

Shoshone National Forest Travel Management Request for Public Input

Ranger District: Wind River Ranger District

New Proposals

1. What is the proposal? (loop; route; closures; restrictions) , etc.)

Clearly and concisely state the Proposal. Include as much detail as possible.

This proposal is to close all areas important for wolverine.

2. Where is the proposal located?

Give general description of project location (example: 5 miles SW of Cody, WY) as well as UTM coordinates, Township/Range/Sec, or Lat/Long if you have that information.

All locations across the entire forest identified as important for wolverine.

3. Why is your proposal desired or needed?

The Shoshone provides habitat for wolverine. The Shoshone Land Management Plan (May 2015) states that the goals for managing the wolverine include conserving the North American wolverine and its habitat by maintaining or improving contiguous habitat connectivity with the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. The Forest Service also has a duty, independent and on top of the multiple use mandate, to meaningfully apply Executive Orders 11644 and 11989. When designating areas or trails available for off-road vehicle use (including OSV use), the executive orders require the agency locate them to minimize damage to natural resources, minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitats, and minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses.

In general, wolverine are sensitive to human disturbance. See Winter Wildlands Alliance, Snowmobile Best Management Practices for Forest Service Travel Planning: A Comprehensive Literature Review and Recommendations for Management (Dec. 2014), page 10, available at <http://winterwildlands.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/BMP-Report.pdf> (Attachment A) (providing best management practices (BMPs) as guidelines, based on peer-reviewed science, for OSV designation decisions made to minimize impacts to wildlife, water quality, soils, and vegetation). Snowmobile use commonly overlaps with wolverine denning habitat, and OSV noise may cause female wolverines to abandon their denning sites, potentially reducing their reproductive success. *Id.*

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Stamp
Here*

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