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Comments:

I am writing to support a wilderness designation for the north slope of the Pioneers. I am a mountain guide, backcountry skier, snowmobiler, mountain biker and mountain adventurer. I love using motorized vehicles to explore the mountains but I believe some special places should be saved for non motorized travel. The spring of 2017, two friends and I traversed the Salmon-Challis National Forest side of the Pioneers from south to north. We experienced amazing wildness and solitude. We passed bear dens and tracks, saw a wolverine running across an alpine cirque and spent five adventure-filled days without other human contact. Living in Ketchum, I have come to appreciate the more wild areas of all the amazing public lands we are surrounded by. The trails close to Sun Valley fill up with people every summer, but we are always able to go farther off the beaten path and find solitude. I believe that the wildness and solitude attainable in the north slope of the Pioneers Mountains is worthy of a wilderness designation. Thank you for your time and consideration.