

Shoshone National Forest Travel Management
Request for Public Input
Comment Form

Ranger District: Wind River

Comments on Current Proposals

1. Which proposal are you commenting on?

In general, I am opposed to creating new trails and expanding existing trails in the WR district for the following reasons:

-The existing road closures are not being enforced. I appreciate the recent addition of signage that I have seen in the Windy Mountain and Bald Mountain areas- but without additional LEO resources I have no confidence that ATV users will obey the signage as they have not done so in the past.

-Some of the trails are proposed are on trails and roads that were created illegally. I believe it sets a bad precedence to reward this type of behavior.

- As a resident of Upper Warm Springs Subdivision over the last few years I have seen ATV use increase dramatically. Previously most traveled in groups of 2 or 3 now it is common to see groups of 10 and these same riders also explore the neighborhood private roads

-Finally, I recently heard the WR district described as a "Sacrifice area" because there is so much ORV misuse in the area. I do not want to take away anyone's right to enjoy the forest, but preserving the resources and wild characteristics should be paramount in decision making for everyone's enjoyment. Backcountry characteristics are under threat.

2. Provide comments below on the proposal: (continue on back if needed)

WR08- Grandy Reservoir Loop- Opposed to opening road and new trail

- The single track trail on the east side of Grandy is the only single-track hiking trail close to town.
- Hikers and horseman have maintained the trail over the years by removing and chainsawing fallen trees. Logs have been laid across the trail at the intersection of FS 961 by non motorized users to keep ATV's out.
- The trail has several low areas that would be destroyed by vehicle use
- There are not many drainages in the area-they should be protected for moose and bears which frequent these cooler areas
- Elk calving and migration area-

- Trail is steep and next to creek ravine- erosion should be a concern
- Single track trail would have to be widened to accommodate vehicles. I would prefer not to see limited resources spent on creating a trail

WR03 FS 961 to Salt Barrel Park- Opposed to opening road and new trail

- Very opposed to opening meadow areas to motorized vehicles as mis-use is inevitable as proven by the current condition of open areas in the district (Google Earth Salt Barrel park and compare to FS Map).
- Because FS 961 is gated, this is the only road in the area that non motorized users can utilize and enjoy the forest without the interruption of motorized vehicles (except those authorized).
- Borders our community – concern increased use could increase fire risk- very dry area
- Road is very steep, with loose gravel (about ½ mile from the gate). Currently DTE, Union Wireless and Wydot use the road once a week-increased traffic , imagine what increased usage would do to roads
- Road borders creek- another area that is cooler and shady and should be quieter for wildlife

WR23, W21, WR23, WR06 and WR22-

- Do not support opening these spur roads- will just entice users to explore further

WR 28 –WR 11

- WR district does not need any more loop trails-too much sectioning of larger forest tract.

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