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First name: Adrian

Last name: Riede

Organization:

Title:

Comments: We have a family cabin in Cow Creek and we use it in the summer, but mainly in the winter. We come up almost every weekend that there is snow to go snowmobiling. I am 14 years old and I have been riding snowmobiles since I was only five years old and have loved it ever since. I ride both the highway 108, highway 88, and highway 4 corridors. Nothing else even comes close to the feeling of riding a snowmobile. I have only met good people for the time that I have been riding and have made some very good friends. This sport gives me something to do in the winter other than stay inside and play video games like other teenagers. If you were to take riding away from us, our county's economy would suffer severely because of all of the snowmobilers that travel to our area to ride. They buy food, gas, and hotels that small businesses count on for money in the winter. I have never seen any bad encounters between cross county skiers/ snow shoers and snowmobilers. We always ride past them slow and wave. Most of the time, they use our tracks to get around on the snow easier. If I had to choose a map, I would choose number four, but these are the areas we would like to see remain open:

Highway 108 corridor:

The south side of the herring creek loop; the top of the 108 pass (until snow melts, not when the gates open); the ridge from pinecrest peak to castle rock

Highway 4 corridor:

The pacific valley to highland lakes area; The bear valley ski resort in the spring time after the gates open (keep the ski resort open until snow melts, not when gates open)

I personally think that the near natural area that were made in 1991 were illegal, but also that they were only made for summertime motorized sports, so when you take that out, there is no reason that we should be taken out of the forest. We ride on top of the snow, and last time I checked, it melts away in the spring/ summer. I would like see 85% of the forest be open to snowmobiles and 15% open to cross country skiing/ snow shoeing and then maybe they would see that they actually do have a gigantic area compared to our, and see that they do not need to take any more of our away.