



**File Code:** 1920

**Date:** May 6, 2015

Dear Reader:

I am pleased to announce the availability of the revised Shoshone National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan. Regional Forester Dan Jirón signed the record of decision for the revised plan on May 6, 2015. We have worked hard to develop these final documents and have incorporated valuable input from you during the comment period and public meetings. Thank you for your interest and involvement in this effort.

The revised land management plan replaces the 1986 Shoshone Land and Resource Management Plan and provides a framework for management of the Shoshone National Forest that sets broad direction for retaining and restoring ecological resilience for the next 10 to 15 years. Thorough scientific analysis, extensive public involvement, and help from cooperating agencies went into development of this plan. Guidance in the revised plan provides for:

- Restoration of watersheds and native plant communities while emphasizing the wide range of recreational opportunities and nationally renowned landscapes, and
- responsible resource use and commodity production that are valued by the surrounding communities.

**Here are some highlights of the decision:**

- Identifies acres of lands suitable for timber production (126,000 acres, 5 percent of the Forest).
- Increases vegetation treatments by approximately 35 percent.
- Contains goals and objectives for treatments to reduce infestations of invasive plant species.
- Removes recreational pack goat use from the majority of the Forest to protect core native herds of bighorn sheep from possible disease transmission.
- Maintains permitted livestock grazing at the current level of 60,000 animal unit months.
- Reduces the acreage suitable for oil and gas surface development to 130,000 acres to protect big game winter range, maintain consistency with adjacent BLM and Wind River Reservation land management designations, and to address public comment.
- Removes mountain bike use from the Dunoir Special Management Unit.
- Protects big game crucial winter range through standards and guidelines.

The revised plan and associated documents are available on the Shoshone's website at

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/shoshone/landmanagement/planning/?cid=stelprdb5379153>.

These documents are also available for viewing at local public libraries and at Shoshone National Forest Offices in Cody, Dubois, and Lander, Wyoming. Compact discs or hard copies of these documents may be requested by telephone (307.527.6241).



Again, I sincerely thank you for your continued input and involvement in revising our land management plan. I look forward to working you as we implement this revised plan in the coming years.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joseph A. Alexander", is written over the printed name.

JOSEPH ALEXANDER

Forest Supervisor