

News Release

USDA Forest Service
Bridger-Teton National Forest
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE:

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Travel Planning Public Workshops Scheduled for May

Jackson, Wyoming

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How will future OHV use be managed on the Bridger-Teton National Forest (BTNF)? A series of collaborative public workshops are scheduled for the month of May to help develop a designated system of roads and motorized trails for the north end of the BTNF. These workshops are in response to the U. S. Forest Service's publishing of the final rule regarding management of off-highway vehicles (OHVs) on National Forests and Grasslands, on November 9th 2005. This rule requires all Forests to designate a system of roads, trails, and areas that are open to motorized use. The designation process is planned to be completed by the summer of 2008 in collaboration with the public.

Over the last 10 years, National Forests have experienced a dramatic increase in the level of OHV use. This increased OHV use has had a number of corresponding effects including an increased demand for places to ride and concerns about the effects of OHV use on wildlife, trails, soil erosion, water quality, and other forms of recreation. The goal of the Travel Planning process is to reduce resource impacts, provide a viable road and trail system, and improve the ability to enforce travel restrictions.

The Travel Planning Public Workshops will be held at a variety of locations in western Wyoming and will focus on specific areas of the north end of the BTNF. All interested parties are encouraged to attend. The dates, locations, and times are:

Tuesday May 16—Moran (school) 6 pm

Focus Areas—Blackrock/Togwottee Pass

Wednesday May 17—Jackson (First Interstate Bank building) 6 pm

Focus Areas—Gros Ventre Corridor/Shadow Mountain

Thursday May 18—Wilson (Elementary school) 6 pm

Focus Areas—Phillips Ridge/Fall Creek Corridor/Granite Creek

Tuesday May 23—Dubois (Headwaters building) 6 pm

Focus Areas—Togwottee Pass/Gros Ventre Corridor

Wednesday May 24—Pinedale (Public Library) 6 pm

Focus Areas—Hoback Basin

Thursday May 25—Rock Springs (White Mountain Library) 6 pm

Focus Areas—Hoback Basin

For additional information contact David Wilkinson at the Jackson Ranger District at 739-5544 or e-mail: dwilkinson@fs.fed.us