

From: [laura ferguson](#)
To: [FS-travel-comments-rocky-mountain-shoshone](#)
Subject: Shoshone National Forest travel plan
Date: Monday, July 25, 2016 2:18:22 PM

Dear Rob Robertson,

I would like to comment on the proposed travel expansion for motorized vehicles in the Shoshone National Forest. To keep it short, I am STRONGLY OPPOSED for the following reasons: the Shoshone National Forest provides a link between YNP and the Beartooth Wilderness and is a key area for many species of wildlife including Grizzly bears, moose, fishers, lynx, mountain goats, and other species who depend on an intact ecosystem. I spend much of my summers each year at a family cabin on the WY-MT border just a mile outside of Yellowstone. While the area is now fairly well protected, it already has been marred by illegal off-road motorized use (4 wheelers, mostly), poaching, trash left by atv drivers, and encroachment. There is virtually no law enforcement in the area east of YNP, and anyone who has spent considerable time there knows that poaching, illegal motorized travel, trespass, and serious erosion are already an issue there. Four-wheelers and ATVs have caused a lot of damage to sensitive areas, riparian zones, important plant habit. Every year, snowmobilers who go beyond where they should have to be rescued -- roads would only increase the need for emergency services. Adding more roads and/or permitting more motorized use will jeopardize the natural qualities of this most spectacular place, increase the likelihood of fires and incidents of erosion -- both of which are expensive to mitigate - - threaten wildlife, increase poaching, and destroy the peace and quiet that are essential for both wildlife and for those of us who seek that solitude and quiet. This area is far to sensitive to damage and should be protected to the fullest extent for ecological, cultural, and spiritual reasons. So, my family and I would like to ask the Shoshone National Forest to NOT expand any motorized use anywhere in the forest. There is so little quiet, roadless landscape left. It is too precious, too important to destroy.

Sincerely,
Laura Ferguson

