



Matthew H. Mead, *Governor*
Doug Miyamoto, *Director*
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The Wyoming Department of Agriculture is dedicated to the promotion and enhancement of Wyoming's agriculture, natural resources and quality of life.

March 27, 2017

Caleb Hiner
Field Manager
Bureau of Land Management
Pinedale Field Office
Attn: Boulder TMP
PO Box 768
Pinedale, WY 82941

Dear Mr. Hiner,

Following are the Wyoming Department of Agriculture's (WDA) comments pertaining Scoping letter for the Boulder Travel Management Plan (TMP) in the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Pinedale Field Office.

Our comments are specific to our mission within state government: dedication to the promotion and enhancement of Wyoming's agriculture, natural resources, and quality of life. As this project impacts our agriculture industry, our natural resources, and the welfare of our citizens, we believe it is important you continue to inform us of proposed actions and decisions and continue to provide us the opportunity to express pertinent issues and concerns.

WDA appreciates the opportunity to provide Scoping comments for the TMP. We do not have comments on specific roads to keep open, closed or limited to specific uses, but rather encourage BLM resource specialists diligently meet with and gather information from users, including but not limited to livestock grazing permittees, hunters, off-highway vehicle users and recreationists.

The WDA asks BLM range staff to meet individually with grazing permittees and ask what roads are necessary for them to manage their livestock and grazing operations. Specifically, range staff should ask permittees which roads they use for fence maintenance, stock tanks and water development sites, mineral placement, loading and unloading sites for livestock, animal husbandry, etc. All of the above uses should be covered under "Administrative Use." We ask BLM to ensure livestock grazing permittees have access to their allotments and can use roads for the administrative uses listed above.

WDA is aware of instances in other areas where fences are cut, gates are continuously left open, stock tanks are shot, and in some cases, loss of livestock, causing thousands of dollars of damage. We believe BLM should

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Boulder TMP

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consider closing roads to the public in areas identified by grazing permittees where they experience property damage.

WDA strongly supports BLM collaborating with interested agencies, organizations, and individuals to eliminate duplicative roads and to develop and implement a reclamation plan on all closed roads. Reclaiming these roads will reduce soil erosion, increase forage for livestock and wildlife, as well as reduce continuance of unauthorized use by motorists.

We look forward to working closely with you as a Cooperating Agency. If you have questions, please contact Justin Williams, Senior Policy Analyst at 307-777-7067.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Doug Miyamoto".

Doug Miyamoto
Director

DM/jw

CC: Governor's Policy Office
Wyoming Board of Agriculture
Wyoming Stock Growers Association
Wyoming Wool Growers Association
Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation
Wyoming State Grazing Board
Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts
Wyoming Game and Fish Department