



WINONA GOLD & COPPER
MINING COMPANY

ESTABLISHED 1907

1100 Rumsey Avenue
Cody, Wyoming 82414

December 5, 2017

Supervisor's Office
Shoshone National Forest
808 Meadow Lane Avenue
Cody, Wyoming 82414-9313

Anent

Summer Travel Plan
Shoshone National Forest
Sunlight Mining District

Dear Madame/Sir:

I am the manager and part owner of a patented mine in the upper reaches of Sulphur Creek, tributary of Sunlight Creek, Shoshone National Forest. This patent for many years has been referred to as the Winona Mine. It is designated as "NZ-G" on Sub Part B, Clarks Fork, Greybull and Wapiti Ranger Districts, Upper Sunlight Map of Proposed Changes. The owner of record of this property is JOPE, Brothers, LLC, of which I am a principal owner and General Manager.

Forest Service Road 108 has been a mine access road to the Winona Mine since it was constructed by the Winona Gold and Copper Mining and Milling Company about 1914. From time to time during the past 35 years I have discussed various questions and issues regarding this road with Shoshone Forest personnel, including Randall Hall, Steve Mealy, Don Musso, Randy Herzberg, Brent Larson, Dave Myer, Terry Root and others. Many years ago personnel of Shoshone National Forest determined, based on established law, that owners of patented mining lands within the Sunlight Mining District have the right of ingress and egress along and upon the established mine access roads, of which Forest Service Road 108 is a part.

With regard to the November 2017 Travel Management Scoping Document I point out the following correction:

On Page 18 Table A2. North Zone Seasonal Restriction Date Adjustments please note the following clarifications:

3/31-7/16, 9/30- 12/1 Previous Open Dates –These are actually

previous closed dates. Previous Open dates are/were actually 7/16 through 9/30 and 12/1 through 3/31

I also suggest that the Forest Service consider an opening date of July 10 rather than July 1, as proposed. I have traveled in the area for many years; and often the water flow in Sunlight Creek is very high during early July. Hence over-anxious ATVers may experience difficulties when crossing Sunlight Creek during these times of high water. Possible injury may result.

For reasons previously expressed during the scoping process, I and JOPE Brothers, LLC agree with the proposed closure as designated on Map NZ-G. The closure as proposed is near the area referred to on old maps as "Winona Camp." In this area the topography would allow for vehicles to safely turn and/or stop in a safe and non-impeding manner. I have mentioned to personnel of Shoshone Forest that I would pay for an interpretive sign in this area, in conformance with Forest Service standards, along with a picnic table or similar feature. In addition I would pay for the costs of a gate at the point of closure.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John O. Housel".

John O. Housel
Manager