

News Release

USDA Forest Service
Bridger-Teton National Forest
P.O. Box 1888
Jackson, WY 83001



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CONTACTS: Mary Cernicek (307) 739-5564
David Wilkinson (307) 739-5544

PERSPECTIVES ON MOTORIZED RECREATION AND WILDLIFE *Trends, Opportunities, and Effects*

Jackson, Wyoming: The Bridger-Teton National Forest is hosting a Public Panel Discussion of Current Science and Motorized Recreation on Wednesday, February 21st 2007 from 6:30 to 9:30 pm in the Dining Lodge Room of the Teton Science School's Jackson Campus.

This event will feature presentations by seven notable speakers: **Michael Wisdom**—Research Wildlife Biologist (*Perspective:* current research on the effects of motorized use on wildlife from the Starkey Experimental Forest in Oregon). **Brian Hawthorne**—Blue Ribbon Coalition Public Lands Director (*Perspective:* the national view on OHV use, trends, and thoughts on balancing motorized use with wildlife). **Dr. Chuck Schwartz**—(USGS) Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team Leader (*Perspective:* impacts of roads, trails, homes, developments on grizzly bear survival in the GYE). **Brad Hill**—Program Manager for Wyoming State Trails (*Perspective:* State view regarding goals and attributes of a well-designed designated motorized system). **Steve Kilpatrick**—Habitat Biologist for Wyoming Game & Fish Department (*Perspective:* relationship, effects, and opportunities between OHV use and hunting). **Eric Grove**—Jackson Hole OHV Rental Business owner and recreationist (*Perspective:* OHV trends regarding use/sales locally and what he is hearing from customers). **Franz Camenzind**—Executive Director of the Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance (*Perspective:* relationship and trends between local OHV use and non-motorized/quiet recreation).

The public is encouraged to attend this free event to learn about the science and perspectives behind off-highway vehicle use on public lands. The event is part of the effort to develop a designated road and motorized trail system for the North Zone of the Bridger-Teton National Forest. Elizabeth Brann, Buffalo District Ranger and lead ranger for this project, said “It is exciting to have the opportunity to hear from national, regional and local experts on this important topic”. She hopes that, by providing information from a variety of perspectives, people will come away from new information they can use as they participate locally in the development of the designated road and motorized trail system. The evening will include time for questions from the audience and an opportunity to *Meet and Greet the Panelists*, following the panel forum. Refreshments will be provided.

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