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First name: Elizabeth

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Elizabeth Wilson and I am writing you today concerning the CNF revision. It has come to my attention that areas of the Chugach National Forrest will possibly be restricted to motorized use in the future. My story is one of many but I would like share with you why I am passionate about riding and why I do not agree with the possibility of restricting motorized access in these areas.

My story is short and starts in 2016, when I was first introduced to backcountry snow machining, by now a person I consider to be family. My friend invited me down to Valdez to go snow machining with her and other dedicated riders. We rode in some of the most beautiful areas that I had ever seen in my life. This was amazing to me because I have lived in Alaska for 25 years and never seen the mountains the way I did that day. I also felt a sense of pride and gratitude for Alaska, Alaska gives us the most beautiful playground to recreate in. After this trip, I became more and more interested in riding and also learning the skills it takes to ride the backcountry. Since that day, I have rode areas in Cantwell, Healy, Petersville, and Hatchers Pass. This past winter, I moved to Girdwood, AK with the intentions of being closer to areas I want to ride such as Whittier, Placer Lake, and Snug Harbor. Snow machining has become a huge passion of mine, it gives me a sense of purpose and challenges me every time I go into the mountains.

I would like to be able to continue snow machining and exploring areas in the Chugach National Forrest. The CNF revision restricting these areas will limit the riding I plan to do this winter. Please consider the CNF revisions that restrict the use of motorized use in this area, myself and our community appreciate consideration!

Thank you,
Elizabeth Wilson