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Title:

Comments: To Whom It may concern:

I have have the fortune of riding back country on a snowmobile for the last 20 years in many places in Idaho and abroad. The impact snowmobiles have on the the landscape is very minimal as we ride on a surface that is a buffer to the the soil and vegetation and provide no more damage then would be seen by deer or elk for travel or grazing.

With more than 20,000 miles of back country under my belt I have only seen a few animals in the forest during the snowmobiles season. All the game is down in the valleys and dodging Subaru's on the road ways for winter other than a few grouse, rabbits and a squirrel or two. Deer and elk use the groomed trails early season to get out of the high country as some may stay too long and have deep snow keeping them to their death.

The financial benefits to small communities from out door winter recreation is a very large impact to help keep these communities alive and vibrant. Many snowmobile's spend money on rooms, food and other local expenses when traveling as well as equipment, trucks, trailers and gear to help other areas of the economy..

Thanks you for letting me give my input,

Shane Vigil