

Shoshone National Forest

Travel Management

Working Group Charter

The Shoshone National Forest has formed a working group to improve the accountability of its existing motorized road and trail systems. In addition, the Forest would like to create a system that is more user friendly and appealing to the motorized user resulting in an enhanced recreational experience for all user groups.

Objective: Identify ways to encourage and improve compliance on our motorized system of roads, trails, and areas through a variety of methods and techniques.

Goals:

1. Infrastructure - The group needs to develop a list of signs, barriers, kiosks, trailheads, etc. and the criteria for when and where the appropriate use is. I want to enhance compliance while making the motorized road and trail systems more user friendly for the motorized community on the Shoshone National Forest.
2. Education - You will need to work on the education and information program for the Forest's motorized road and trail system. Your efforts should be focused on simplifying messaging, ensuring consistency with adjacent jurisdictions, developing an innovative communication strategy, and exploring potential revenue streams for this work in the future.
3. Enforcement - Enforcement is not the main piece of a motorized road and trail system but it is a critical component of a successful motorized road and trail system. I am asking that you identify ways to encourage and improve compliance on our motorized system of roads, trails, and areas through a variety of methods and techniques.

Participants:

WY Game and Fish, WY State Trails Program, Sierra Club, Northwest Off Highway Vehicle Alliance, County commissioners from Fremont, Park, and Hot Springs County, Meteetsee Conservation District, Greater Yellowstone Coalition, Wyoming Wilderness Association, OHV clubs representatives from Lander and Riverton, BLM, Backcountry Horseman, Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, other interested publics, Shoshone National Forest (Rick Metzger, Ron Ostrom, Doug Johnson, Mike Franchini).

Facilitation, Logistics, and Convening Meetings: The Forest Service will provide a facilitator for the meeting to maintain consistency. The Forest Service will also find and secure meeting venues, convene the meetings through emails and phone calls, and provide a note taker for the meetings.

When: The first meeting will be held on Friday March 25, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Bighorn Federal Bank in Thermopolis, WY. I will let the group decide when and where to meet for meetings always taking into account the effects of travel time and distance on participation.

Working Group Chair:

I would like to see someone other than a Forest Service representative become the chairperson of the group. I would like to have the chairperson selected the first meeting so that the group can define structure first and focus on substance in the following meetings.

Public Engagement:

Travel Management on the Shoshone National Forest has been driven by the public thus far and needs to be that way into the future. I am aware that the general public that has been coming to our meetings and providing proposals, input, and ideas are not all part of this group. However, my expectation is that this group will find creative and innovative ways to keep the general public in the communities of Cody, Meteteetsee, Dubois, Lander, Riverton, and some of the other surrounding communities expressing interest in this project up to date and involved in what this group is doing. This is a key component to the success of our travel management process on the Shoshone National Forest.

Timeline:

The group will begin their work on March 25, 2016 and complete this portion of work by September 30, 2016. I would like to be briefed at least 3-4 times during the process by the Working Group Chairperson.

Decision Making Process: The group will elect a chair and should utilize the chair to make decisions how they see fit. The pursuit of consensus is noble but not always achievable so the chair may need to make occasional decisions where there are opposing viewpoints. The group should discuss this up front and agree to how you will handle decision making.

March 25, 2016 Meeting Agenda:

10:00-10:30am	Welcome, Introductions, & Overview
10:30-11:00am	Overview of travel management process and Working Group Charter
11:00-12:00pm	Small group work- how to tackle goals (work) in charter
12:00-1:00pm	Lunch
1:00-1:30pm	Elect Working Group chair
1:30-2:40pm	Begin working on goals from the Charter
2:40-2:55pm	Public comment period
2:55-3:00pm	Schedule next meeting & wrap-up

