

**From:** [Ben Barrett](#)  
**To:** [FS-travel-comments-rocky-mountain-shoshone](#)  
**Subject:** Comments on Shoshone National Forest's Proposed Action on Travel Management  
**Date:** Sunday, July 10, 2016 9:11:13 AM

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In this email I am commenting on the Shoshone National Forest's Proposed Action on Travel Management. [REDACTED] Shoshone National Forest boundary. My property is encircled by a loop of the forest road that goes onto private property, which defines my property boundaries on 3 sides.

Warm Spring Mountain is part of the greater Dubois and Union Pass area, which has a concentration of off-road opportunities in the Forest. There is relatively high use by ATV's and snowmobiles, with a trailhead being located at the end of a county road. The forest road that goes past my property is orphaned to public use by its dip into private property, before it goes on up to the top of Warm Spring Mountain. Even so, there is a fair amount of traffic on the forest road that goes onto private property. I recommend the Forest Service consider refurbishing their signs where the private road enters and exits the forest boundary.

I support project WR-07 to link the west end of the orphaned road with the Union Pass trailhead. There are trails already existing on the planned route, and this would legitimize access from the west to the orphaned part of the road via the trailhead.

I support project WR-13, which is in 2 parts. The west part would provide public access to the east end of the orphaned road mentioned above, and provide an alternative to the private property route. The proposed route would go near my property and I have detailed comments. The area is steep and access is possible but limited. Through informal inquiry I have found that the tentative proposed route may only be 25-80 yards from my property. I have made great personal investment in developing a very remote property and I do not wish to have an ATV trail coming right next to the back of the property. Conversely, the opportunity for forest access drew me to the area, and I support access for myself and others. I have walked the area and I believe a trail can be made which stays about 200 yards or more from my property and is structurally sensible. I would like to meet with the Forest Service at the location and discuss the route.

The east/south part of WR-13 would develop an existing ATV trail and create a loop road. Right now the authorized forest road dead ends at Warm Spring Creek. Access is again limited to this area from the west because of the situation described in my comments on WR-07, and also limited access through private property to the northern terminus of WR-13 from the north and east. This portion of the project would allow access from the south and east (Wildcat Loop). It would provide a loop road with excellent opportunities to better use existing forest road infrastructure. Given the recreational nature of this part of the forest and proximity to Dubois, this project should be supported.

I support the ability for tracked side-by-side vehicles to use the forest in winter, both off-road and on snowmobile trails. This area has higher altitude access where snow may accumulate early and remain late in the season. Therefore seasonal restrictions should be modified to take this into account depending on the snow.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Ben Barrett

