

Dear Thomas Tidwell, Chief of the U.S. Forest Service -

As a relatively new resident of Wyoming who has horse packed in high country here for over 20 years, I respectfully ask that you give full consideration to protecting the Dunoir's outstanding wilderness characteristics - as determined by your Service's assessments. You and I both know how difficult, even impossible, it is to recreate wilderness. As I wrote to Supervisor Alexander, part of my fond memories in the Dunoir include the smiles of my 8 year old grandson catching his first trout - a 3.5 lb. beauty with 3 salamanders in his belly!

**First, please do not allow mountain biking in the Dunoir Special Management Unit.**

1. According to Wikipedia - "*Main article: [History of the mountain bike and mountain biking](#)*. In 1981, the first mass-produced [mountain bike](#) appeared, intended for use off-pavement over a variety of surfaces." So mountain biking was not a consideration as these regulations were being written. And yes, I can be certain that it was not discussed since friends were involved in the writing of this legislation. As a hiking, fishing, hunting and horse packing family, I know firsthand that horses and bicycles speeding toward them can be a fatal combination - even for a good horse and rider - and is illegal. Non-vehicular means just what it says. In the future, areas like the Dunoir will be even more valuable and rare places with minimal footprints of mankind.

**Second, please keep East Fork, Bear Creek, Wiggins Fork, and Horse Creek as year round non-motorized recreations areas.**

2. Yesterday in the East Fork area, my family and I saw hundreds of elk feeding on the high plateaus, over a thousand deer, blue bird flocks, about 30 bighorn sheep and several hundred feeding antelope - one day, three hours of observation from a good distance. Please consider how many miles already exist for motorized use near Dubois. I understand the thrill of new trails, but I also understand the need for precious wildlife habitat. These 40,000 acres are needed by elk for calving, critical winter range for wary bighorn sheep, and for grizzly bear habitat. Non-motorized recreation works. Please keep it that way.

Thank you for your consideration. My family became Wyoming residents for the scenic beauty of the forests and mountains, wildlife viewing, peacefulness of the area, hunting and fishing. All of these have great economic value historically. Protecting these natural resource values is a moral obligation we take seriously.

Come visit us in Dubois! We'll show you what unique resources you are protecting. The Shoshone National Forest is much more eloquent than I am. As a forester I know you'd have fun. The experience would help you weather the pressures of politics! Thank you for your service for our forests.

Best wishes - Kathleen Treanor

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