Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/3/2023 2:44:21 AM
First name: Kevin Thomas
Last name: THOMAS
Organization:
Title:
Comments: Big gov't continues to push the citizens of this great country around in an attempt to strip us of more and more of our God given freedoms. The feds were put into place to work with the states and to come, if called for, for help. Montanans live in this great state to live free and elect those that are like minded and to govern it for its residence.
We moved here 7 years ago from an oppressive state because we wanted to raise our children with the freedoms we knew as kids but had slowly robbed from us as we matured. Montanans don't want to be micro-managed by big gov't. Many of us live for the backcountry and feel if we're not bothering you, don't bother us. We are ruled by our morals to do what's right (e.g. pack in, pack out, leave as you found it) and I found that 99% of my friends and acquaintances live by this motto. I honestly feel closer to God when up on the mountain and have said many times that I feel that snowmobiling is my church.
My wife and I have raised our children to feel this way as well and it shows. We've met lots of good, respectful people that feel the same. We live for the winters and venturing out where few go during this time of the year. We all pay our taxes, and many pay the club membership all of which benefits our local community.
I feel there is way less pressure put on hibernating animals by snowmobilers and their low volume of riders then that of the 1000s of backcountry enthusiasts once the snow melts. In this regard, I feel we are being singled out. Your proposal is un-American, by taking what has been established as public federal land and restricting/attempting to limit access to the public landowners, also known as, the taxpayers. Personally, I view this whole proposal as a power grab by an administration that is FULL of them.