Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/23/2023 6:00:00 AM
First name: Mike
Last name: Cuffe
Organization:
Title: Senator
Comments: My first comment is that the notification fur comments is not adequate. First, not enough time toaddress the issue adequately, especially with distribution problems USPS has experienced in Eurekaduring this period.Second, but very important is use of the Missoulian as newspaper of record. The Missoulian has notbeen delivered in Lincoln County for years. Believing you can spread notice throughout Lincoln Countyvia the Missoulian is believing in something that doesn't exist. That is like putting a sign up on Missoula'sHiggins Avenue that you have hamburgers for sale in Rexford. You won't sell many.Third, proposed restriction on snowmobile travel is unfounded. We all understand that Grizzlies havebeen thriving in that area while snowmobiles have been used there for at least 60 years. I was editor ofa Snowmobile Magazine showing groups there in 1967. There is plenty of documentation.Grizzlies are spreading across the valley floor, up Trego and down Wolf Creek, and down the TobaccoRiver to Lake Koocanusa, as well as toward Whitefish.In addition, I have reviewed the comments submitted by Josh Letcher and the Lincoln CountyCommissioners. They did a good job. I agree with the points they made, and I wish I could include theminto this letter.This comment is completed in a hurried fashion due to a busy summer schedule compounded by eyesurgery last week. I have expressed my frustration to KNF Supervisor Chad Benson, Deputy KNF Sup.Heidi McRoberts1 and Ranger Seth Carbonari. I appreciate the time and interchange with all three.In closing, I will say that this snow travel issue, proposed in hot July, has drawn strong emotionalfeedback from my constituents. I know and understand my people well. I have heard them sayregulations took away the jobs and retirements for many of us, now you are tryin; to take away ourchance to play in the winter. Please don't let these proposals move forward.I am state senator for Senate District 1, and I was born and raised in the Tobacco Valley, and I currentlylive near Eureka. I lived, worked and raised my family in Libby where I lived for 27 years.