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Comments:

I am an avid winter motorsports advocate and have enjoyed riding in the Chugach for the past 15 years. I believe that additional land should be made available for both snowmobiles and skiers. The two parties can coexist without one feeling slighted in regard to land usage and designation.

We as Alaskans love our outdoor recreation. Sking and snowmobiling are two winter activities that are deeply rooted in Alaska's history. They provide years of healthy, positive recreation for our youth and supply the economy with a wealth of income. The popularity of the two sports and recent warm winters has resulted in the congestion of popular riding and skiing areas. The opening of additional acreage would enable riders and skiers to explore new terrain and alleviate the current congestion of popular areas that can pose a safety hazard.

In the past 10 years, snowmobiles have become more ecologically sound and do not generate the noise or pollution that they were capable of in years past. Their ecological footprint is less damaging. Also, a vast number of skiers utilize snowmobiles to access the areas that they enjoy, making them a convenient and sometimes necessary tool to access the backcountry.