



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services
5353 Yellowstone Road, Suite 308A
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009



JUN 27 2016

In Reply Refer To:
06E13000-2016-CPA-0218

Mr. Rob Robertson
Shoshone National Forest
333 East Main Street
Lander, Wyoming 82520

Dear Mr. Robertson:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service provides the following comments in response to the U.S. Forest Service May 27, 2016, notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Shoshone National Forest (Forest) Travel Management (Project). The Forest intends to prepare an EIS to analyze and disclose the environmental effects of implementing travel management activities that include designating the class of vehicles, seasons of use, additions, and subtractions to the roads, trails, and areas open for recreational motorized use during summer and winter. Currently, the Forest is proposing to add 36 miles of motorized routes, which lead to an additional 106 mile of motorized loop opportunities; increasing the allowable width on 29 miles of new and/or existing motorized trails to 65 inches; adding 65 miles of seasonal restrictions; closing 12 miles of roads; adding 11 miles of ungroomed snowmobile trails; prohibiting motorized uses on two cross country ski areas; and establishing winter use seasons to be consistent with neighboring national forests.

We are writing in response to your inquiry related to species listed under Endangered Species Act (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), species of special concern, or migratory birds. We have indicated our response below, which we believe best meets your request.

- ☒ You requested a list of endangered, threatened, proposed, and/or candidate species, and designated or proposed critical habitat that may occur in the area of your Project. In an effort to expedite information sharing, we created an Information, Planning, and Conservation System (IPAC), available on-line at <http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/>. IPAC can be used to identify any potential federally listed species or critical habitat in your project area by using the "Initial Project Scoping" tool. For species identified by IPAC, you should review the recommendations and measures at http://www.fws.gov/wyominges/species_endangered.php.

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- ☒ Based on information from your request, we also recommend you:
- ☒ Review your Project relative to responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (see http://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/es/wyoming/species_Migratory.php).
 - ☐ Review Avian Power Line Interaction Committee (APLIC) guidelines to avoid and minimize electrocutions and collisions (see <http://www.aplic.org>).
 - ☐ Review your Project relative to guidelines regarding placement of cell towers (see <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>).
 - ☒ Review your Project relative to responsibilities for wetland protection (see <http://www.fws.gov/wyominges/landscapeConservation.php>).
 - ☐ Take steps to conserve and protect Species of Greatest Conservation Need (see http://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/es/wyoming/species_concern.php).
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We appreciate your efforts to conserve endangered, threatened, and candidate species and migratory birds. If you have any questions regarding this letter or your responsibilities under the ESA or other authorities, please contact Lisa Solberg Schwab of my office at the letterhead address or phone (307) 367-5340.

Sincerely,



SA Tyler A. Abbott
Acting Field Supervisor
Wyoming Field Office

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