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First name: Linda

Last name: Healow

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Shoshone National Forest Travel Planning Team, I'd like to comment on the Travel Management Plan. I've spent time in the Union Pass area (Wind River District) hiking, camping and have driven the road from DuNoir to Lower Green River Lake. Due to lack of ground-truthing, too few staff to provide enforcement and an abundance of current OHV routes (331 miles) I see no reason to add the Warm Springs Canyon addition (WR07, WR 13). WR07 is user-created. Making this a new route would only encourage users to create illegal routes through intact wildlife habitat. These lower and mid-level lands are critical due to their value as wildlife winter range and migration corridors. WR13 is redundant, would be prohibitively expensive and would need to be built on unsuitable terrain. Warm Springs Creek is eligible for Wild and Scenic River designation. This addition is under-researched and ill-advised. This area is has documented enforcement concerns and is difficult to maintain. Again and for the same reasons, listed above I oppose the Benchmark Roadless Area and MT 14 Additions. Widening an ATV trail from 50' to 65' along a Wilderness boundary undermines the values that define Wilderness. New construction through an Inventoried Roadless Area again undermines Wilderness, habitat, and migration corridors. The cumulative impacts of these additions provide little benefit to an already amply-roaded area and potential harm to landscape, Inventoried Roadless Areas, Wilderness, and rivers eligible for Wild and Scenic designation. This also significantly impacts non-motorized recreationists. Thank you for taking these comments into consideration.