

SHOSHONE NATIONAL FOREST TRAVEL PLAN SIGNAGE SURVEY

Subject: Information regarding signage - various forests - R1, R2, R4

Contacts: Forest users in South Dakota, Montana Idaho, Colorado, Wyoming

"I am working on a committee which has identified three areas of concern pertaining to the management of motorized use here on the Shoshone NF - infrastructure, education, and enforcement - all of which are inter-related. The following questions deal with infrastructure - signs, kiosks, trail makers - and how the use of these by the Agency relate to the education of motorized users - ie, help them better follow the rules."

POINTS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Is this a valid assumption? Is the signage in your forests of value in educating motorized users in appropriate practices?
2. Does trail signage have a clear message? Is the message consistent? Is there sufficient signage - would more signage help? What kinds? Has the signage been maintained?
3. Kiosks - value of?
4. Which do you favor? Routes open unless signed "closed" or Routes closed unless signed "open".

CONCENSUS FROM CONTACTS:

1. Signage only a "fair" tool for the education of users.
 - > 15% to 35% will not comply - "This is my public land and I will ride wherever I want" attitude.
2. Signage varies - good to poor depending on forest and district.
3. Many motorized routes not signed - signs poorly placed.
4. Inconsistency in message, signage not compatible with maps.
5. "Closed signs" subject to vandalism - carsonite, 4 x 4 posts poor choice.
6. Signage not maintained.
7. Motorized trails should be signed "open"- name and number.
- *** 8. Signs should be informative rather than regulatory.
9. Kiosks are of limited value.
 - > Too much non info
 - > Not maintained with current info
 - > Better placement needed
10. All areas are experiencing growth in motorized use.
 - > Need for motorized clubs to act as agents for educating users.
11. Some areas being impacted by mountain bikes - ie, using motorized trails.
12. Need for separate camps/ trailheads
 - > Motorized - will concentrate use, control, and act as info sites.
 - > People, mountain bikes, horses
13. Enforcement needed - critical for control
 - > BLM example
14. Routes closed unless signed "open"