

The Federal Highway Administration, Central Federal Lands Highway Division (FHWA-CFLHD), in cooperation with Sheridan County, the U.S. Forest Services – Bighorn National Forest, and the U.S. Department of the Interior (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), is proposing to improve Red Grade Road in Sheridan County, Wyoming. Improvements to Red Grade Road begin at the Base trailhead and continue southeast and west for approximately 2.5 miles. The proposed improvements end before Red Grade Road enters the Big Horn National Forest, which is managed by the U.S. Forest Service. The project consists of the following activities:

- Widening Red Grade Road to a mostly 22-foot section with a gravel surface;
- Adding pullouts at various locations;
- Adding graded drainage ditches;
- Improving drainage by adding culverts at new locations, replacing culverts that are damaged or near the end of their service life, and up-sizing culverts that are undersized.
- Optional improvements include raising the grade of the Aspens trailhead parking lot by adding dirt and rock material to the surface and adding a ditch around the premier to improve drainage.

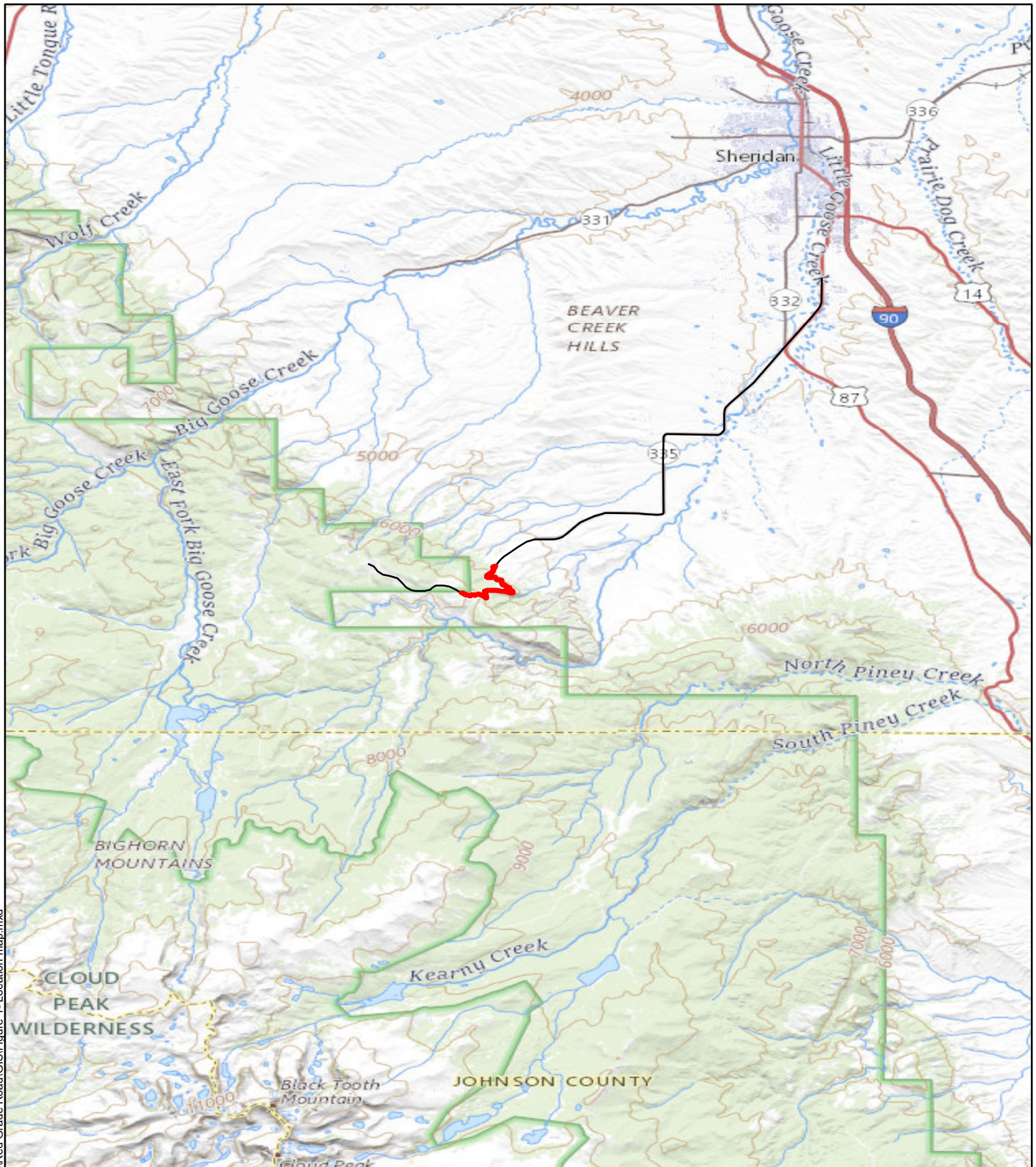
**Red Grade Road will be temporarily closed Monday through Friday, from 8 am to 6 pm for two construction seasons, approximately May 2026 through October 2026 and May 2027 through October 2027.** Local residential access will be allowed during the morning, noon, and afternoon/evening commutes. Due to the closure, access to **the Base Trailhead, the Springs Trailhead, the Aspens Trailhead, and the trail system between these trailheads on Red Grade Road would also be closed during construction (Monday – Friday, 8 am to 6 pm).** Access to the trailheads and trail system would be allowed on weekends, holidays, and outside construction hours. During construction, portions of the parking lots at the Base Trailhead, the Springs Trailhead, and the Aspens Trailhead would be used for construction staging and not accessible to the public. Trails accessible outside the project limits would remain open during construction (e.g., trails on USFS land or trails accessible by a trailhead not listed above).

As part of the environmental review process, FHWA-CFLHD is considering the closure and temporary occupancy of their effects on the Base Trailhead, the Springs Trailhead, the Aspens Trailhead, and the trail system between these trailheads on Red Grade Road, which are considered Section 4(f) resources, under the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Act of 1966 (Pub. L. 89-670, 80 Stat. 931; 23 CFR Part 774).

Based on the assessment of use, FHWA-CFLHD anticipates making a *de minimis* finding in concurrence with the BLM, the State of Wyoming, the Sheridan Community Land Trust, and the USFS. This notice serves as the public notification of the proposed closure and temporary occupancy and FHWA-CFLHD's anticipated finding under Section 4(f) of the DOT Act. If you have any questions or comments regarding this finding, please submit written comments (email is preferred) to the FHWA-CFLHD Project Manager listed below by no later than August 30, 2024.

Julia Dietsch, Project Manager  
FHWA-CFLHD  
12300 West Dakota Avenue, Suite 380  
Lakewood, CO 80228  
Julia.Dietsch@dot.gov

# Project Location Map

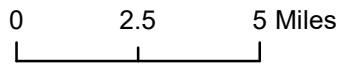


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### Legend

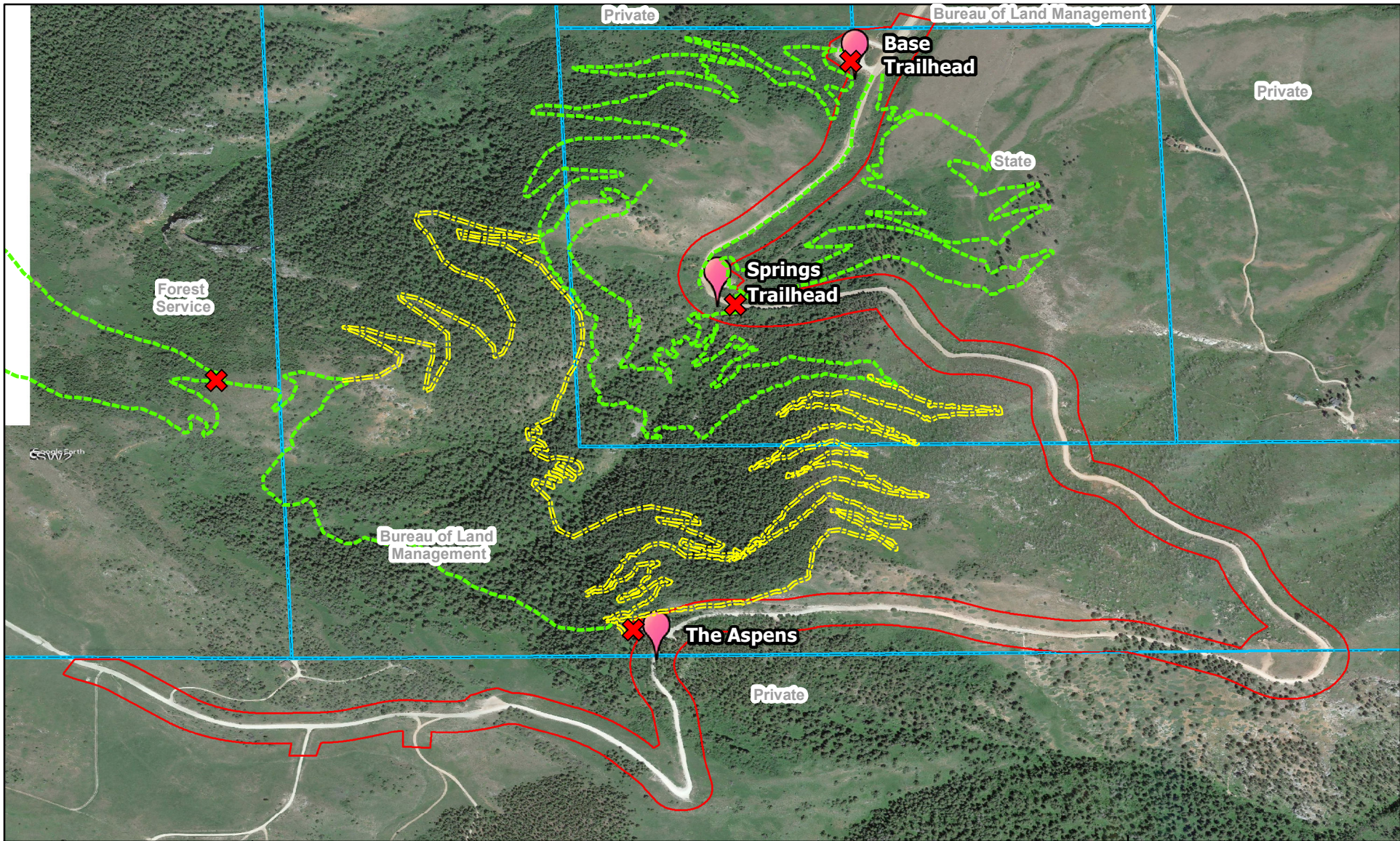
Project Location



1:250,000

**Project Location Map**  
**Red Grade Road**  
**WY FLAP SHE 26(1)**  
**Sheridan County, WY**

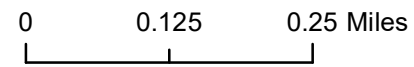
Map prepared by: G Badon  
Date: 1/2023  
Data source: USGS National Map



Federal Highway Administration,  
Central Federal Lands  
Highway Division

**Legend**

- Closed Trail Access Point
- Active Trail Projects
- Current Trails
- Trailhead
- Project Location
- Parcel Boundary



1:10,627

**Section 4(f) Resources**  
**Red Grade Road**  
**WY FLAP SHE 26(1)**  
**Sheridan County, WY**

Map prepared by: G Badon  
Date: 5/2024  
Imagery: Google Earth