Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/18/2021 8:00:00 AM
First name: Kenneth
Last name: Jones
Organization:
Title:
Comments: [External Email]Cordoca area heli permits

[External Email]

If this message comes from an unexpected sender or references a vague/unexpected topic;

Use caution before clicking links or opening attachments.

Please send any concerns or suspicious messages to: Spam.Abuse@usda.gov

Hello, I am writing today to make public comment regarding the proposed heli ski use in the National Forrest public lands.

I think that is a no brainer and low impact way to utilize a renewal resource, the snow. Heli skiing is a huge economic driver in both Valdez and Cordova. I would like to urge the ranger district to make the permitting process for all heli ski operators less burdensome, and to open up these lands for more than the 3 currently identified. Application periods should be opened annually, not waiting for a ten year period to expire. There is plenty of area to have more than one ski operator in Cordova, and I would like to see more of this type of activity in our community. They are great stewards of the land, and bring in a much needed spring boost. I would also urge the ranger district to expand the use days on each permit, so the existing operators can utilize more helicopters and bring in more clients. This may also allow them to start a bit earlier in the spring and extend their season. This is a vastly untapped resource that has proven to be low impact, sustainable, and a successful way to continue growing the economic engine in our community.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on this.

Kenneth B Jones

Cordova AK 99574

This e-mail and any files transmitted with it may contain confidential material. This e-mail is intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient or have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender by replying to the sender.