Order number BHF 2015-01

FOREST ORDER

USDA FOREST SERVICE

BIGHORN NATIONAL FOREST

Travel Management Restrictions

Pursuant to 16 United States Code (U.S.C.) § 551 and 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 261.50(a) and 261.50(b), the following acts are prohibited on all Bighorn National Forest lands, roads, and trails (the Restricted Areas, Restricted Roads, and Restricted Trails) situated on the Bighorn National Forest in Sheridan County, Johnson County, Big Horn County, and Washakie County, State of Wyoming.

The Restricted Areas, Restricted Roads, and Restricted Trails are further identified on the Bighorn National Forest Visitor Map created as of December 1, 2013 and hereby incorporated into this order as Exhibit A.

The purpose of this Order is to provide travel and other regulations for the Bighorn National Forest in conjunction with the 2005 Revised Land and Resource Management Plan, to protect forest resources, minimize user conflicts, and promote user safety.

PROHIBITIONS:

1. Going into or being upon those Restricted Areas marked as S1 or to be on or upon any roads or trails within those Restricted Areas with any motor vehicle including over-snow vehicles. 36 CFR § 261.56, CFR § 261.54 (a), and 36 CFR § 261.55 (b)

2. Going into or being upon those Restricted Areas marked as S2 or to be on or upon any roads or trails within those Restricted Areas with any motor vehicle including over-snow vehicles from November 16 through May 15, yearly. 36 CFR. 261.56, 36 CFR § 261.54 (a), and 36 CFR § 261.55 (b)

3. Going into or being upon those Restricted Areas marked as S3 or to be on or upon any roads or trails within those Restricted Areas with any motor vehicle. Except: over-snow vehicles are allowed when operating on snow November 16 through March 30, yearly. CFR 261.53(e) 36 CFR § 261.56, and 36 CFR § 261.55 (b)

4. Going into or being upon those Restricted Areas marked as S4 or to be on or upon any roads or trails within those Restricted Areas with any motor vehicle. Except: over-snow vehicles are allowed when operating on snow from November 16 through June 30, yearly. CFR 261.56, 36 CFR § 261.54 (a), and 36 CFR § 261.55 (b)

5. Going into or being upon those Restricted Areas marked as S5 with any motor vehicle including over-snow vehicles from December 1 through May 1, yearly. 36 CFR 261.56, 36 CFR § 261.54 (a), and 36 CFR § 261.55 (b)

6. Shortcutting a switchback on a trail. 36 CFR § 261.55 (e)

7. Using any wheeled motor vehicle on designated and/or groomed snowmobile trails, from December 15 through March 31, yearly. 36 CFR § 261.55 (b)

8. Possessing or using any motor vehicle more than 300 feet off National Forest System (posted and numbered) roads and trails, from the point the vehicle leaves the road/trail, for any purpose other than camping, firewood gathering, or game retrieval. 36 CFR § 261.56

9. Using over-snow vehicles off National Forest System roads and trails from May 16 through November 15 and unless there is a minimum of six inches of snow. 36 CFR § 261.56

10. Using over-snow vehicles on National Forest System roads and trails unless there is a minimum of six inches of snow. 36 CFR § 261.54(a) and 36 CFR § 261.55(b)

DEFINITIONS:

For the purpose of this Order, the following definitions apply:

Forest road or trail: a road or trail wholly or partly within, or adjacent to, and serving the National Forest System, that the Forest Service determines is necessary for the protection, administration, and utilization of the National Forest System and the use and development of its resources. Roads are motor vehicle routes over 50 inches wide, unless identified and managed as a trail. Trails are routes 50 inches or less in width. 36 CFR § 261.2

Motor vehicle: means any vehicle which is self-propelled, other than:

1. A vehicle operated on rails; and
2. Any wheelchair or mobility device, including one that is battery-powered, that is designed solely for the use by a mobility-impaired person for locomotion, and is suitable for use in an indoor pedestrian area. 36 CFR § 261.2

Over-snow vehicles: a motor vehicle that is designed for use over snow and that runs on a track or tracks and/or a ski or skis, while in use over snow. 36 CFR § 212.1

Operating on snow: means operating on snow six inches in depth or more and without causing resource damage.

EXEMPTIONS:

Pursuant to 36 CFR § 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this Order:

1. Persons with a Forest Service permit, specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.

2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force, when involved in the performance of an official duty.

3. Persons driving ATVs 50 inches or less in width in the Arrowhead Bowl area for the purpose of transporting people up the sledding hill when there is a minimum of six inches of snow. (See Exhibit B)

This Order shall remain in effect until October 18, 2015, or until rescinded, whichever event occurs first.

DONE AT SHERIDAN, WYOMING THIS 17 DAY OF OCTOBER, 2014

Bernard N. Bornong

BERNARD BORNONG

Acting Forest Supervisor

Violation of these prohibitions are punishable as a Class B misdemeanor by a fine of not more than $5,000 for an individual or $10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both. 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 18 U.S.C. §§ 3559 and 3571

EXHIBIT A. BIGHORN NATIONAL FOREST VISITOR MAP