

From: [REDACTED]
To: [FS-travel-comments-rocky-mountain-shoshone](#)
Subject: Shoshone Winter Travel Plan
Date: Saturday, June 11, 2016 8:47:29 AM

Hello,

Thanks for the work on the summer and winter travel plans.

I have a few comments:

1. The purpose and need statement completely ignores the need to provide some close-access areas that are closed to motorized use to protect the human-powered experience, particularly in the areas immediately south of Brooks Mountain and Pinnacle Butte. Human-powered backcountry use is a growing user group. The USFS should be supporting uses that are low impact on the Forest, not uses that trample the subnivean environment, dump fossil fuel residue into our air and water, and bring hoards of loud whining machines into our backcountry.
2. The winter travel maps provided on your website are too low in resolution to understand where things are happening and what changes are being made. The maps should be redone and the comment period extended.
3. I support the winter motorized use season dates – these dates help minimize impacts to wildlife, eliminate conflict between motorized and non-motorized recreation on the Beartooth Plateau, and aligns with management on neighboring forests.
4. I support closing the areas around the Deception Creek and Pinnacles cross-country ski trails on Togwotee Pass to motorized use.
5. I oppose designating the Sublette Pass trail as a winter motorized route. This trail has traditionally been used by, and managed for, skiers.
6. A minimum snowdepth requirement for motorized use makes little sense unless the restriction threshold is set very deep, like over 2-5 feet, depending on snow hardness. Widespread resource damage from oversnow vehicles occurs regardless of such a regulation in most areas in the Shoshone National Forest because of generally shallow and low-density snowpacks.

Thank you,
Thomas Turiano

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