

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/20/2016 3:52:30 AM

First name: Patrick

Last name: Verity

Organization:

Title:

Comments: In the 25 years I've lived in the Girdwood valley, I've been lucky enough to ski, sail, and snowmachine in the CNF. I still can ski anywhere I want. I can sail anywhere I want in prince William sound. If I pull into an anchorage, and it's crowded, or the beach has a large tour group of kayakers, I can go somewhere else. (I'll be back to make sure the beach has been cleaned up properly). Sadly, my favorite areas to snowmachine (and ski off it) have been closed, or dramatically cut back which years (or months) we can ride. Bench, skookum, portage, kern, Girdwood valley etc. skookum is only rideable energy 4 or so years. Closing it April 1 is just not fair. Skookum is a place where I've taken riders with disabilities where they can get a true mountain experience. It's an easy enough ride to take my paraplegic friend into some of the most beautiful country on the planet. I work hard. I'm almost at the point where poaching is worth it. Do something please! Closing areas puts more pressure on the few areas we can actually ride. I'm fine with the 60 million acres of wilderness alaska already has. Thank- you.