

**From:** [Heath and Sarah Woltman](#)  
**To:** [FS-travel-comments-rocky-mountain-shoshone](#)  
**Subject:** Travel Management Proposed Actions  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 14, 2016 9:29:59 PM

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To Whom it may Concern,

My name is Heath Woltman of Bear Basin Adventures (outfitters), Dubois Wyoming. I am commenting on the proposed change WR-26.

We feel the the proposed change, converting a section of FSR 501 to a motorized trail, will not meet the stated goal of 'reducing impact on riparian areas' and will only reduce access by requiring anybody wanting to use the road to purchase an expensive ATV. As the outfitter operating in the Bear Creek drainage and likely the most active user of the road, I know that the riparian areas and road in general receives the majority of said damage during the wet spring months. We would propose a seasonal closure instead of a total conversion to an ATV trail. The idea of converting to an 'ATV trail' will in no way improve the quality of the road and or riparian areas.

In my many years of working and operating on this road I have seen the primary mode of transportation go from truck to ATV with no noticeable change in the quality of the road. In fact if there is a difference the road has become wider and more ribboned/rutted and damaged. People are taking more trips on the road with an ATV than they would do with one truck. It is our opinion that a seasonal closure until the end of the runoff season during the spring could greatly improve the road and meet the stated goals of the Forest Service Travel Management Plan, without reducing the access for those unable to buy an expensive ATV. If the conversion to an ATV trail is made as per proposal WR-26, the road will continue to degrade as the road will still be used at its most fragile time of year. We hope that the United States Forest Service will reconsidering this proposal for something more beneficial for the forest road and its users.

Thanks for your time.

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