

Comments concerning: Notice of Public Meeting and Hearing Iditarod National Historic Trail Seward to Girdwood.

I am against closing any snowmachine access by use of this hearing process. I believe this hearing process will set a bad precedence and could be used in the future to close additional areas to snowmachine use. As this is the first time this hearing process has been used by the Forest Service. ANILCA Section 1110(a) was intended to protect snowmachine use.

The Forest Service does have the option to change the Forest Plan to allow motorized use in these areas.

If a closure is adopted will this prohibit snowmachine use for subsistence activities by subsistence use res. This is a big concern of mine as a rural resident. If it does prohibit subsistence use it would be contrary to the Forest Service mission as a federal agency to protect and ensure the right of rural residents.

Thanks for receiving my comments.

Merlyn Schelske