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LAWYERS



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JEFFREY COOK
BOARD CERTIFIED
CIVIL TRIAL LAW
TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

June 8, 2016

VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

United States Forest Service
Wind River Ranger District
PO Box 186
Dubois, WY 82513-0186

RE: Bear Creek Road (FSR 501); Proposal Number WR-26 and Number WR-62

To whom it may concern,

I write in regard to the proposed conversion of Bear Basin Road to a motorized trail. I oppose the conversion for the reasons set out below.

Although I am a resident of Texas, I have been a licensed guide in Wyoming for more than 20 years (last year's guide license number was P0258). I have guided for Fran Fox, Bob Naylor, and now Heath Woltman when they were the outfitters for the Bear Basin Camp.

I first hunted Bear Basin in 1993, and have been there at least once every year since then. I believe I have made 25 trips in and out of Bear Basin over a span of more than 2 decades. I have seen the road in good and bad conditions. I oppose converting the road to a motorized trail because of the devastating effect it will have on Heath and Sarah and their business. They run an excellent (and very clean) camp and give hunters access to the Wilderness that could not get there with the road closed.

I have reviewed Heath and Sarah's letter to you and I cannot improve upon their explanation of the unique opportunity this camp (with vehicle access) provides for an entire class of older hunters; it would be tragic to lose them.

If you do decide to close Bear Creek Road to vehicles, then I urge you to grant an exemption to Heath and Sarah so they do not lose their business.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to be 'JC' with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Jeff Cook

JC/kaj

cc: Heath and Sarah Woltman (via email)