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| **From:** | The Greater Yellowstone Coalition on behalf of Raman Rajagopalan |
| **To:** | FS-travel-comments-rocky-mountain-shoshone |
| **Subject:** | Help us keep Yellowstone"s eastern flank wild and intact!! |
| **Date:** | Tuesday, July 26, 2016 9:12:04 AM |

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Jul 26, 2016

Rob Robertson - Shoshone National Forest Planning Team
333 E Main Street
Lander, WY 82520

Dear Robertson - Shoshone National Forest Planning Team,

As an American citizen and owner of the Shoshone National Forest, I would like to see the wild backcountry legacy of America's first national forest preserved for future generations. I urge you to consider that the majority of individual comments that addressed motorized use during the Forest Plan process opposed additional motorized routes. Adding 35 miles of motorized routes, while only removing 12 miles, is clearly placating the minority.

The agency needs to fully examine the environmental effects of off-highway vehicle use in the environmental impact statement (EIS), including the consequences of noise, fumes, weeds, loop riding, and illegal off-route use. Also, please assess the forest's financial ability to adequately patrol and enforce new routes and illegal uses; properly sign routes; and to construct, decommission, and maintain routes.

Please ensure that any seasonal road restrictions protect big game migration, winter range, and calving areas, reduce conflicts with grizzly bears, and protect spawning cutthroat trout. Please include this thorough analysis in your EIS.

The Shoshone is home to some of the wildest lands remaining in the lower 48 states and is critical to the many of the iconic wildlife species in neighboring Yellowstone National Park. Together, the Shoshone and the park make up one of the most intact natural ecosystems on earth  the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

Sincerely,

Dr. Raman Rajagopalan
[redacted]