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Comments: I am a 4th generation born and raised Boundary County Resident as my Great Grandpas were pioneering the mountain roads in the mines and logging units in the early 1900s that get everyone into the backcountry today! I am a avid backcountry sledder and skier who does 40-50 days every winter starting from November and into May to June for the past 18 years. Being in just about every drainage in the Selkirks, Cabinets, and Purcells on skis or snowmobiles.

After sitting thru every Working Group meeting except for 1, I am opposing what the working group has presented to the USFS and the public due April 1st Snowmobile Closure to the North Zone and not allowing snowmobiles to travel the Saddle Pass Road in Smith Creek to access their winter trapping cabins at the Continental Mine. While thinking that the small area around Roman Nose Lakes and Moose Lake will be efficient to hold the 500+ sledders that this area attracts on a sunny spring weekend will do more harm than good while creating over rode trails and accidents. After my own research, talking to well educated others, and even listening to the educated officials at the working group meetings there is plenty of newer research available that is not being presented to use in the science behind the Grizzly Bear Denning Zone as well as their has been no research in North Idaho to back this study. Many times its the selfishness if there are any animal encounters, people are not respecting the boundaries and that can me a non motorized or motorized vehicle at fault! As most people who recreate in the Backcountry Late Spring after April 1st we are going after the big terrain as avalanche danger has slowed to human interaction with the bigger terrain Pack River, Roman Nose, Smith Creek, and Trestle Creek Offers. This seems to limit us Snowmobilers and Skiers access to the backcountry. This closure of late spring really puts word of loss into many local snowmobile riders who respect the lands, clear downed trees, assist search and rescue in hard to reach places. You place these restrictions on the public then you lease land to Schweitzer who have a way bigger environmental impact than a snowmobile does. All the cars that bring salt and chemicals to the 4000' ft elevation and drain out thru the water sheds, to trash being left in the ski area and so on!

Links to some interesting articles

<https://snowgoer.com/latest-news/yellowstone-study-results-maybe-sleds-arent-so-bad/29867/>

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10344-013-0749-0>

As my concerns for the property owners for the remote locations Continental Mine I sure hope they have a right away in place to protect them and their investments as they visit these locations for days at a time.

I look forward to see what this comment period brings to the community at best!