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First name: Perry

Last name: Beckman

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To be perfectly honest, I don't understand why our access to public lands is constantly under attack. Snowmobilers as a group are responsible motorized users who respect the land that we have the privilege of exploring as well as the other user groups that we share these areas with. We watch our riding areas get smaller and smaller, while at the same time, our numbers are increasing and traffic in the available riding areas is growing. In order to limit environmental impact (which is next to nothing considering there is several FEET of snow on the ground), we should be expanding available areas to help disperse the traffic, rather than restricting motorized use to smaller and smaller areas.

What's ironic is that non-motorized users aren't affected by any of these closures. They are free to roam on WSA's, Wilderness areas, even in National parks. Where I live there is much more non-motorized access than there is motorized, yet the non-motorized crowd still insists that they need more exclusive areas where motors aren't allowed. We just want to get out and explore the great outdoors, same as they do, yet they want to exclude us just because of our preferred method of recreation. Snowmobiles have gotten much, much quieter in recent years, and are also subject to emissions requirements that grow increasingly strict every couple of years. Once they leave the parking lot, you no longer see clouds from burning oil like was the case 20 years ago.

We just want to continue to do what we love and not have to worry about boundaries or complete closures. If you go to the boundary of a forest area and a wilderness area in the summer, you could never tell which side of the line allowed snowmobiles and which did not. It's nothing more than an arbitrary line on a map. The funny thing is, I've never seen skiers back that far that didn't need to use snowmobiles to get there. The trail at one of our main riding areas is only eight miles long, and occasionally we see skiers on the trail without sleds, but in 19 years of going there, I have never seen one more than a few miles up the trail without a snowmobile.