From: <u>Diana Hedlund</u>

To: <u>FS-travel-comments-rocky-mountain-shoshone</u>

Subject: Proposed change WR-26

Date: Thursday, July 21, 2016 12:04:50 PM

Good Morning,

I have been reviewing the changes proposed in WR-26 and would like to express some concerns.

Last year, I had the good fortune to participate in my first back country trip with a well established Wyoming outfitter, Bear Basin Adventures. The trip was arranged between Bear Basin and my daughter, a professional social worker from Manhattan, to bring a group of 8 woman deep into the beautiful Bear Creek Drainage area, for a 5 day horse pack/yoga/meditation retreat.

Since I wanted to participate in the experience but am not a horse woman (or at 65 yrs old, even much of a outdoor camper) I was allowed to ride to the camp site in the truck that brought in not only the fresh food supplies for the week, but also the extra guest gear that the horses were not tasked to carry. I must say, there were times along sections of FSR 501 that I wondered if I would have been more secure on the back of a horse, but our driver was skilled and respected the road before him.

I tell you all of this, because I would like to bring your attention to the fact that this spectacular valley is a gift to those of us who are unlikely to "rough it" when it comes to a backwoods experience.

Bear Basin Adventures makes extraordinary effort to provide a safe camp that feels remote while providing comfort by way of warm spacious tents and fresh well-prepared meals.

By disallowing vehicles that bring all of these needed supplies to the valley, this camp would be far less accessible to those of us who do not ride horses or own an ATV.

Heath and Sarah are skilled at what they do and respectful of the land that provides their lively hood. Your decision to change the rules on vehicle access is more than just a financial hardship for Bear Basin, it is a loss to those of us who rarely have the opportunity to experience these beautiful mountains without the assistance of a company like Bear Basin.

Most of us do not have access or the desire to use ATV's when we travel into the wilderness. In fact, many prefer the silence that the wilderness provides.

If it is true (as advertised) that ATV's provide the ability to "ignore" roads, then I do not believe that the proposed considerations would accomplish the preservation you hope.

As stewards of the forest, I respect how much you appreciate it's beauty and want to preserve it for all. I ask that you consider carefully the needs of *all* who love the land in making this important decision.

Thank you for considering my concern.

Respectfully, Diana Hedlund