails until the district can enforce existing regulations. I know government agencies have budgetary restraints but it does not reason to extend limited resources to new areas.

Following are my comments on the proposed plan:

Support:

- I support seasonal road closures winter and spring to protect wintering wildlife, elk calving areas and to maintain the condition of roads.
- I support additional staff for maintenance of existing routes in the Wind River District and for additional law enforcement
- The addition of kiosks, signage and route markers so that users know the routes and the ramifications for breaking rules, we can't assume everyone has a route map.
- I support educational activities about responsible forest use including hunters
- I support winterized snowmobile use restrictions and closure dates

Do not support:

- A 40% increase in roads in addition to the 242 existing roads in the SNF, again the forest has not demonstrated it can enforce regulations and maintenance on existing routes.
- A 40% increase in roads in addition to the 242 existing roads, again the forest has not demonstrated it can enforce regulations and maintenance on existing routes.
- I do not support the building of new roads, especially those that bisect roadless areas like Bachelor Creek and the creation of new routes especially in the Cody area- where there are no loops and due to the close proximity to Yellowstone should have the back country characteristics the Shoshone is known for and managed to.
- Roads along wilderness boundaries- trailheads ok- but traversing the boundary of wilderness areas is not.
- Roads traversing open areas
- Additional loop roads-studies show that loop roads disturb wildlife more than through roads. In addition, more roads contribute to illegal off road use.

As the first national Forest- the Shoshone has an opportunity to implement a plan that balances recreation with the primary objective of preserving wildlands. Any plan decided on needs to envision the inevitable future increase use of motorized vehicles and the impact on the forest.

Sincerely,  
Joan Timchak



Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10