

From: [Marvin Blakesley](#)
To: [FS-travel-comments-rocky-mountain-shoshone](#)
Cc: ["Steffen Cornell"](#); ["Loren Grosskopf"](#)
Subject: Travel Management Shoshone Forest
Date: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 5:00:25 PM

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Shoshone Forest Travel Management Proposed Action

Specifically, I make the following comments on the: Proposed Summer Use for the Greybull and Southern Wapiti Ranger Districts

- 1) I **support** the new proposed road openings for the Gooseberry/Twin Lakes Area (NZ-14).
- 2) I **support** the new road to the dispersed camp area on Lower Wood River (NZ-27).
- 3) I **strongly support** the re-opening of the Upper Gwinn Fk./Dick Creek Road (NZ-12). This will re-open some prime elk hunting areas to foot hunters, that should have never been closed. Allowing this road re-opening will please traditional elk hunters in this area who were very upset when the upper Gwinn Fk. Road was closed back in the 1980s. It never should have been closed (no resource damage) and we appreciate the Forest Service proposing to re-open this road segment.
- 4) I **strongly oppose** the re-opening of the old road in Black Jack Draw (NZ-28). Black Jack Draw and the Sunshine Hills support a substantial resident elk herd. This herd is often in this location during much of the summer and fall. Re-opening of this road will cause dislocation of this local elk herd, much to the dismay of local hunters. There must be a better route to pick for another loop in this area. I suggest re-opening of the loop road around Dick Creek from the Black Hole back up to the main Dick Creek Road. This road loop was closed in the 1980s or 90s and provided no resource benefit. Re-opening of this currently closed road would provide good summer recreation as well as provide some additional access for big game hunters.
- 5) I oppose the proposed new seasonal closure of the Phelps Mountain Road (NZ-43). There is currently no seasonal closure – the weather determines when access is available. This should continue. There is no science to justify this proposed seasonal closure.
- 6) Corral Creek (NZ-42). I oppose this proposed new season closure. There is currently no seasonal closure – the weather determines when access is available. This should continue. There is no science to justify this proposed seasonal closure.
- 7) Carter Mtn./Long Park (NZ-40). I **support** the new road to the dispersed camp area.

General Comments:

Other than the proposed road re-opening in Black Jack Draw (Dick Cr. NZ-12), of which I am opposed; I strongly support the proposed re-openings of previously closed roads on the entire Shoshone Forest. I am opposed to any new seasonal closures or additional proposed road/route closures. The Shoshone Forest has gone way too far in closing access roads and dispersed camping sites over the past 30 years. I am also opposed to any proposed new restrictions on Winter Use Travel on the Shoshone Forest. Your policies and rules are pushing the public off of our public lands, and causing crowding in the few areas remaining open. The Shoshone Forest should continue to evaluate additional road re-openings so that the public is allowed back on our National forests as

originally intended by our Congress.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Marvin Blakesley

