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Comments: Hello,

I am writing as a concerned Alaskan resident in regard to the motorized use of the Chugach Mountain Range. One of the freedoms and relics we enjoy of being Alaskan citizens is to utilize the nature we are surrounded by in the way's we see fit. My choice is to use snow machines to access areas in the Chugach, not only for recreational use, but for hunting, fishing, hiking, cabin access, and to teach gratitude to my family and friends about our Alaskan lifestyle and culture. Alternative C and Alternative D are not only incredibly unethical options but they are complete and utter violations of our rights to use the land we have been given as American citizens. The idea of robbing our future generations of the experiences and land we have enjoyed as Alaskans for many years is a heartbreaking thought, and sadly coincides with the rapid loss of land rights occurring in the lower 48. It is sad to know that this fight has finally showed up at Alaska's backdoor, with people trying to strip us of our lifestyle and the culture that snowmachining has embedded in us.

The Alaskans who snowmachine in the Chugach have a great respect for the land that we use. We ride countless areas in the Chugach, including but not limited to: Nellie Juan, Johnsons Pass, Skookum, Whittier, 20 Mile, Center Creek, Grandview, Mills Creek, Snow River, Turnagain Pass, and many many more. I am strongly opposed to losing access to land that we have already previously been limited in along the Kenai peninsula.

There are already measures implemented by CNAIF that prohibit riding sleds in areas with inadequate snow cover. This minimizes the impact of the environment while allowing users to explore and enjoy the terrain we are blessed with. Those trying to say that sleds are "destroying terrain" is entirely untrue. New technology means cleaner engines, fuel efficiency that will take us further into the mountains, and lighter, quieter machines that have little to no collision to the snow fallen terrain.

Designation further acreage as "wilderness" and banning motorized use is plain and simple robbing the Alaskan people of land they have rightful access too. Not only that, but the fat bikers who use sled trails to access riding areas, the emergency crews who use them to rescue people, and the skidders who use our trails to access terrain will all be losing out without sleds as well. If you subtract sledding from this area of the state, businesses also suffer. Dealerships, parts stores, accessory stores, etc., will all lose money on sales as this area is the most used and accessible for riders of this area of the state. Motorized use in the backcountry of the Chugach has been active for many years and become a central part of life for many Alaskans. Taking these rights away is unjust and uncalled for.