

- The southern end of the Bighorn National Forest (BNF) needs to have a full-time line officer who can become part of the community. Not drop into the office a couple of days a week.
- Community involvement and understanding is critical to representing the BNF on the south end of the National Forest (NF).
- Recreational use on the south end of the BNF comprises more than half of the entire recreation workload on the BNF, 3/4 of the CPW use, 1/2 of the campground use, 1/2 of the dispersed recreation use, 800 plus rock climbing routes in Tensleep Canyon, and the only three rentals on the BNF for example.
- BNF Supervisor Johnson in our March 6, 2018, meeting mentioned there were 2 staff positions in the SO that he could reduce. Reduce one of them now and use that position for the PRRD Ranger.
- The BNF has gone from 5 districts in the 1980s down to 3 now. If it were to be only 2 districts is there a need for a Supervisor's Office in Sheridan.
- Buffalo is the closest town to the BNF, only 10 minutes away. Employees stationed in Buffalo spend more of their day in the BNF not driving to it.
- History shows once the District Ranger (Line Officer) position is vacant in a town, eventually the remaining staff positions are lost. This leads to the closure of the office entirely. Greybull, WY and Big Timber, MT are examples of this happening.
- If the FS office in Buffalo were to close, the employees stationed in either Sheridan or Greybull would be spending more time driving to the BNF than if they were stationed in Buffalo.
- The BNF recreation budget has been cut by 30% in the last 6 to 7 years. During the same time, the National Recreation funding is only down less than 10%. The Rocky Mountain Regional Office has been taking money from the more distant National Forest System and reallocating it to Front Range Colorado forests.
- For just \$1/acre/year the BNF could fund a functional recreation program.
- There has been a District Ranger in Buffalo since 1898 just one year after the Big Horn Forest Reserve was established.
- The Rocky Mountain Regional Office (R-2) is creating two centers in the Denver office. One is for mountain resorts, and the other is for special uses. The RO plans to add five positions for these centers. This could take \$500,000 more dollars away from the National Forests in the region.