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First name: Taran Last name: Firor Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hiddy ho there neighbors,

I grew up in Alaska and my dad would take me out on the snowmachines when I was just a little boy. He taught me how to ride and how to over come the next mountain or obstical. Also taught me to be prepared for the worst. We normally spent our riding days in cantwel Alaska. Now that my dad is retired and I am 26 now, he has moved state in search for lower cost of lliving due to health concerns. I still ride just about every weekend wether it be for the epic powder turns on my sled or just take the sled out so I can get closer to the summits faster to lay down some gnarly pow slashes with my snowboard. I do not think that the range should be shut down due to me believing that everyone needs something to look forward to on the weekends in the dead of an Alaskan winter, there already isn't much to do/very difficult for most to do in our state. The fact that we can load up drive a few hours out to the mountains and have an epic day with our close friends or meeting up with another group of riders and discover that they are a bunch of cool cats too because you know they are there for the same reason we are there for. For us snowmachine/snowboarder/skiiers we are like gitty school girls when we wake up to any amount of snow over 6 inches of that good good. To see a zone taken away from us would break a lot of hearts. The Alaskan way of life is to grow in the mountains in the middle of our harsh winters. Also that we need to respect Mother Nature and old man winter because the two of them can slap any person down within seconds should that person go into their dangerous spaces/conditions.

I do not support the shutting down of the chugiak from an Alaskan snowboarder/snowmachiner point of view

Thanks for reading,

-Taran