

Shoshone National Forest Travel Management
Request for Public Input

Ranger District: Wind River Ranger District

Current Proposals

1. Which proposal are you commenting on (WR-1, WR-2, etc.)?

WR-3

2. Provide comments below on the proposal:

Please be specific and provide rationale for your position. In other words what do you see as the merits or concerns about the proposal.

Dubois Telephone Exchange (DTE) does not see an immediate issue with the proposed WR-3 ATV trail using part of FS road 961 from its junction with FS 554 to Salt Barrels Park and FS 524.

DTE operates and maintains a USFS authorized electronic site on Windy Ridge. Access to the site is FS 961 and is supposed to be restricted to communications site activity. DTE's USFs permit requires monitoring of site use and potential for resource damage.

We support continued use of the locked gate at the junction of FS554 and FS 961 to prevent unauthorized 4WD truck type vehicle use.

DTE would hope that we do not see increased public ATV use to the communications site if WR-3 is approved. To date we have had no real problems with damage or vandalism to the site from the public, but a formal designated trail near the communications site may increase the likelihood of future issues. This site is home to numerous critical communications sites, and increased unauthorized traffic could lead to fencing or other means to restrict access and protect critical communications assets.

Maybe the solution is to designate the upper section of FS961 restricted to communications site activity only...noted with a small sign...designation on a USFS road/trails map...develop educational/informational process through the local ATV club...or some combination of all these suggestions.

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Here*

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