

PROJECT TITLE
Larry Evans Recreation Residence Permit Amendment

Wind River Ranger District
Shoshone National Forest
Fremont County, Wyoming

Decision

This memo documents a decision to implement the proposed action described below. The proposed action is excluded from any additional requirements of the National Environmental Policy act including preparation of an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement. The basis for this exclusion is the lack of any significant issues identified during the scoping process, and the determination that there are no extraordinary circumstances involved.

The action is excluded under Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, Chapter 30, Section 31.2, Category #3; "Approval, modification, or continuation of minor special uses of National Forest System Lands that require less than five contiguous acres of land". A project file has been compiled and is located at the Wind River Ranger District.

I have decided to issue an amendment to Larry Evan's recreation residence permit to authorize improvements to his privately owned structures, as detailed in the plans dated February 18, 2003. I find that no extraordinary circumstances exist to significantly affect the environment with implementation of this action. The area affected by this action is less than an acre in size. There exists no significant resources that will be affected by the action.

A cultural resource survey conducted on September 19, 2002. Following the submission of this report to SHPO, they requested additional information regarding the other cabins in the Pinnacles Recreation Residence Tract. The additional information was supplied to SHPO on November 8, 2002.

On November 21, 2002, SHPO replied, finding the Evans cabin may be a contributing resource to a potentially eligible historic district. SHPO compliance officer Judy Wolf found that the proposed addition, as planned would have an adverse effect on site 48FR4803 (Evans cabin.). In order to ensure that no adverse effect to a potentially Historic District would result from this action, SHPO found that an evaluation of the entire Pinnacles Recreation Residence Tract would need to be completed. Because budget constraints prohibited the Forest from completing this work, an alternative of the development of a Memorandum of Agreement was pursued. The Memorandum of Agreement addressed concerns of potential adverse effects to historic properties by ageeing to a process for completion of steps necessary to maintain the historic integrity of the site.

Adjacent permit holder Larry Krause contacted the Wind River District with concerns about the proposed addition. Mr. Krause holds a permit for a recreation residence on Lot K of the Pinnacles Tract, adjacent to Mr. Evan's cabin located on Lot J of this tract. His concerns were primarily the proximity of the Evans cabin to his cabin. Copies of the plans for the Evans addition were supplied to Mr. Krause, so he could understand the orientation of the addition relative to the lot on which his cabin is located. No further comments were received from Mr. Krause.

Public Scoping

No formal public scoping was conducted on this project. Scoping consisted of consultation with District Resource Specialists, and contact with adjacent recreation residence permit holders.

Findings Required By Other Laws

This proposed project is consistent with laws, regulations, and policy, as well as standards and guidelines in the Shoshone National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan.

Implementation

This decision can be implemented immediately and is not subject to appeal pursuant to 36 CFR 215.8 (a)(4). The right-of-way grant becomes effective as per the date shown on this Decision Memo.

Implementation of this project shall be subject to the stipulations contained in the “Memorandum of Agreement Between the Shoshone National Forest and the Wyoming State historic Preservation Officer Regarding improvements to Cabin J in the Pinnacle Heights Summer Home Group, Shoshone National Forest.”

Contact person

Further information about the decision can be obtained by contacting Lands Specialist Jennifer Watson Supervisor’s Office, Shoshone National Forest, Cody (307-578-1251), or Mark Hinschberger, Acting District Ranger, Wind River District, Dubois, Wyoming (307-455-2466.)

Responsible Official

/s/ Mark Hinschberger

June 25, 2003

Mark Hinschberger
District Ranger

Date