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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I have been recreating in the Chugach National Forest since 1976. Until 1995 it was primarily summer activities of hiking, fishing, boating and sight seeing. In the last 90's my family and friends began to use the CNF for winter recreating in the way of snowmachine use. Over that time I have ridden in the areas of Turnagain Pass, Johnson Pass, Lost Lake, and the Snow River/Nellie Juan area. We also legally accessed the Wolverine Glacier and the surrounding area before the WSA existed. I am part of a large contingent of off road motorized recreationalists that enjoy the CNF every winter.

We are by and large a law abiding group that cares deeply about our personal version of enjoying the wilderness. We contribute greatly to the local economies by way of purchases of snowmobiles, clothing, fuel, lodging and food. Snowmobile use in the CNF has the greatest economic impact for the surrounding communities of any use outside of the Alyeska Resort complex.

It was a huge disappointment for me when areas I had previously ridden my snowmobile in were closed by the NFS. During multiple rides into the area northeast of Paradise Lakes, I never once encountered anyone other than other snowmobilers.

It is my opinion that the current motorized areas should remain in their current status. I would also like to see the reopening of the proposed Nellie Juan wilderness for winter recreational motorized use.

Sincerely,

Doug Moore