



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Sawtooth National Forest
Supervisor's Office

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File Code: 1950-1/2350/7710

Date: February 22, 2008

Dear Interested Public:

I am writing to update you on the Route Designation (Travel Management) Project on the Sawtooth National Forest. The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the "*Travel Plan Map Revision - Elimination of Motorized Cross-Country Travel and Motorized Route Designation*" has been completed. The EA analyzed alternatives for route designation on the Minidoka Ranger District and portions of the Ketchum and Fairfield Ranger Districts.

There are three Deciding Officials for this project — the District Rangers for the Minidoka, Fairfield, and Ketchum RDs. Each District Ranger has made a decision that applies to the land for which he is responsible. The Minidoka and Fairfield District Rangers have decided to implement Alternative 2 with some minor modifications, while the Ketchum District Ranger has decided to implement Alternative 2 as presented in the EA. The decisions revise the snow-free SNF 2002 Travel Plan Map by restricting motor vehicle use to designated roads and trails. A new Motorized Vehicle Use Map will be printed reflecting the decisions.

In the alternatives described in the EA, there were discussions about routes the Rangers are considering for future planning. The attached maps show these routes. It is important to note that none of the decisions documented in the Decision Notices apply to these routes as they are not yet ripe for decision. In addition to the future planning routes shown on the attached maps, other higher priority routes may also be considered in the future.

You requested that you receive a hard copy, cd or both versions of the EA. Enclosed is the version you requested. Additionally, the three Decision Notices, the 340-page EA, maps, and the 45-page Executive Summary of the EA are all available electronically on our Sawtooth Forest website at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/sawtooth/projects/>. Paper copies and Compact Discs (CDs) of the EA, Executive Summary of the EA, maps, and the Decisions are available at the Ketchum, Minidoka, and Fairfield Ranger District Offices, and the Sawtooth National Forest Supervisor's Office.

Our District Rangers, the interdisciplinary team and other agency representatives have been very involved with user and interest groups as well as other agencies for the past four years. Much of what was analyzed reflects what we heard from these groups, agencies and the public during the planning efforts. Because this is such an important issue to many people, we put forth a considerable effort in our public involvement process. We believe that this effort has greatly



Travel Management Update

improved our analysis and the Decisions. On behalf of the three District Rangers, I thank each of you for your involvement.

Each decision is subject to appeal pursuant to 36 CFR 215. An appeal may be filed by those who submitted comments for this project during the formal 30-day comment period (October 4 - November 4, 2006). Direction on how to file an appeal can be found in the Decision Notices.

For further information, please contact Kim Pierson at the Forest Supervisor's office in Twin Falls (address on letterhead) or phone her at (208) 737-3200.

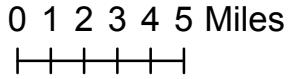
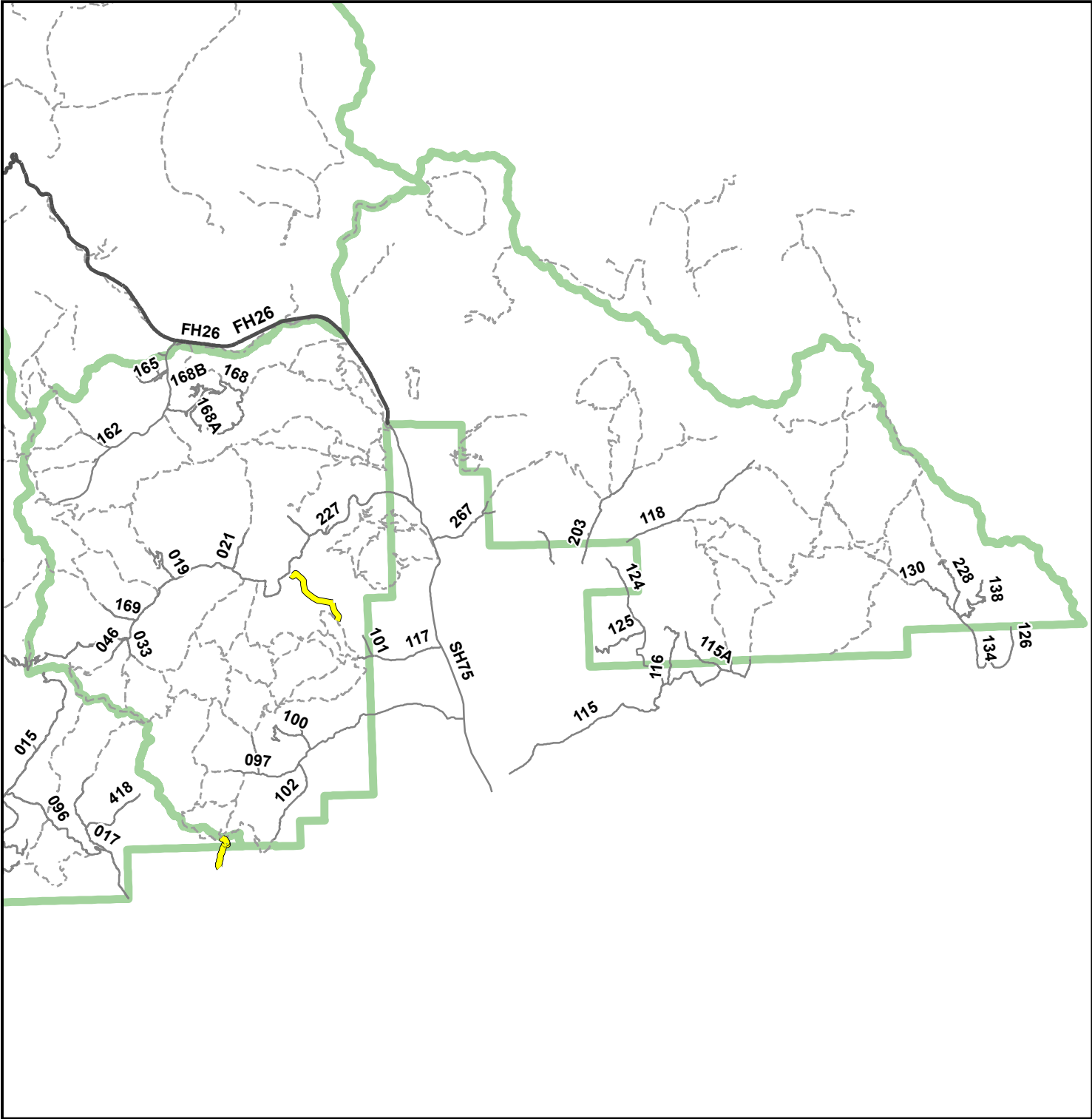
Sincerely,



JANE P. KOLLMEYER
Forest Supervisor

Attachments (4 pages)

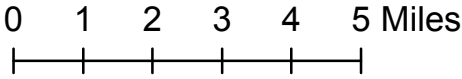
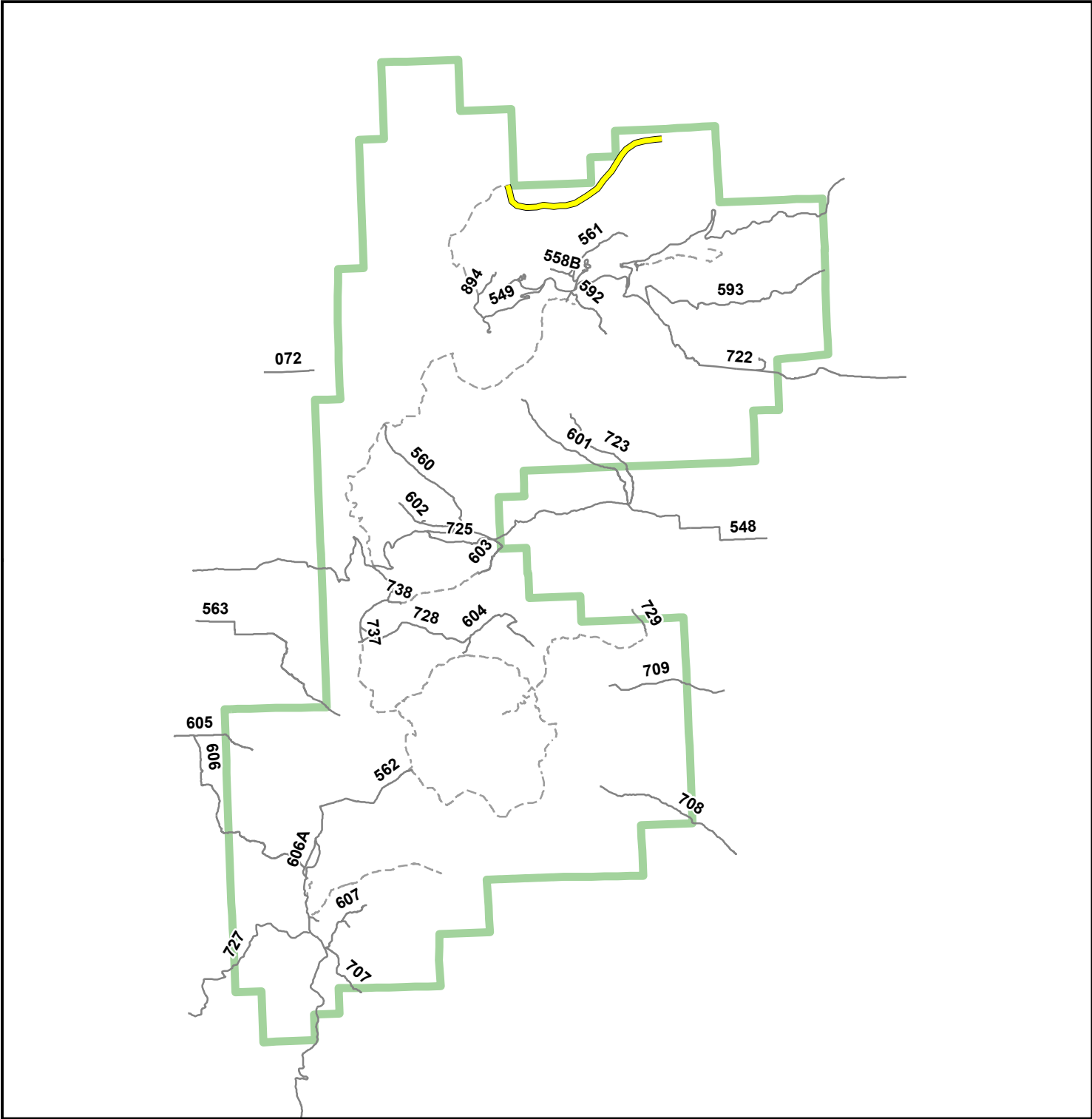
Travel Management Proposed Future Planning Routes Ketchum Ranger District Sawtooth National Forest



Legend

- Route Identified for Future Planning
- Forest Highways
- Existing System Roads - labeled in black
- Existing System Trails
- NFS lands

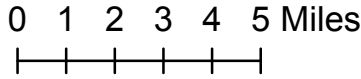
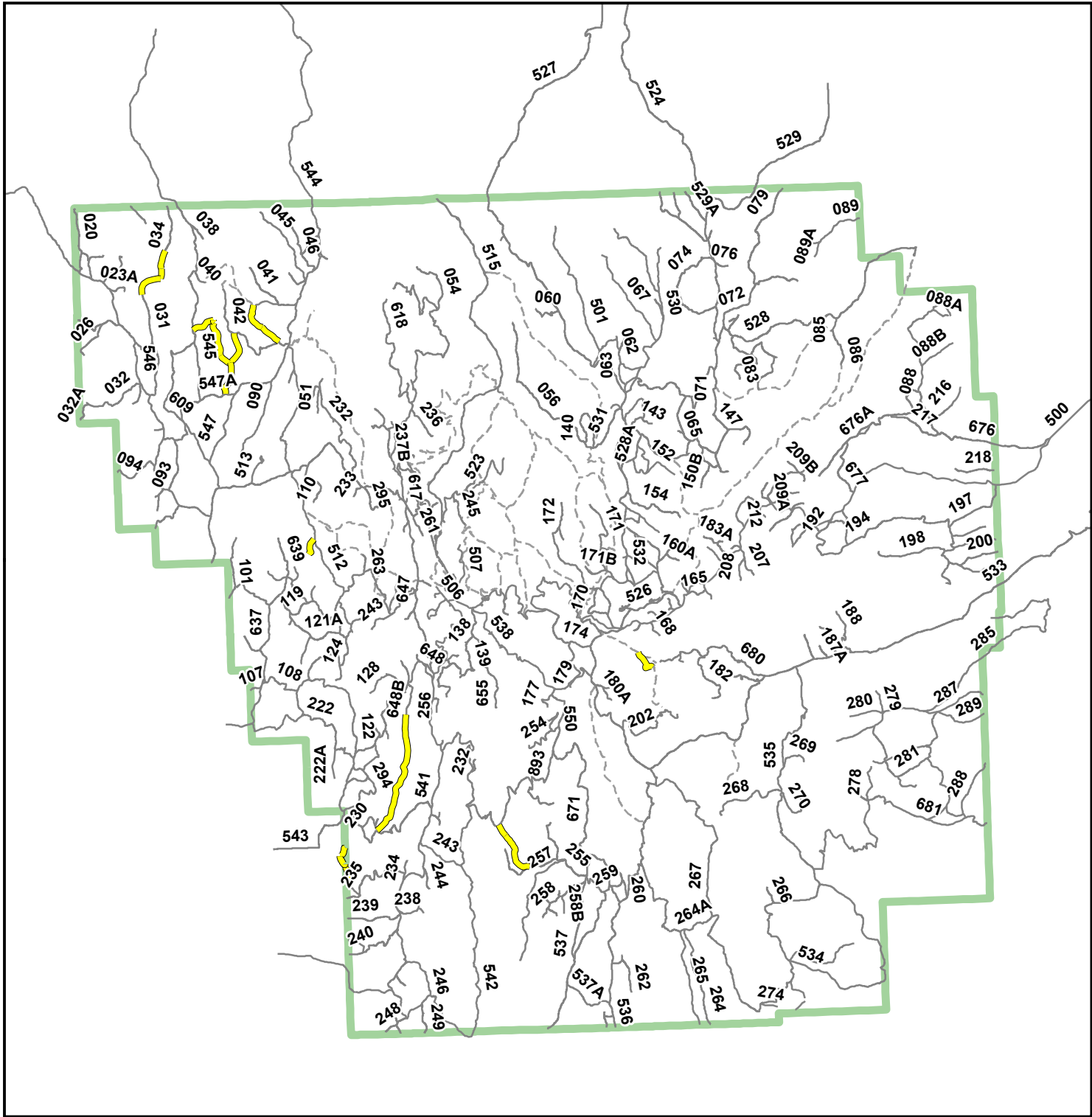
**Travel Management
Proposed Future Planning Routes
Minidoka Ranger District - Albion Division
Sawtooth National Forest**



Legend

- Route Identified for Future Planning
- Forest Highways
- Existing System Roads - labeled in black
- Existing System Trails
- NFS lands

**Travel Management
Proposed Future Planning Routes
Minidoka Ranger District - Cassia Division
Sawtooth National Forest**



Legend

- Route Identified for Future Planning
- Forest Highways
- Existing System Roads - labeled in black
- Existing System Trails
- NFS lands