

Shoshone National Forest Travel Mgmt.

Ranger Dist. Clarks Fork

Comments on NZ- 01 ATV trail from line creek to little rocky creek

I have spent extensive time in this area and here are some of my observations. There are at least 2 separate Sage Grouse Leks in this area, very easy to spot the birds . Why hasn't this been noted.

This is important winter range for Elk and Deer, also birthing area for both in spring. Stress them at that time will have a negative impact on them. A lot of Elk travel down the roadless area between Bennett Creek and Little Rocky to the hill to the east. They bed and drop young very close to the proposed road bed. Grizzlies and Wolves use this area extensively following the Elk and food along the Creek. Berries in summer and fish along creek. So we have an area that is important home to 3 endangered species and you want to put a road thru it? This goes thru 5 grazing permits and very few ever shut a gate. I would hope you plan to put in cattle guards in or it will turn into a open range area.

Joseph Kelleher

