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Comments: I'm writing this letter today to tell you about the great outdoors and what it means to me and my family. I come from a family that has always been involved the outdoors, If it was skiing, fishing, hiking, snowmobiling, Snowboarding, golfing, mountain climbing, mountain biking, etc.... no matter what it was it was we did it as a family. This last year I became a father and there is nothing more important to me then reliving the life I had when I was a kid. Every day I wake up and want to my son to follow the same path that I did. Unfortunately the times that we are in I don't feel like I will have the same opportunity to pass my knowledge of the wilderness to my son. The Stanislaus forest service is making it so I cannot take my kids to the same spots that I once grew up in. I will not be able to show him the beautiful mountain top views that I grew up looking at. The sunsets, trees, shrubs, animals, rabbits, birds, the smell of the fresh air at 8,000 feet.

The way we traveled in the winter is snowmobile, and is the only way to overlook certain peaks and access certain streams or canyons views. Without access to our forest's and designating were and what we can travel on will impose a serious threat to what I can teach my son in the future about the beautiful winter wonderland that we have. This to me is extremely sensitive subject.

When I attended the first open house workshop meeting in Sonora, Ca I was very saddened that in this day in age the people didn't have a VOICE. There were 30-50 people all from snowmobiling backgrounds who access the Stanislaus forest. In this meeting none of our questions got answered. We all walked out of this meeting asking ourselves why they would do this. Why would they take our land, why won't our voices be heard, all we heard was that there are 5 different maps and all the power to choose these maps is in the power of 1 person. When I asked if there was a panel of peers from either sides or a council to represent the general public all I heard was no. the forest service has 1 person to choose what we the general public want.

When a person is convicted of a crime he/she is put in court and is innocent until proven guilty. The convicted has an attorney and 12 jury's to decide his fate. In this case here, we have nothing. No All the fate of our snowmobile community is in the fate of 1 person. How is this fair to the snowmobiling community? It is a very scary thing in this day in age to leave so much power to 1 person. I would like the ability to have a say in what happens in my forest. Not just for my sake but for my son's sake and future generations to follow. When I attended this meeting I choose option 2. This map is the most acreage for snowmobiling. The way it has been for the last 200 years. Why change something that does not need to be changed.

When I was 16 years old a friend of mine ask me to go snowmobiling. Let me tell you, at this time in my life was in very dark spot. I recently had my best friend commit suicide. I was fighting with my parents, being rebellious, and honestly not really caring much about life like most teens do when there that age. So it was a Friday afternoon and I drove up to Mi Wuk village to meet with my friend Joe Ortega. From mi wuk we drove up to 108 snow park past strawberry. Joe had 4 Polaris RMK 800 snowmobiles. HE gave me a quick re down on how the machine working and we were off. Almost forgot to tell you it was 10:00 PM at night. We rode snowmobiles for almost 3-4 hours until be stopped at a cabin who at the time was owned by the Cowden's at Hay press overlook. When I got there all I could see was stars and the moon. It was the most beautiful pace I have ever seen. Right then and there I knew that this is where I wanted to be. We stayed there for the next several days snowmobiling all over the mountains. When you ask us where have you been its hard to pinpoint it on a map? Due to the fact that you're exploring the wilderness just like our ancestors did before us. It's hard to know an exact location. This was by far one of my favorite things I have done in my life still to this day. I remember the freezing cold night and crystal clear skies. I remember the stories around the fire from the old timers telling us "we snowmobile all over this mountains. Threes no place like this place". I remember not being mad or upset, I just remember being in peace. This is what I would like to see for our future kids. Being able to enjoy the snowmobiling trips out in the winter no matter what trail I choose. To blaze a trail threw trees and to find yourself a place that makes you happy which is snowmobiling.

Now you want to take that away from us, to restrict us like cattle. These forests are the people's forest. The forest

gives us a chance to forget about what we do for living, or what bills we have to pay, or general things we have to catch up on. The forest lets us sit in nature and enjoy the beauty of the great outdoors. This is why option 2 makes the perfect sense. No restriction to where we can travel. not just for my sake but for the sake of future generations to come.