

From: Leslie [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 13, 2017 4:10 PM
To: FS-travel-comments-rocky-mountain-shoshone
Subject: comments

I am unable to attend your meeting on the 30th. I have a few comments from reviewing the online maps :

1. NZ-02 Sweetwater trail. I commend you for the road closure. I am unclear why the part that is not closed will be enlarged for 64" ORV
2. Morrison Jeep gate move. From the meetings I attended, I heard that the Clark's Fork Canyon in winter is an area with lots of elk and deer. Why move the gate farther up? Won't this be a major disturbance to wildlife?
3. Fantan Lake NZ-36. Fantan lake is a pretty lake with a small beach. I walk down to that area and always notice too much use due to easy access. Why create more road around the lake.
4. Continuing along 149, I had put in a proposal to make at least the last 1/4 walk-in to Sawtooth. As you know, grizzly bears are now using that area more extensively. People using vehicles and ATV's provide easy access and more trash. I was there 2 years ago when several Montanans were shooting guns and had coolers. As I walked out, I saw a sow with three COY. Apparently, these men dropped their coolers and ran to their vehicles, giving these bears a reward when the sow was not aggressive nor looking for one. Easy access means large coolers and more trash. Please rethink the Sawtooth lake access, or at least provide bear boxes.
5. Thank you for the seasonal closure proposal for Beem Gulch. Long overdue as that road is impossible to keep from being rutted and soggy in the spring.
6. Thank you for the closures of Sulphur creek and Painter Mine. I understand you are closing Sulphur because of private lands; but I've walked that and ORV's are creating illegal roads along the talus in the upper bowl, and trying to get into the pristine Copper Lakes. This will help prevent further damage.

Thank you,

Leslie Patten
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Blog: [The Human Footprint](#)
Book: [The Wild Excellence: Notes from Untamed America](#)