

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/30/2018 8:00:00 AM

First name: Thaddeus

Last name: Lingenfelter

Organization:

Title:

Comments: My name is Thaddeus Lingenfelter and I have lived in Alaska permanently since 2003 and on the Kenai peninsula since 2006. However, I've spent summers and winters in the state of Alaska since I was three years old. I am in support for the least amount of change to the current CNF access plan and encourage the expansion of motorized access and backcountry access in the CNF.

I grew up in southwest Washington state but spent summers and winters in southeast Alaska with my father. The time spent exploring Alaska in my youth had sealed the deal in my mind that I would live in Alaska permanently one day. I traveled, worked and lived in many places in Alaska searching for career and adventure as well as a place to raise my family. These areas include Ketchikan, Prince of Whales Island, Tok, Tetlin village, Fairbanks, and lastly the Kenai peninsula. My employment brought me to Kenai but soon after arriving and spending my first summer hiking the mountains of the peninsula with many trails in the Chugach I knew this was the place for me.

My first winter on the peninsula I found myself riding a 1990 Arctic cat 550 special and from there my addiction to snowmachining grew and I've bought many snowmachines since. However, in 2009 I bought my first mountain sled and fell in love with winters in the CNF in the areas of Lost lake, Carter/Crescent lake, Johnson Pass, Nellie Juan, Turnagain arm, and resurrection pass. These areas I hope to be able to show my children over the years as they grow old enough to travel with me on these winter time adventures and hopefully an expansion of our current access area for the future of all of us to experience. Currently I spend many trips per year riding with friends in the CNF contributing hundreds of dollars communally per trip per weekend at countless local businesses. Along with motorized access I've also found again my love for snowboarding in the backcountry and there's no better way to access these areas than by snowmachine.

The community of people that make up the motorized group as well as back country access group in the CNF provide a huge economic impact to the local winter businesses and will continue to do so for many years. However, I do fear that many of these businesses would be negatively impacted from a reduction of access in the CNF year round if plan C or D(I DO NOT SUPPORT) was to be implemented. I have not decided on which plan to choose but plan A or B (I support) with as little reduction in access to the CNF.

There are many areas in the CNF that I have not experienced and I look forward to new adventures with friends and sharing my experiences with my four children as they mature. Please consider not only keeping the CNF access that we have but also expanding it. I appreciate the opportunity to speak up for what is important to my community, family, and I. Thank you.

Thaddeus Lingenfelter