

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/17/2023 1:41:22 PM

First name: Travis

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern,

Please consider this comment as an opposition to closing down over-snow motorized use on this area of the forest. There is no scientific proof of a decline in grizzly population. If I had to guess, there's likely an increase in grizzly population in the past decade or more. This comes from my years of recreating and multiple years in a professional position of spending multiple days a week in the woods.

Bears hide themselves in a hole and sleep for months on end while the winter plays out. Using the snow that falls for snowmobiling has next to zero impact on bears, or any other megafauna in the area, because of the great quantity of snow. All of the megafauna move to much easier places to live for the winter. Snowmobiles don't even have an impact on the earth in these zones either because of the multiple feet of snow.

I, like many others, believe this is an overreach of our rights to recreate and do not find it to have any sort of scientific credibility. Please do not consider closing this area to over-snow motorized recreation.