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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I was lucky enough to grow up in the mountains in and around the Gallatin National Forest, responsibly recreating in many forms. I am an avid backcountry skier as well as a snowmobiler, hiker and dirt biker. It is horrifying to think that some of my favorite places to recreate could no longer be an option.

I respect that some people would like a true wilderness experience as I do sometimes, but I believe there is already more than a sufficient amount of acreage where that is possible.

The areas I snowmobile are so remote and the snow is so deep that I do not disturb any other user group or wild animal. My snowmobile leaves no trace, it does not come into contact with the ground. Some of the areas I dirt bike are only open 6 weeks per year and I personally spend at least 3 of those clearing downed trees as otherwise they would be impassable. I have also noticed that horses seem to cause much more damage to a trail than my dirt bike ever has, they simply shouldn't be allowed on trails year round.

The proposed wilderness in the Buck Ridge region would be devastating not only to my family, friends and I. But also to the employees and families involved with Canyon Adventures, they supply the small town of Big Sky with good paying jobs all winter long guiding and renting snowmobiles. As well as atvs and side by sides in the summer.

I really would like to see "alternative E" chosen, it would help the problems we face with the growing population of the surrounding area and help the motorized community which has lost many recreational opportunities over the years. Not to mention it would help the local economy and many local families financially through mining, logging/fuel reduction work and additional tourism.