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Comments: I worked for Brundage Mountain as a backcountry ski guide for thirty years. Over the years the use of snowmobiles increased greatly and we were required to share the same terrain. Powder skiing and snowmobiling are not compatible if not down right dangerous. Fortunately, a portion of the eastern aspect of Granite Mountain was reserved for the cat skiing. Unfortunately, it was discovered that many snowmobilers could not read the numerous signs delineating that area. I have had several clients become injured by accidentally skiing into the snowmobile tracks. Other times, we have encountered snowmobilers going uphill on the same slopes as we were trying to ski downhill. Who is going to get hurt if a collision were to occur?

I am no longer an employee of Brundage Mountain. But I do have strong opinions about this recreational use. In most other cat skiing operations on Forest Service lands, there is not mixed use of snowmobiles and skiers. Most of those areas had a specific geographical feature that separated the two recreational pursuits. These could be a road, river, or lake. The Granite Mountain use area has all three of those features.

I would propose not allowing any recreational snowmobiling on any lands west of Goose Lake Road. To mitigate the loss of terrain to the snowmobilers, I feel Brundage should give up the Slab Butte and "76" areas and not take clients to those areas. The Forest Service would have to allow expansion of the Granite area to the north, past Twin Lakes, areas of south of Goose Lake, as well as increased lands to the southwest of Granite Mountain.

I do not represent the views of Brundage Mountain Ski Area. Thank you for the opportunity to make comments.