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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a responsible backcountry snowmobile rider who frequently travels in the flathead national forest over the snow. The majority of my riding is in the alpine where there is almost no wildlife during this time of winter. There are no trees, no bushes or food to support life in the alpine during the winter. I do not understand why nor do I agree with prohibiting over the snow travel in RWA's. I believe prohibiting snowmobile travel on public land especially RWA's is unconstitutional. Closing the forest to snowmobile activity is wrong because snowmobiles do not have an impact to ecological nor social values of an RWA.

Snowmobile travel in the backcountry tends to pack down the base of the snowpack which delays the melting of the snow later into the spring and even into the summer. This lessens the spring runoff which reduces erosion and flood damage from the normal melting of snowpack. I believe that the slower melt of the snow pack can help prevent drought and reduce fire hazards by shortening the fire season.

Please allow us backcountry riders to continue to use the public land that God has given us!