

Date submitted (UTC): 2/11/2016 12:57:37 AM

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Comments:

To Whom it May Concern,

I personally have been riding snow machines in Alaska for the last 15 years. It is something that has kept me in this state. It is an activity that I find to be very valuable and rewarding. In the past years, non-motorized users have started using snowmobiles to access more terrain, which has consequently created more congestion in the backcountry. More access points and motorized corridors would help alleviate the congestion.

There are many people from out of state with negative opinions regarding motorized use. These people are not taking into account the local businesses and jobs that motorized access helps support. There are also opinions that snowmobiling is not a 'traditional' activity that the CNF was intended for. However, snowmobiles have been a part of Alaska's history for decades and snowmobiles are an intricate part of Alaskan culture and traditional activities.

There is no significant data to show that snowmobiles are causing terrain damage. With today's new snowmobiles being quieter and cleaner, the trend is moving toward a more eco-friendly snowmobile.

In closing, I appreciate this topic being put out for public discussion. I am hopeful that we can protect existing access and create more motorized access for Alaskans to enjoy.