

# “Results from the Survey of Public Values and Preferences Regarding the Shoshone National Forest, Wyoming”

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# Shoshone National Forest Values and Preferences - Survey Background

Five Sections:

- Familiarity with the Forest
- Preferences about uses
- Beliefs about salient issues
- Values, intensity of values and location of value places on Forest
- Demographic information

Funded by State of Wyoming, Governor's Office

# Methods of Survey

- Input on topics and survey design was provided by USFS staff, WY State Governor's Office, stakeholders and the public.
- Survey mailings (4) Winter and Spring 2007
- 1300 random households in Park, Teton, Fremont and Hot Springs Counties.
- Stratified by county, 325 households each

## Response:

- n = 431 (33%)
- 2300 value points on 298 Shoshone maps (69%)
- 260 general comments (60%), 302 value comments (70%).

# Shoshone National Forest Survey

Response Rates	Sample		N = 133,160	
	n	%		
Sample	431	33	N	%
Fremont	134	31	82,190	61.7%
Hot Springs	97	22.5	4,588	3.4%
Park	124	28.7	27,094	20.3%
Teton	67	15.5	19,288	14.5%

# Additional Survey Information

- Non Response Bias Survey – Underway. So far, no significant differences pointing to bias in the survey as a cause for non-response.
- Limitation: Sample has a higher median age than general population - time vs. interest?
- Sample within Median Income range – see Economic Analysis.
- Sample's Median Education is mixed technical, associates and bachelor level.

# Forest Health

<b>Timber Harvesting for (% favor):</b>	<b>Whole Sample</b>	<b>Fremont</b>	<b>Hot Springs</b>	<b>Park</b>	<b>Teton</b>
<b>Forest Products</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Fire Prevention</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>Salvage Dead or Dying Trees</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Create or Improve Wildlife Habitat</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>Don't Support for any reason</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>

# Vegetation Treatments to reduce the risk of wildfires close to communities

Vegetation Treatments types (% favor):	Whole Sample	Fremont	Hot Springs	Park	Teton
Clear cutting	38	39	32	40	22
Patch cutting (< 5 acres)	66	68	60	66	53
Forest thinning	83	83	83	89	77
Prescribed fire	53	47	50	68	73
Reduce construction near Forest	54	53	60	53	69

# Preferences re. Shoshone NF Uses

Modes of Travel (% favor):	Whole Sample	Fremont	Hot Springs	Park	Teton
Non-Motorized Rec.	88	87	84	89	92
ATV Recreation	45	50	38	42	15
Four wheel drive	44	46	44	48	20
Over snow motor rec.	56	58	37	59	46
Horse packing	83	82	84	87	86

# Preferences re. Shoshone NF Uses

Commercial Uses (% favor):	Whole Sample	Fremont	Hot Springs	Park	Teton
Commercial Mining	18	18	21	23	6
Oil/gas Drilling	27	27	27	33	13
Sport Fishing	95	94	96	79	92
Sport Hunting	87	89	86	88	69

# Preferences re. Shoshone NF Uses

(% favor):	Whole Sample	Fremont	Hot Springs	Park	Teton
Wilderness (existing)	68	62	71	82	82
Fish and Wildlife Habitat	95	96	95	95	96
% of Roadless designated Wilderness	40	34	46	47	66
More commercial outfitter and guide use	8	8	7	10	5
Less Commercial outfitter and guide use	12	11	16	16	8
Same Commercial outfitter and guide use	73	75	61	68	74

# Values

<b>% respondents who allocated \$ to:</b>	<b>Whole Sample</b>	<b>Fremont</b>	<b>Hot Springs</b>	<b>Park</b>	<b>Teton</b>
<b>Aesthetic</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Biological Diversity</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>Cultural</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Economic</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Future</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>Historic</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>30</b>

# Values

<b>% respondents who allocated \$ to:</b>	<b>Whole Sample</b>	<b>Fremont</b>	<b>Hot Springs</b>	<b>Park</b>	<b>Teton</b>
<b>Intrinsic</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Learning</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Life Sustaining</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>Recreational</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>Spiritual</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Subsistence</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Therapeutic</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>34</b>

# Some Comments

- “Wyoming in many areas is becoming retirement oriented and the ability to hike 6-20 miles is no longer an option. Nor is it an option with small children or those who can’t afford to hire outfitters. The forest should be for the public, even if some are slobs, not just the elite, rich and educated (and many of them are slobs too when it comes to litter etc.)”
- “4-wheelers are rude! Need to be banned from hunting”.
- Re. Wilderness designation preference: “I hope your survey isn't meant to build an argument to take away our forest access altogether.”

# Some Comments

- “I believe that all areas of this forest have importance and that all of the values listed can be used to their fullest if people would respect the wants and needs of other people and nature. We also need to stop our greed and abuse of the land that give so much”.
- “I think things are pretty darn good just keep up the good work. I never had complaints. You know your job so have at it”.
- “Its been my backyard all of my life - I have enjoyed seeing it again and again every year. I take nothing - I harm nothing - I fought fires there. Regulations - controls - loss of roads - I know the agenda is to take it all away from the families who grew up around it and it makes me sad and angry”.

# Some Comments

- “I was born and raised with the SNF as my backyard. I’ve worked with ranchers that have or had grazing rights. I’ve seen the bad and good as wildfires and dealt with many aspects of the forest. I hope its still here for future generations to enjoy as I have. Any time I enter the SNF in any area, whether it’s the rocks in a canyon or a river flowing. I have been a hunter, fisherman, guide, hiker, horsebacker, and most of the things listed in this survey. As for putting a value on the national forest, it is priceless”.
- Question about ethnicity: “My biggest complaint is having to haul items (heavy stoves) out. ☹️ Just cache them out of sight! 😊”

Thank You, Shoshone  
National Forest and  
Stakeholders, for the  
Opportunity to Work  
with You! I hope this  
research contributes to  
your collaborative efforts.

Jessica Clement

