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First name: Vance

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it concerns-

I have been using the Chugach National Forest my whole life for recreating with family and friends. My first experience with snowmachining, snowboarding and skiing was in the pristine Chugach mountains. I grew up in Valdez and was blessed to have some of the best winter conditions man could ask for. The Chugach mountains have been my place of enjoyment for over 20 years and I would hate to see future generations have this beautiful land taken away due to outside interest organizations that don't live in the last frontier. This lands being threatened to change in status of use would result in several small businesses to suffer and possibly never recover.

I now live in the Anchorage area and once snow coverage allows I ride the Chugach National Forest every weekend weather permitting. I love to travel the Seward Highway to the local riding spots, it's a beautiful way to start an epic day of shredding. Along the drive I regularly fill up with fuel at Girdwood Tesoro and pick up the water and snacks for the day as well as stop into multiple locally owned restaurants on way back. I buy all of my gear, sleds, parts and lubricants from Alaska owned businesses. These small businesses are supported by people like me and plans such as C-D would be jeopardizing too many people's livelihood.

I DONT SUPPORT ANY PLAN THAT THREATENS CHANGING THE AREAS I AM ABLE TO USE MY SNOWMACHINE. Plan C and D would not be acceptable to me or any of my family and friends. I would support plan B with an opportunity of making changes to allow more areas to explore and recreate to be able get into areas away from people that don't support motorized use... Taking away lands is not the answer what will happen is we will be even more congested than we currently are which is going to result in accidents and unsafe riding practices.

We need more access corridors provided to the motorized groups to allow us to use our lands. Center creek and Mills creek should be opened to snowmachine use as well as many other areas so we can further access our unexplored beauty in CNF. Continued access corridors to areas at stake are important to every person who uses the land. The technology of snowmachines today far exceeds what used to be possible as far as how reliable, efficient, quiet, impactful a machine is. With the advancement in technology we are able to access areas much further into the mountains than any person on foot, bike, or skis. This in turn keeps non-motorized users happy to not see or hear a machine.

I want you guys to know that we can ALL COEXIST we have plenty of land to share and I would never want this limited amount of land taken away from anyone. Everyone deserves the right to use our public lands recreating how they choose. I hope you see that is land is a way of life for many people and the chance of it being taken away from any user group is going to change many lives in the process.

Please weigh this decision with a lot of thought and hopefully you will feel that Plan B is the best options for all groups. My mind rejuvenation happens in those mountains and for that to be at stake is a scary thought I hope I never see in my life time...

Thank you for your time

Respectfully,

Vance Searles