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Comments: I urge you to keep snow mobile operators and skiers (both XC and backcountry skiers) separate in the Lolo Pass and Crystal Theater area. I have been skiing in these areas for nearly 40 (yes, 40) years. There have been numerous instances where a snow mobile operator has not had the courtesy, or respect, to stay out of these areas. In the past, I have spoken to NFS personnel in both the Powell Ranger District and the Lolo Ranger District, and they have told me there is nothing they can do about it, as much of the land was not under their jurisdiction. Now that it is, please place restrictions on where these loud machine operators can go. When they travel in the same areas that the skiers want to go, it ruins the terrain, and ruins the experience that we (skiers) are looking for. Moreover, make the penalty for violating the restrictions high enough to discourage them. I have witnessed these machine operators in currently closed areas (PBR point, Mt. Fuji) and they simply ignore the fact that the areas are officially closed to them.

Thank you for your consideration.