

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/31/2018 6:29:33 PM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: The first time I ever rode a snowmachine was at 5 years old. Ever since then, all I can think about 24/7 365 is riding them. I have spent the last 18 years logging thousands of miles in the backcountry not only on my snowmachine, but also on my snowboard with a smile from ear to ear every moment of it. The thought of losing any more acreage to non motorized use is sickening. With the increasingly warmer winters, access to the mountains is becoming more and more difficult. This not only creates a problem for snowmachiners, but for anyone that uses a snowmachine to access remote areas to ski or snowboard. Closing down more areas to motorized use will only further this problem. I have spent a significant amount of time riding areas such as Lost Lake, Johnson Pass, Skookum Glacier, Placer River, Turnagain Pass, and others. I would love to see these areas stay open to motorized use so my future children, their children, and their children's children can get as much enjoyment out of the mountains as I and others have for years. Another issue that needs to be brought to light I'm afraid, is the less opportunity for people to get out and enjoy some throttle therapy in the winter, the more we will see an increase in negative outlets and vices. It is no secret many Alaskans fight seasonal depression, opioid abuse, alcohol addiction, and we have an incredibly high domestic violence rate. It would be a travesty to see a spike in those activities do to many folks not having the positive outlet they have always had to cope with the long dark winters in Alaska. I believe everyone has a right to enjoy all the Chugach National Forest has to offer, not just non motorized users. Thank you, Koltan Lucas