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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern,

Since 2012 I have been enjoying snowmobiling in the Colorado Back Country. I have gotten my wife in the sport and aim to bring my two boys into the sport once they are old enough. Snowmobiling brings together my family and allows us to see the back country in a way most will never have the chance to. I gladly pay registration fees and donate to local groups to help promote safe and environmentally friendly snowmobiling practices.

A few years ago a snowmobile friend and I noticed a female moose in the high country at one of our normal riding areas. She was trapped in the high country due to the increased snowfall that made it difficult for her to travel. Each weekend we would see her and she would maybe have moved from one chunk of trees to the next. We made sure to keep our distance but we always watched to make sure she was alert and healthy. We share the back country with these animals but sometimes adverse conditions require us to look after each other. In this case, she stayed safe the whole winter, but we felt comfort in knowing we had been checking on her.

Snowmobiling has some benefits for cases like the above among others. For these reasons, in my opinion it would be a mistake to close off the proposed areas to snowmobiling.

Sincerely,

Matthew P Crowe