

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/30/2018 2:20:47 AM

First name: Kole

Last name: Van Treese

Organization:

Title:

Comments: My name is Kole Van Treese and I am writing today to speak out against limiting access to the recreational lands of Alaska. I have yet to snow machine in Alaska, but it was one of the driving forces behind my decision to make Anchorage my permanent home this winter as I progress my flying career. This summer, I flew over and near the Chugach areas that are under consideration, and from the sky the immensity of Alaska's landscape stretched beyond belief. Unlike where I am from in Colorado, Alaska does not have an over use problem, and a simple flight over the forests up here make that very apparent. Human impact on the land scape is very minimal to other places. Alternatives C and D and any other that shrink motorized recreational lands in Alaska do more harm than good because they seek to solve a problem that doesnt exist. Many of the people that recreate in this state find themselves in awe at the beauty that is accessible only by alternate means of transportation here. Taking that away isnt healthy to Alaska or its residents. Alaska and its backcountry access methods, whether by rail, air, boat or snow machine are so unique to this state that to destroy that is to destroy the very things that make Alaska an appealing place to call home. I am looking forward to experiencing this state as only a winter time resident can, and I look forward to continued access to the places my friends talk about machining in the Chugach.

Thank you for your time.