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First name: Jeffrey

Last name: Kieper

Organization: Thunder Mountain Lodge

Title: Owner

Comments: I am writing today to express my desires for the new land management proposal in Colorado. I have been a full-time snowmobile guide in Colorado since 2000, first in Vail for Nova Guides, and now for Thunder Mountain Lodge on the Grand Mesa. I have actively promoted the responsible use of Over the Snow Vehicles since then by picking up litter and respecting Wilderness Areas. I would like to see no further restrictions on Over the Snow Vehicles in Colorado. I believe that when used responsibly, Over the Snow Vehicles have very little impact on the fragile ecosystem above treeline. I don't see any new restrictions on the Grand Mesa, but I am specifically concerned about riding areas near Ophir and Telluride. Also, it has come to my attention that a Heli Ski operation could be approved in Lieu of snowmobile use. If this is true, then it seems you are just limiting access to this precious terrain to only the wealthy elite. Feel free to contact me for further comment. Thanks Jeff