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Acting Supervisor Stresser 808 Meadow Lane Avenue Cody, WY 82414

December 8, 2017

RE: Comments related to the November 2017 Shoshone National Forest Travel Management Scoping Document

Dear Acting Supervisor Stresser,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Shoshone National Forest Travel Management Scoping Document, dated November 2017.

As noted on page 13 of the scoping document, "duplicates of comments submitted during the first opportunity for public comment, published on May 26, 2016, do not need to be resubmitted." Therefore, the following comments on the North Zone proposals are new, not reiterations or duplicates of the comments made in our letter dated July 7, 2016.

1. Sweetwater NZ-07

We feel strongly that the Sweetwater bridge should not be closed, nor the road converted to 65" motorized trail at any location. We request the road be kept open to full-size vehicles for the entire length. Please consider seeking additional funding or public assistance to repair the road and keep it open.

2. Upper Sunlight NZ-29

We oppose the closure and recommend leaving the road open.

3. Ghost Creek NZ-4w

Why was this proposal removed in the November 2017 Scoping Document? We would like to see the snowmobile trail opened.

4. Dry Fork Paint Creek NZ-41

We oppose new seasonal restrictions without clarification, explanation, or sufficient rationale.

5. Corral Creek NZ-42

We oppose new seasonal restrictions without clarification, explanation, or sufficient rationale.

6. Phelps Mountain NZ-43

We oppose new seasonal restrictions without clarification, explanation, or sufficient rationale.

7. South Fork, Eikster Lake NZ-45a

We very much support this new motorized trail loop.

1002 Sheridan Avenue Cody, Wyoming 82414 (307) 527-8510 Fax (307) 527-8515

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8. South Fork, Eikster Lake NZ-45b

We very much support this new motorized trail loop.

9. Sulphur Creek NZ-46

We oppose the closure and recommend leaving the road open.

10. Elk Fork NZ-47

We support keeping the Elk Fork road open and realigning it as necessary.

11. Sunlight Basin NZ-49

We are in support of this proposal.

12. North Zone Ranger Districts NZ-51, Roads identified in Travel Analysis Report Table 6-2 as Roads "Likely Not Needed"

We are deeply concerned with Proposal NZ-51, as there have been no specific details provided in regard to these road closures, no rationale given for their consideration, and were not addressed in the May 2016 scoping document, nor the recent Cooperators meeting. The descriptions are very vague and do not align with the current Proposed Action. In some cases, we could not even find the road references on the MVUM map, so commenting is not possible. In addition, the information is difficult to interpret across numerous documents and maps and was often unavailable due to broken website links. We require clarification on this proposal, as it is difficult to comment constructively without specifics.

Additionally, there are examples of duplication and/or conflicts of NZ-51's proposed road closures with other specific proposals. Specifically, the Sulfur Creek Road, which is indicated to be closed in its entirety, but is contrary to oral indication from Forest Service staff of partial closure.

13. Forest Wide SHO-02s

Upon further review, we oppose both the setting of firm dates for the over snow travel season and the division into lower and higher elevations. Both seem to present enforcement and logistical challenges.

14. Table A2. North Zone Seasonal Restriction Date Adjustments

In general, it is not clear why many of the seasonal adjustments are necessary. Additional information is needed, as many of these areas have been used by the public for decades. More specifically, we provide the following comments:

a. No date adjustments appear to have been proposed, but the following are included in Table A2 as possible adjustments: Bald Ridge System, Dead Indian Gulch, Henry's Mill, Sunlight WMA System, South Fork Wood River & Brown Creek, Timber Creek to Dick Creek System, and Carter (Meeteetse Creek Access).

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b. November 31st is listed as a closure date, but that is not a date on the calendar: Morrison Jeep Trail (upper), and Beartooth Lake.

We appreciate your consideration of our comments in the process to complete the Proposed Action and look forward to working with the Forest Service staff. Please contact us if you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PARK/COUNTY, WYOMING
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Lee Livingston, Chairman
L Somkopf
Loren Grosskopf, Vice Chairman
Jorge (hall)
Joseph E. Tilden, Commissioner
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Tim A. French, Commissioner
Jake Fulkerson, Commissioner

cc: Honorable Governor Matthew H. Mead

Lisa Timchak, Incoming Forest Supervisor, Shoshone National Forest