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Comments:

To Whom it May Concern,

As an active Alaskan resident I enjoy spending countless days riding snowmachines in the Chugach Forest and other places. As a resident of Anchorage Turnagain, Lost Lake, and Hatcher Pass are favorite riding spots that are close to town and very economic; not having the ability to ride in these locations would be a huge set back to my riding ability, the businesses that depend on snowmachine business from dealerships to gas stations and restaurants. Making a decision to lose snowmachining in the chugach will have more impact than just to people who snowmachine. Has any done a study on how much revenue bicycle riders bring the local economy compared to snowmachine riders? For once I wish legislators would conduct truthful research instead of simply backing an idea that has negative merit. I don't know if this committee realizes it or not but Alaska's economy is in a poor state at the moment - I would encourage promoting activities that can bolster the small business market and our economy before making more rules to hinder people in this state. If this topic is simply because hikers and green peace people want to have more area to walk I'd tell them to take a hike somewhere else. Currently Turnagain is divided by the hwy for motorized use and non-motorized use - this is an equal balance for all and works well. Finally in closing, as a tax paying citizen of the state I will do everything in my power to ensure snowmachining in the Chugach stays alive - not only for my personal benefit but for the greater good of small business and the state's economy.