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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Closing motorized use in the Chugach National Forest would be devastating to our rights as humans and Alaskans. I am a avid rider in the Southeast Region of Alaska with great intent to soon come up to the area of Anchorage and ride snowmobiles and dirt bikes with my life partner.

Riding motorized vehicles and becoming part of the motorsports adventurer I was able to steer away from the party scene and become a healthy member of society again. As I was heading down a path of self destruction buying my first dirt bike changed everything around for me in my life. I soon had a healthy alternative to fighting against alcohol, medical conditions that I thought defined me and so many more things to name.

Later I inquired my own sled from my fiancé' in Juneau learning how to become a better rider in the few select areas we have. I grew up on sleds riding all over Haines with my family and friends but times got hard and I didn't have that option anymore which resulted into a party lifestyle. I know that I can speak for many of my friends and others in the State Of Alaska that riding any kind of motorized machine whether it be for fun, hunting, or subsistence that its a great healthy alternative to what now seems the norm of getting high and drunk.

My fiancé' and I plan to ride all over Alaska with the Chugach National Forest being one of the places on our list. I strive to help others find a healthy outlet and encourage those like myself to get into things like motorsports, hunting and subsistence. It would be a great shame to have yet another place marked off as a place we aren't welcome to blow some steam off in a healthy manner on a snowmobile come these winters.

Our State is already struggling with a rise in addiction. We make rules and regulations for everyone to follow which tend to be against anything healthy for the mind and soul. For those of us who didn't get into things like basketball, baseball, Football, etc. we picked up motorsports as a way of fun after hard work. Not just Alaska but other states put these rules in order offering no kind of alternative for the youth or even adults and then wonder why everyone is out on the streets making bad choices. Closing the Chugach Forest to motorized use would be taking away one more healthy alternative of fun whether your riding for fun, hunting, or subsistence.

Please don't close the Forest to motorize use as it's taking away one more thing from us riders that keeps us sane. We are only trying to do our best in life and be a good model of behavior for others striving to be better in life and make a difference.