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First name: Bridger

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: This proposal to take more public land away from snowmobilers is completely outrageous. We as snowmobilers are always losing more and more access and rights to public land than anybody else. Along with the continuing Brundage expansion and the ever going cat ski operations we year after year lose more and more land. This has been ruining one of the greatest snowmobile destinations in the United States. Brundage and the surrounding areas is not accessible anymore, granite mountain is only accessible via sled outside of the posted dates, half of lick creek is ski only, and slab butte constantly has skiers and cat ski equipment running up and down the mountain. How about we have snowmobile only area, why isn't that a thing? Why do we constantly keep having riding areas taken away only to give them to skiers. It's not right. Skiers are allowed to ski anywhere they want, while snowmobilers are being limited to minimal riding areas, I don't understand how that's fair.

One of the problems with the granite mountain closure is that skiers only use a small percentage of what the area has to offer. You close down the mountain just to ski a small percentage when there is so many flat lands and rolling hills that snowmobilers would love to enjoy. It is not okay to keep taking away public land because before you know it we as snowmobilers will have nothing left to ride in McCall. It's disgusting and I feel bad for future generations knowing they will never get the chance to experience snowmobiling on granite mountain EVER AGAIN.

It's sad and knowing how these things go I expect granite mountain will be closed and then slab butte next. After that snowmobiling in McCall will be no more and the town will lose the support of the sledding community and all of the revenue that snowmobilers bring. I would love to have granite mountain back for snowmobiling. On any given day there could be a 100 trucks parked in the parking lot with anywhere from 1-6 guys all getting gas, food, and lodging in McCall excited about the terrain and riding they are about to experience. Compared to the maybe 10-30 people that will ski the backcountry. This is slowly slipping away and I think it's a terrible move for the forest service.

Please take this into consideration, I've had some of my best memories made on Granite mountain snowmobiling and it's truly saddening to see it get taken away

ATTACHMENT: Image of snowmobile in deep snow