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Title:

Comments: I was born in Anchorage in the early 1950's and grew up in a time when we would have given our winter food supply for a snowmachine. Even though the sleds were nothing like the machines we have today, they got us places we never would have imagined. We were limited by the technology of the day but we were learning and growing and advancing quickly.

I remember when Dimond Blvd was a muddy dirt road. Today it is nothing like that and I think most of us are grateful for the advancements. Can you imagine?

My zen appeared when I went with my brothers to Crescent Lake from the Carter Lake Trailhead on the Seward Highway. My husband Bruce loved this place. After we lost him in an industrial landslide/avalanche, we went often to remember him and to explore, play and soak up healthy life at its finest. As our sleds got better, more reliable, safer, faster, we were able to go further and explore more. Life does not get better than this.

The proposal for changes of access to the Chugach National Forest equates to a giant step backwards. How can we let the government take away what God gave us? Instead of moving forward, these new regulations would take us back to the 50's when we could only dream about going to these amazing, remote areas of our back yard.

I do recognize the need for control because unfortunately, not everyone has the same respect and consideration for stewardship I have and demand from my friends and family. We never go to these places and leave signs we have been there other than tracks that melt in the spring. And we never needed a rule or law to require that either. It's the right thing to do as a human being gifted with the joy of being able to go to these places.

I stand strong in my stance that I do not want access limited so that I would have to go back to the 50's when we only dreamed of a machine that would get us out to these areas while we tried to ski our way there. Only the strongest, with the will and endurance to make it, got this magical experience. Let's not go backwards.

I support option B in order to preserve as much as possible the access we currently have.