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First name: Eric

Last name: Muehling

Organization:

Title:

Official Representative/Member Indicator:

Address1: PO Box 84415

Address2:

City: Fairbanks

State:

Province/Region: United States

Zip/Postal Code: 99708

Country: United States

Email: eric@muehling.us

Phone: 9073785545

Comments:

Over the past 25 years I've seen the hard-tire wheels on four-wheelers destroy trails in the Alaska Range. Once the vegetative mat that protects a wilderness trail is broken through by the tractor tires on four-wheelers, erosion begins. I've seen the erosion get so bad that a snowmobile could fall into and virtually disappear into a deep eroded section of trail.

Sadly, delicate trails are widened and braided by motorized summer use and when one section of trail gets mucked up and fails to support a four-wheeler, then another trail is simply cut through making a bigger mess. Four-wheelers are not wilderness explorers, as much as they are wilderness destroyers.

Wilderness is a limited resource. Allowing motorized vehicles in the Chugach Forest diminishes the wild character of this resource. Noise, disturbance, and erosion of trails diminish wilderness. Once allowed there's no going back. Do not allow anything motorized in the Chugach National Forest. There are many other areas in Alaska where motorized access is allowed so those with four-wheelers have other options.

I strongly urge you to maintain the wilderness management of the Chugach National Forest. Do not allow motorized access.