

From: [Schacht, Steven -FS](#)
To: [Robertson, Robert N -FS](#)
Subject: Fwd: Limestone Mountain Road Travel Plan
Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2016 5:08:10 PM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jordan Jack [REDACTED]
Date: June 14, 2016 at 12:05:24 PM MDT
To: <sschacht@fs.fed.us>
Cc: <Klsalzman@fs.fed.us>, <Jhawkins@fs.fed.us>
Subject: Limestone Mountain Road Travel Plan

Mr. Schacht,

I am writing this letter with serious concern regarding the future of rock climbing and resulting community in Lander, WY.

Since the Limestone Mountain Road gate was closed this spring to preserve conditions on Road 352 and Road 326, access to the Little Popo Agie Canyon has been a great concern to many local Lander climbers. These two roads provide access to several amazing climbing locations including Wolf Point, Sweat Lodge, Strawberry Roan, and Ben's Block. Most notably, Wolf Point is the crag that holds the most potential for new development, and it is a big reason for many of Lander's greatest and most aspiring climbers to live here. It can arguably be considered the future of sport climbing in Lander. Due to temperature and sun exposure, access to Roads 352 and 326 in the spring and fall is crucial for the growing climbing interest in Lander.

It is also my understanding that Road 352 and Road 326 are considered Maintenance Level 2 in the current USFS report. According to the Maintenance Level 2 description in the June 2012 USFS "Guidelines for Road Maintenance Levels" (<http://www.fs.fed.us/t-d/pubs/pdf/11771811.pdf>), these roads should be maintained to prevent significant erosion and environmental damage. I understand that most guidelines and regulations use wording that is subjective, as is this case. However, the pictures on pages 30-34 show acceptable level 2 roads conditions, which are far less impacted and eroded than the current conditions on Road 352 and 326. The following captions indicate that maintenance should be prioritized to correct conditions to Level 2 standards to correct the significant erosion and

rutting on Roads 352 and 326:

“Rutting on the road surface should be corrected at the next scheduled maintenance if it begins to cause unacceptable environmental damage.” – page 31

“This road is passable by high-clearance vehicles at low speeds and does not require surface maintenance unless significant erosion is occurring. Rutting on the road surface should be corrected at the next scheduled maintenance if it begins to cause unacceptable environmental damage.” – page 34

Under the Road Maintenance Level 2 definition on page 28 traffic is considered “minor, usually consisting of one or a combination of administrative, permitted, dispersed recreation, or other specialized uses.” The term “dispersed recreation” is again subjective, but it is important to consider the future of Lander’s climbing, hunting and fishing recreation for locals and tourists. Climbing especially is continuing to grow and become popular in Lander and across the state. If climber traffic has not already surpassed the “dispersed recreation” volume on Roads 352 and 326, I believe it soon will, which provides another important reason for these roads to at least maintain Level 2 conditions.

Please consider the extreme importance that access to Roads 352 and 326 holds for the Lander community in the spring and fall. Perhaps if these roads were maintained and corrected to Level 2 maintenance levels in the future, there would be no need to consider temporary road closures.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Jordan Jack