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Comments: Thank you for allowing the community to comment on future of the Custer Gallatin National Forest. Closures of backcountry areas for snowmobiling would be highly detrimental to several small town's economies. I currently live near West Yellowstone,

Montana. Almost all of the jobs in West Yellowstone are in the service industry. These jobs are completely reliant on income from tourism. When the west entrance to Yellowstone national park is closed, the only revenue local businesses see is from people who come to ride their snowmobiles in backcountry areas. These customers stay at hotels, eat at restaurants and purchase goods and services while staying in West Yellowstone. Closures of backcountry riding areas would force employers to lay off their employees until business increases several months later. Existing areas which continue to be open would become over crowded and cause further speculation for closure.

Snowmobiles have minimal impact on national forests. The technology in 2 cycle snowmobile engines have greatly changed in the past 10 years. They idle cleaner and use much less oil than their predecessors.

Snowmobile emissions are actually less than some vehicles currently on our highways.

Thank you for taking my comment into consideration.