

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/5/2024 2:56:19 PM

First name: Stephen

Last name: Sawyer

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hi. I'm writing to voice my support against the closure of areas for winter motorized use. Specifically Greater Missoula, Lolo Creek, and upper Blackfoot as currently drawn. These areas have been accessible for many years and provide access to areas otherwise unreachable in the winter months. Snowmobiles have allowed backcountry skiers/snowboarders access to areas too far in for day hikes.

Winter recreation revenue for rural communities will most certainly be impacted with motorized closures. I live at the base of a popular Missoula backcountry ski and sled access inside the closure as currently drawn. I've seen this area being used by both motorized and non motorized access for many years with no conflict. I use this same area all summer and have seen no type of long term impact on the land from snowmobilers or sled skiers.