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Comments: Myself, like many Alaskans recreate in the Chugach National Forest year round. We enjoy both motorized and non motorized use. For the past twenty years we have spent countless weekends snowmobiling in Turnagain Pass, Lost Lake, Placer River Valley, Summit Lake and other areas. In the summers we also hike these areas regularly. These areas are important to my family and we hope to see them remain open to all users in the future. These areas have such a special place in our hearts that my wife and I have written in our wills to scatter our ashes at the top of the Lost Lake trail in Seward. Any further restriction of access is unacceptable to us.

The motorized use community are excellent stewards of the land. Although the few knuckleheads who violate the rules get the headlines, the vast majority of us respect and appreciate the land and make every effort to leave the Chugach better than we found it and only operate our motorized vehicles only in approved areas.

Option B seems to provide the best compromise of preserving the Chugach for future generations while preserving the recreational opportunities of Alaskans.

Additionally, there would be an adverse economic impact to limiting motorized use in the Chugach. After the fishing season closes, snowmobiling is one of the primary reasons visitors head to the Chugach. During a decent snow year you will see the Seward hotels full of snowmobile trailers. We purchase lodging, food, oil, and fuel. We dine in the restaurants and recount our days in the pubs. Limiting motorized access would also have a negative impact on snowmobile and related equipment sales. As Alaska struggles to diversify its economy we cannot afford to roadblock this profitable industry.

I would urge anyone reading these comments to look at the origin of the commenters. It is obvious that outside interests are attempting to limit motorized access. This is unacceptable to those of us who actually recreate in the Chugach.

John Hutchins