From: <u>Katie Spencer</u>

To: FS-travel-comments-rocky-mountain-shoshone

Cc: <u>sidandjenny Sid J</u>

Subject: Comment regarding proposal NZ-01w

Date: Wednesday, July 06, 2016 11:17:46 AM

Attachments: Comment Regarding Proposal NZ-01w.docx

Shoshone National Forest Service,

Attached and below please find my comment regarding the original proposal: NZ-01w - "restricted to trail" – snowmobile use in the area between Pilot Creek and the bridge below the L-T Ranch submitted by Jenny Johnson.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for considering this proposal.

This is a comment regarding the original proposal: NZ-01w - "restricted to trail" – snowmobile use in the area between Pilot Creek and the bridge below the L-T Ranch.

My family (Stuart-Spencer-Harts) has owned and loved the RDS, B-4, and L-T ranches for nearly a century. My son is a member of the fifth generation to grow up enjoying the natural wonder that is the Clark's Fork corridor. We are a family of grateful visitors to this Greater Yellowstone ecosystem. I say visitors as the wildlife have always reminded us that this is, indeed, *their* home. Some of my earliest childhood memories are of scouting for evidence of animals nearby. Stories of a black bear visiting the cookie jar in my grandmother's kitchen and a grizzly found sleeping in one of the ranch cars are among the stories that sent me to bed full of fear and wonder at all that lived outside our cabin doors. Despite my preoccupation with the unexpected grizzly encounter, I am endlessly grateful that these creatures thrive again in their natural habitat. The breathtaking view of a moose against the horizon, the random bison grazing in the meadow below the B-4 east, and the excited search for wolves below Pilot are among my most cherished recollections of this incredible place. The peace, adventure, and education that this corridor offers to humans are exceptional and must not be taken for granted.

I am so grateful for the ways in which my grandparents advocated to protect this land. Following Jenny Johnson's lead, our action today will continue to protect the land and wildlife so that *my* grandchildren will also grow up appreciating the beauty and mystery of this special place. I request that the Shoshone Forest Service honor the animals that call this land their home and limit snowmobile use. There is more than enough enjoyment that visitors can find from the designated trail. Furthermore I believe that all of those who understand the importance of conservation will cherish the opportunity to play this simple and profound role in wildlife protection.

Thank you for considering the proposal submitted by Jenny Johnson on behalf of my family and all those who value the Clark's Fork Corridor.

Sincerely,

Katie Spencer



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Katherine (Katie) Spencer

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