

Scoping Statement

Shoshone Lake ATV Trail Reconstruction USDA Forest Service / Shoshone National Forest South Zone / Washakie Ranger District Fremont County, Wyoming

Introduction

The Washakie Ranger District, Shoshone National Forest is proposing to re-route and reconstruct a portion of the Shoshone Lake All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Trail to address potential resource and public health and safety concerns. The project area is located at T32N, R102W, SEC 3,9,10, approximately 14 miles WSW from Lander, Fremont County, Wyoming.

Proposed Action

The proposal includes rerouting approximately 2 miles of the existing trail and constructing new wooden pungeons (log-crosswalks), approximately 100 feet of buck and rail fence and several rock causeways within Sites #1 through #6 as noted on the enclosed "Map 1". In coordination with the State of Wyoming Trails Program and local ATV clubs, we plan to implement the work during the summer of 2004. Materials for the pungeons would be flown to the work sites by helicopter. All actions would be taken in an effort not to adversely affect other resources within or near the treatment areas.

Purpose and Need

Purpose for the Action. The primary purpose of this project is to provide a safe ATV trail from Sinks Canyon to Shoshone Lake with minimum resource disturbances and to move the trail further from the Popo Agie Wilderness to help eliminate future trespass.

Need for the Action. The proposed project is needed to direct ATV traffic out of the wet meadows in Shoshone Basin and away from the wet lakeshore along Shoshone Lake. The present conditions of Shoshone Basin and the lakeshore and adjacent steep hills show significant damage to the soil and water resources by ATV users developing new routes around impassible wet and rocky areas along the trail. Additionally, moving a portion of the trail into the timber, east of the existing trail, would reduce the potential for trespass into the Popo Agie Wilderness.

Scoping and Public Involvement

This notice is the public's opportunity to identify and submit issues and concerns they feel the Forest Service should address related to this project. If you feel you have information pertinent and specific to the proposed action, we welcome your participation.

Contact

The public¹ should submit any issues and/or comments related to this project in writing to: Mark King, NEPA Coordinator, South Zone/Washakie Ranger District, 333 E. Main Street, Lander, WY 82520, by email at comments-rocky-mountain-shoshone-washakie@fs.fed.us or faxed to (307) 578-1204 ATTN: Mark King. Please refer to “Shoshone Lake Trail” in the subject line of your response. **Your comments would be most helpful if received before March 3, 2004.**

Questions related to the proposed action should be directed to Skip Shoutis, South Zone Recreation Planner, Washakie Ranger District, telephone (307)332-5460, or email at ashoutis@fs.fed.us.

/s/ Burns Davison

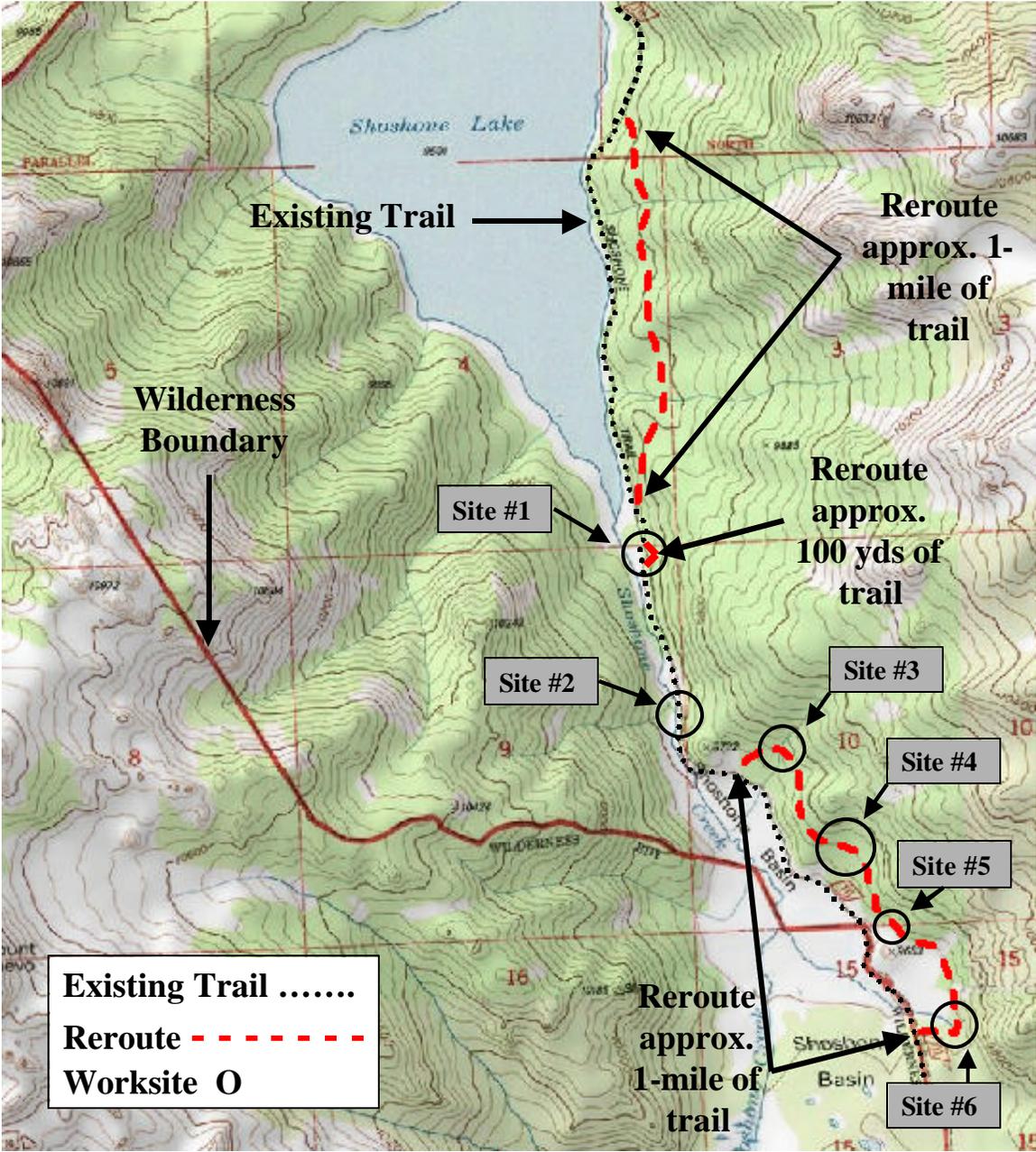
January 27, 2004

Burns Davison
District Ranger
Washakie Ranger District

Date

¹ NOTE: If you no longer want to be included on the NEPA mailing list to receive scoping notices, please notify the office so that we can maintain a current mailing list. Scoping Notices, Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA) and other related NEPA documents and decisions are available on the Internet at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/shoshone/planning.htm>.

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Map 1