Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/18/2023 7:01:43 PM First name: Jake Last name: Winebaum Organization:

Title:

Comments: My principal area of concern are the upper slopes of the Sherwins where there could be dangerous consequences of shared access between snowmobiles and backcountry skiers. Every season, large and dangerous avalanches occur in those zones. We all saw the extremely large avalanche that ran from the crest all the way to the meadow last winter taking out mature trees. I have seen snowmobiles trying to top mark areas known to be avalanche start zones on the upper slopes of the Sherwins. I've seen snow machines get stuck in very dangerous avalanche prone areas such as the Fingers. The heavy weight of the snow machines in the wind and snow loaded areas increase the risk of avalanches that could kill or injure not just the rider of the snowmobile but any other rider, skier or snowshoer below them. Given how many human powered skiers, snowshoers and hikers are below those areas each and every day of the winter, I think it would be prudent to restrict snow mobile access to those slopes. This is one of the reason I believe some of those areas were originally restricted in late 90s.