

To whom it may concern,

In response to Chugach Forest Plan Revision # 40816, option A is preferred. Option B is also acceptable. I am opposed to options C and D. I support motorized access and would like to see additional areas open. I fully support chain saw use in the entire Chugach National Forest as we cut firewood and this heats our home through the winter. People outside of Alaska should have no say in closing areas to chainsaw or motorized use as they do not live here, may never visit here and do not understand the way of life in Alaska.

Motorize use needs to remain open as we snowmachine every year to access areas that we would never be able to access without these motorized tools. In Alaska, motorized vehicles are tools essential to living and people outside of the state do not realize they are more than recreational vehicles. My family goes Christmas tree hunting, snowshoeing, mountain biking, hiking and camping in these areas. We would like to see additional roads to access inaccessible valleys, ridges, rivers and parts of Prince William Sound. This would allow residents and tourists to really experience and enjoy Alaska without spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on planes and boats. Snowmachines do not hurt the environment and all tracks are completely erased each spring when the snow melts. The trails that sleds make also provide access for people that cross country ski, look for Christmas trees, snowshoes, etc...

I believe that the Forest Service should not keep people out of national parks. Restricting access for specific types of users does exactly this. In addition, my understanding is that some of the proposed National Forest Service plans violate the ANILCA agreement as the increase of Wilderness Only areas is strictly prohibited.

Do not continue to close these lands down and restrict access to Alaskans who live and work here.

Thank you

Lindsay Russell