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Comments:

To whom it may concern:

As a long time recreationalist in the Chugach National Forest, I would like to comment on the forest plan revision. Since 1974 my family and I have used the CNF land for snowmobiling, mountain biking, hiking, skiing and fishing and would like future generations to enjoy the recreational freedom that I have enjoyed.

Areas that I frequent for winter motorized use are Whittier, Placer River and its drainages, Turnagain Pass, Johnson Pass, Trail Lake, Grandview, Snow River, Nellie Juan and Lost Lake.

As a resident of Chugiak, when I travel to enjoy Chugach National Forrest I frequently contribute to the commerce of Girdwood, Whittier, Moose Pass and Seward through the purchase of fuel, food and lodging.

In reviewing the current proposals, I find alternative's C and D unfavorable. I was disappointed that during the 2002 revision winter motorized use was restricted in the Center Creek Johnson Pass area and Mills Creek including the West side of the Seward Highway in the Summit Lake area.

I am of the opinion that the winter motorized trailheads, parking areas, access points and trail corridors and are inefficient for the number of users. Some examples would be the parking areas at the trailheads for Johnson Pass, Snow River, Primrose and the firehouse side of lost lake. Another consideration is early season access when there is sufficient snow depth at elevation but minimal snow at sea level. Widening some of the trails such as Lost Lake would open the tree canopy allowing early season snow cover of the trails.

Lastly, I would like to emphasize the importance of motorized corridors such as Twenty Mile and Snow River. Please keep those intact and consider adding more in areas such as Whittier.

Thank you for considering my comments; I appreciate the opportunity to participate.

Chris Yelverton Sr.