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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I do not support the year round closure of Granite Mountain. Currently the mountain opens for over the snow vehicle use on April 1st, and I do not feel that needs to change. My extended family visits McCall every year the first week of April during spring break with anywhere from 8 to 20 individuals in our party. As Granite Mountain opens for access that week, we often make it a destination area to visit because it offers terrain that is appealing for all levels of riders, offers spectacular scenery, and offers a unique experience not found in other areas of the forest. The memories we have made in that particular area over nearly 15 years are priceless and I would urge you to reconsider this proposed closure. The cost of closing snowmobile areas include higher concentration of snowmobiles in other areas, loss of economic benefit to the community, decreased public access to public lands, ect. The result of this kind of proposed action is that the public will no longer be able to use public lands as closure areas being reopened are extremely rare. Snowmobiles are not the enemy because they are motorized, and all traces of use are gone when the snow melts. If the land is to be closed to snowmobile traffic, you should be closing it to ALL traffic. This is not conservation, but preservation and is an unacceptable management tactic on our public lands.