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First name: Diane

Last name: Harris

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Chugach National Forest (CNF) Revision process. I am writing to voice my opinions and concerns with the proposed CNF Revision Plans. My primary concern is with motorized access, particularly winter access, and is what the following comments will focus on. My name is Diane Harris and I am a lifelong Alaskan and routinely use the Chugach Forest year-round as one of my primary recreational areas for myself and my family.

Growing up in Anchorage our family spent many weekends hiking, camping and picnicking in the CNF during the summer, in the winters we enjoyed skiing, sledding and sightseeing. When I married my husband in 1984 he was an avid snowmachine rider already, he introduced me to the sport and I have enjoyed it and the access to places I'd never had seen or been able to access without the use of a snowmachine. We have spent countless hours with friends exploring mountains, valleys and peaks on our snowmachines, I can't even imagine the amount of money we have spent on snowmachines, gear, parts, fuel and lodging over the years, it has been money well spend for the joy it has given back to us.

I do not support losing any additional acreage to non-motorized use, so I am not in support of Revision Plans C or D. I favor Plan B as it seems to limit the least amount of motorized use of all the plans.

Snowmachines are not invasive to the forest, they are the least invasive as they travel over the snow and do not disturb the undergrowth, I see more permanent damage from summer time users like hikers, horses, mountain bikers and 4-wheelers. Winter snowmachine use should not be restricted for this reason, and we have the ability to move far away from roadside recreational users that may be disturbed by the noise of motorized recreation, this is why I think motorized corridors to areas further inside the CNF are important to establish and maintain.

I would again like to express my gratitude for the opportunity to comment and provide input on this process.

Respectfully,

Diane Harris

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