

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 10:16 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Catherine Sayre
Email
kittycatsayre@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I am against this closure. We have non-motorized trails all over Juneau, and very few places for people and families to enjoy winter recreation with their atv/snow machines. I don't own an atv, but strongly feel the riders should have places to ride. Th

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 9:56 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Chelsea Finch

Email

chelsea.lechner@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I am writing in favor of closing the gate at Montana Creek Road to motor vehicles during the winter months. Montana Creek supports a variety of recreational activities- skate and classic cross country skiing, snow shoeing and hiking are all destroyed when ATVs churn up the nice set trail maintained by the Juneau Nordic Ski Club. Not only do ATVs destroy trail but in the past they have gone off road beyond the gate and damaged sensitive vegetation and habitats. In addition, Montana Creek trail is simply too narrow and curvy to safely accommodate motorized use, especially with heavy non-motorized user traffic. Snow machiners already have access to much more suitable terrain (and a lot more of it) via the Spaulding Meadows and Dan Moller trails. Montana Creek is safest and can provide better quality outdoor recreation to more user groups without motorized use. Thank you.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 8:45 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Jeremy Sidney
Email
jeremy.sidney12@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
keep it open ! the constant drumbeat to close all of juneau to motorized use need to stop , we pay taxes , we live here year round for some of us this is our only way to get out with our kids or our friends, closing of a public mining right if way (rs2477) to the public is absolutely wrong and will be challenged in court . these right of ways are in use all over alaska and are not allowed to be gated even when they cross private land , we are the public ! the skiers have options every ware in the borough , funded by tax payers like my self , if they can't handle sharing montana creek , maginnis valley with every one, they should pack there skis up and go else ware , as a motorized user i usually welcome every one no matter if on skis , foot , weelers what ever it i'm tired of being polite and getting crapped on for it ! LEAVE IT OPEN !

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 7:31 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Yazmin Kennard
Email
yazkenna01@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
It's not fair that one group gets to use it t noone else, everyone pays taxes.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 6:36 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Alicia Nestler
Email
Alician83@gmail.com
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Why are we considering this. NO. Do NOT give special access to a single group of people. Let Everyone Have Access. Same Rules Apply to All who use the land, All Year Round. Thank you.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 5:59 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Mary Kirtley
Email
madiswish@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please keep it open for everyone's use

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 5:55 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Stephanie Hoag

Email

hoags@gci.net

Phone

Residence Location

Douglas

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I would like to see the gated portion of Montana Creek road closed to motorized users from November 1 through May 1.

For quite a few years now, hundreds of people have been relying on winter use of that road for the outdoor exercise and access to nature that are so important to their physical and mental health. The area is used daily and at all hours of the day, by skiers as well as families, youth groups, athletes in training, senior citizens, and others who enjoy the quiet and natural beauty of the area.

Motorized vehicle use of that small portion of the road during the winter would not be compatible with these non-motorized uses. Just one machine user can diminish the enjoyment and safety of dozens of people who are otherwise quietly enjoying the road. It's stressful to be avoiding collisions with fast, noisy, and heavy objects, and unpleasant to breathe the exhaust that hangs in the air for quite some time after a machine passes by. For those with asthma or those who are breathing heavily from aerobic exercise, the air pollution can be not just unpleasant but also dangerous.

For skiers, a single pass by a machine can and does destroy the surface that has been groomed through the effort of volunteers. The Juneau Nordic Ski Club volunteers spend significant numbers of hours not only grooming and raising funds for equipment purchase and maintenance, but also working with children and youth to teach and promote skiing as a healthy activity. Unlike downhill skiing and motorized recreation, Nordic skiing (along with walking and snowshoeing) is affordable and accessible to a very wide range of Juneau residents. The ski club does not claim exclusive use of the trail but welcomes other non-motorized users.

Montana Creek Road is unique in that it holds snow and is available for Nordic skiing at times when there are no other options in Juneau. All of the other ski trails groomed by the club are located at or near sea level and do not hold snow during increasingly longer periods of warm winter weather. The Nordic trails at Eaglecrest charge fees, prohibit skiers from bringing dogs, and require a much greater snow depth before grooming can take place since they are located on muskeg.

As a former resident of the Southcentral, Interior and the Arctic, I know that there are big differences between Juneau and the parts of our state that have vast, wide-open spaces and reliable snow cover, and where motorized and non-motorized users can more easily co-exist.

Up there, I owned a snowmachine and enjoyed using it both for transportation and recreation. I also owned a sled dog team, and while that is an activity I would immensely enjoy doing still, I recognize that trying to do it in Juneau would be terribly frustrating. As someone once said, "if you love boating, you shouldn't move to the desert".

Finally, I would suggest that in the midst of a climate crisis, we need to encourage more people to find forms of recreation that do not burn fossil fuels.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 5:04 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Joseph Henderson
Email
joe.henderson00@gmail.com
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
DO NOT close the road any more! There are countless places for cross country skiing and literally two for ATV use including this one. It is a road not a ski trail.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 4:06 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Kevin Jardell

Email

kevin@kjardell.com

Phone

Residence Location

Out the Road

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I value having access for motorized vehicles to DNR land via Montana Creek and believe it should continue in both summer and winter. There are very few places to ride in this town and DNR land off of Montana Creek is one of those areas. Please keep access open. Surely reasonable people can ski on one side and motorized vehicles can use the other. Just a little common courtesy should allow both. If indeed the concern from some skiers is that it's the only place to ski in low snow years then establish closure only when no other Nordic skiing is available including Mendenhall Lake Eagle Beach, Skaters Cabin or Eaglecrest. I doubt it would ever be closed.

Thank you for your time considering my opinion.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 3:57 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Curtis Kautz
Email
curtiskautz@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I enjoy using the Montana creek area year round with my dirt bike, four wheeler, or snowmobile.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 3:56 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Jeff TERSTEEG
Email
jeff.tersteeg@gmail.com
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I would really like it if the city would finally see the catering they do for one group is wrong in so many ways. Do the right thing and let the ATV group have an area for once. Montana creek road would be an excellent choice for them to be in. Cross country club already has MANY areas to go to.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 2:15 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Thor Lindstam

Email

thor@lindstam.com

Residence Location

Douglas

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

My trail interactions with folks riding ATVs and Snowmachines have been very negative. I do not feel safe when they travel toward me. They smell bad and they fill the forest with noise.

Also, they have been very disrespectful to the skiers. Tisk tisk.

I support the initiative to pull their access during ski season :)

Thor

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 2:09 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Samantha Wilson
Email
samantha.n.wilson@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I agree to closing the trail during the winter months!! This is a beautiful cross country trail enjoyed by so many families with kids and dogs.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 1:16 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Keri Williamson
Email
williamson.keri@gmail.com
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Sounds good! It would be nice to have a longer cross country ski trail!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 12:56 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Daniel Reiersen
Email
dcreierson@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Needs to be open to all users. No one particular group should have specific access alienating others.
Thanks,

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 12:44 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Briana Heller
Email
hellerbriana@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
With millions of acres at our fingertips and only two places to ride ATVs I feel this is very unfair for this particular area to be closed in the winter. With so many other trails in options for them to use .I pay my taxes I spend my money here and you know we as ATV riders deserve this area or if not this area designate another area.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 12:32 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Greg Anderson
Email
gregorama99@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Keep it open to motorized vehicles. Skiing can be done in so many places, it's time for some balance. I'm not an off roader, but am a skier. This is a good place for full use.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 12:19 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Samantha Sanbei
Email
samantha.larae1989@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I don't believe we should close in Montana Creek road as a mom with 3 boys who often like to ride dirt bikes and 4 wheelers. I would love an area to continue to be able to go out and camp that is in town instead of having to drive all the way out to echo cove, considering the possibilities of an accident, in order to go ride and camp with my sons and family.</p> <p>It's ridiculous that they're asking this when cross country skiers have over 50 miles worth of trails to use and yet all of us who use OFR's have one place that is basically Inaccessible during the Winter. it is not fair, especially being in Alaska where OFR's are needed; for hunting, trapping, family activities and just plain fun that smdoesnt include drugs or drinking.</p> <p>As a mom I beg CBJ to consider not putting this proposal through because we, as moms of young kids, need something that's closer to home that they love to do.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 10:35 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Justin Derr
Email
derrssledshed@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Keep the trail open to all user groups all year round!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 9:39 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Lilli Mack
Email
macklillim@gmail.com
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I'd like to support the restriction of access for motorized vehicles on Montana Creek Road. This is one of my favorite places to walk and cross country ski in the winter. I've also seen plenty of wildlife in this area (including river otters) and believe that the presence of motorized vehicles would negatively affect their habitat and well-being. Please keep Montana Creek Road free of motorized vehicles in the winter to preserve this special, beautiful place. Thank you for your time.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 8:57 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

ben eisenstein

Email

be46454@gmail.com

Residence Location

Out the Road

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I fully support having the area closed to all motorized traffic. The area is a well established cross country ski area and the best one in town. Now more than ever having a quiet spot to get away to this winter will be so important for the well being of juneau residents. There are already tons of places you go in the winter where all you hear is the drone of snow machines in the background, but it's not the noise pollution that is my concern, it is how destructive to the tracks and grooming it is to have vehicles driving over it. Not to mention if they are using that area this winter there will surely be accidents where skiers are hit and injured. It's not fair or accurate for the juneau off road association to say they want to share the area, if they have access they will ruin the area for the skiers, precluding them from using it. They don't want to share the area they want to take it over which is not ok. It's a well developed and established ski area, the juneau off road association needs to find a different access point rather than take away the best recreation area for cross country skiers, there are so many access points for them to use in the winter, they can find another.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 8:56 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Christina Shanley
Email
c2anderson@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please close Montana Creek Road to Motorized access because 1) Vehicles damage the trail for other users (i.e. Dan Moller trail in the winter) 2) It will be less safe trail to use with younger users with motor vehicles crossing the trail (i.e. kids and dogs) 3) motor vehicles are LOUD and distressing, which is the opposite of Montana Creek

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2020 7:35 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
William Finch
Email
williamrfinch@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I support the closure of Montana Creek Road to motor vehicles past the gate for the winter months.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2020 7:02 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Daryl Miller
Email
dmill1959@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please do not take any further action regarding restricted use of motorized atv's on Montana Creek Rd. until there is a legal alternative for the atv community to use.
Thank you for your consideration, DM

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2020 5:51 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Mike Laudert
Email
mikelaudert@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>This is one of the only trails for atv use in our Juneau Area. I'm mainly a snowmobiler and when my kids were young we took them to Montana creek trail to ride their mini snowmobiles in a controlled area. We have been pursuing Montana creek for a additional access to Spaulding meadows on our motorized side. The atv club has been pioneering the trail for the last few years. I feel very strongly against closing when the ski club has so many other options and the atv/snowmobile user groups are so limited. Please consider the amount of non motorized trails before closing another one!</p> <p>Thank you, mike Laudert</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2020 1:55 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Ron Heintz
Email
heintzra.@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Road should be open only for cross country skiing in the winter because it allows for skiing when lake is not available

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2020 1:53 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Bonita Nelson
Email
nelson.bonita@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Road should be closed at least part of winter months for cross country skiing. It's important not only for adult recreation but for youth such as 4 H and high school teams.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2020 1:40 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Bruce Baker

Email

bhbaker@gci.net

Phone

Residence Location

Douglas

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

To sum up my two previous e-mailed responses to the CBJ on this Montana Creek road issue, I urge the borough to close to motorized vehicles (other than those pulling a grooming machine used for setting skate-skiing and classic ski tracks) that portion of the road beyond the rifle range during winter months. To allow motorized traffic would ruin the road for the thousands of Nordic skiers who have enjoyed skiing there each winter, especially when other areas have insufficient snow for this activity.

Sincerely,

Bruce Baker

Juneau. AK

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2020 1:00 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Marcheta Moulton
Email
islandprincess125@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I support the closure as an active Nordic skier. Montana Creek has always been a favorite location for it's serenity, peacefulness and length of a ski. Yes snowmobiles need their space as well but they do tend to chew up the groomed trails we work so hard to maintain. thank you.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2020 12:58 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Heidi Johnson
Email
heidjohnsonslp@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>Myself and my family are avid users of Montana Creek Road. In the winter, we ski the trail several times per week. It is one of the few areas in Juneau where we can ski on a groomed path without worry of vehicles passing or disturbing the ski trail. I live in Douglas and drive out to Montana Creek specifically for this unique and important recreational activity. I would strongly recommend that this remain gated and closed to vehicles during the winter to allow nordic skiing. hope that the city posts informational maps showing all the areas open to snowmobiles. This may inform the public that this small strip of road is quite a small area compared to open snowmobile access in Juneau.</p> <p>Thank you, Heidi Johnson</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2020 10:41 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Paul Paramore
Email
ppparamore@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Lemon Creek
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I don't think that it is a good idea to discriminate against any outdoor recreation groups. I feel as though people get out and enjoy nature in different ways. Juneau is already so limited in its offerings for motorized recreation. Please don't continue this pattern of closing down places that have traditionally been used for motorized recreation.

Lauren Verrelli

From: Kathrin McCarthy <kwmccarthy@alaska.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2020 9:43 AM
To: Parks Rec; info@jnski.org; Lauren Verrelli
Subject: Snow machines and 4 wheelers on Montana creek & Spaulding Meadows

EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

To All Concerned: I am a cross country skier who enjoys skiing up Montana Creek. For years I have hiked or skijoured up the Wadleigh Cr. trail to Spaulding meadows to ski. I am 81 and cross country skiing is a sport that I can still do and love. I do not support the use of motorized vehicles in this area. My reasons are: motorized vehicles are very noisy, smelly, and I do not feel safe when snow machines or 4 wheelers zoom up around or behind me. Exhaust fumes linger in air after a snowmachine has passed and I object to having to breathe exhaust fumes out in a wild, clean place.

If these vehicles could be made less noisy and smelly I would not be as opposed to encountering them as I do now. Nevertheless, the differences are obvious and qualitative. Skiing or snowshoeing under your own power is a completely different experience than whizzing up the trail on a motorized snowmachine or 4 wheeler.

The nordic ski club works hard to maintain the cross country trail at Montana Creek and when a snow machine runs over or up the ski trail it is ruined. The ski trail is really terrific and the nordic club does a wonderful job that allows skiers a wonderful experience.

I don't expect that people who enjoy riding 4 wheelers or snow machines up Montana Cr. to Spaulding meadows to appreciate what solitude, clean air means to me. I do expect that the City and Borough will come to a reasonable decision about this contentious situation and help the motorized enthusiasts find places to ride where people don't ski. Finally, parks and recreation must think clearly about any encouragement they may feel they must do for the continued use of recreation machines that burn fossil fuels is not sustainable nor is good for our environment over all.

Thank you for considering my comments. Sincerely, Kathrin McCarthy
Juneau, AK.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2020 8:57 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Patricia Nickell-Zimmerman
Email
pnickell-zimmerman@hotmail.com
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I don't actively participate in either cross country skiing or motorized winter sports; however, I am very familiar with the ongoing contention between special interest groups, whether that be dog and non-dog owners, equestrian and bicycles, motorized or non-motorized. In many areas of the country, where cross country grooming is not an option, snowmobile tracks are used by cross country skiers to easily access areas. I do think that it is important to allow access to all. Please continue to have shared access and do not limit it to one interest group on either side.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2020 7:12 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Linda Riddle
Email
rangerlinda1@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>Montana Creek is the best place in town to get out for a cross county ski in the beautiful solitude of winter. We go frequently and enjoy this special place. There is always a parking lot full of cars and many people out enjoying the skiing including the competitive youth skiers. It would be ruined if off-road vehicles were allowed to use it. The Nordic club would not be able to maintain the groomed conditions. Unfortunately this is not a situation where all users can enjoy a trail. The two uses are not compatible.</p> <p>Please do not permit the off road vehicle users on this trail.</p> <p>Sincerely Linda Riddle</p> <p>PS I was planning on purchasing some skate skins to use there this winter and plan on going more often.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 10:44 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Christian Reyes

Email

ctreyes907@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

It is disrespectful to Juneau to close yet another off-road accessible area, this community is already restricted enough as it is and I myself have rode back there with others or by myself even in winter. Not once have I seen any animosity towards myself or others for riding back there. Juneau is geographically challenged and I think it would be a great place for our youth to have this opportunity and availability instead of just choosing drugs and alcohol like others have. This trail means more to the Juneau community than y'all could know. Aside from the yahoos the general riding community is very respectful of signage and rules. Please don't let this treasure escape an already dwindling area of Juneau's demographic.

Thank you,

Christian R

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 10:18 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Ben Pinney

Email

benpinney@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I live on Black Wolf Way and utilize the area weekly in the summer AND winter for the archery range. I also enjoy routine cross country skiing in the winter time. I support the closure, EXCEPT for the grooming equipment. While I did not feel I was in a dangerous situation, Last year I did feel the need to move off the trail with my young son in tow as snow machiners rode past. I was concerned there would be a chance they wouldn't see us. I am also disheartened with summertime ATV use. I realize that off trail use is already not allowed (I think?) but Illegal users have in the past rode through the archery range and tore up the delicate meadows. (I also realize this proposal does not address summertime use) I do have a respect for public lands being open and available to all, but the line must be drawn sometimes to prevent abuse and also to preserve special areas that wouldn't necessarily be so special with the sound of frequent engines. Yes, I do realize the bit of irony I that statement with the firearm range also in this location, but once you get a ways down the trail those sounds pleasantly fade away. I also enjoy and am thankful for our rifle range I might add. I will respect any decisions made by Parks and Rec On this issue. Thank you.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 8:10 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Quinn Smith
Email
quinntsmith@gmail.com
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I strongly support the closure of Montana Creek Road to motorized vehicles Nov 1 through April 1.</p> <p>I believe it is important to preserve this area for the currently established use or nordic and skate skiing. Allowing for motorized use would effectively close this area to non motorized activities.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 7:50 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Greg Lockwood
Email
fishpelican@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I support the winter season motorized vehicle closure of Montana Creek trail. The trail gets a very high amount of use by Nordic skiers and it would be a shame if this high use was no longer possible due to rough trail conditions left by motorized vehicles.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 7:34 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Gwendolyn Lockwood
Email
alaskagwen@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I use this trail to nordic ski almost every night during the season. This trail is very important to everyone who nordic skis. The snow here lasts longer and is so much better than other places. When off-road motorized vehicles use the trail, it takes many days for the trail to be repaired enough to ski on again. The Juneau Nordic Ski Club has invested tons of money into maintaining the trail and it pains me to know that it is often for no reason.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 7:34 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Kaity Morgan
Email
kaityjanquart@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I am an avid Nordic skier and own four wheelers and I love both activities. Being involved in both sports, I think it is fair to close the gate during winter for skiers and hikers, and to open it only in the summer to ATVer's. As a skier and off-roader, I think that ATV's would wreck the trail in the winter, and pose a threat to skiers and walkers if the trail were to become icy and a machine lose control (though they do have good traction, I have still lost control at Echo Cove in the winter). I think that both groups have a lot to offer to the community and splitting the year, six months to each group, seems fair to me, and a safe option for everyone who wants to use the trail. I truly believe that opening Montana creek to ATVer's in the winter would make that trail unusable to skiers, because it would be so destroyed and feel unsafe. It is also one of the only trails to ski sometimes, in years with little snow or warmer temps, given its proximity to the glacier and elevation. I would hate to lose it for skiing but would also hate to lose it as an option for ATVing in the summer. Just my two cents, and I hope that an agreeable compromise can be made that appeals to both groups.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 7:06 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
MICHAEL GREENE
Email
taku_mike@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I have lived in Juneau since 1977, have cross country skis, and snow machines. Have had some great backcountry adventures on skis, and enjoy getting out and riding whenever there is enough snow. As a skier, I can go almost anywhere. As a snow machiner, I'm prohibited from riding anywhere but Jumbo, Moller or Spaulding. All great places, but not the best for the type of trail riding that I like to do now that I'm getting up there in years.</p> <p>I'm in favor of snow machine access to Montana Creek - with potential access to Windfall.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 6:52 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Susan Bell
Email
sbell@gci.net
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please maintain non-motorized use on Montana Creek Road during winter months. The road location and climate are unique and hold snow when other locations do not. The area is utilized by skiers of all ages, maintained with volunteer efforts, and cannot be replicated in other locations. Thank you.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 6:41 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Kelly Cates

Email

cateskann@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Douglas

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing in regards to user access of Montana Creek Trail. As I have come to understand the issue, it seems like there are two main user groups who have each expressed concern on how the trail should be managed in the winter and who should have access. On one hand we have Nordic skiers and on the other we have motorized vehicle use or ATV's. I see value in each of these activities and they each benefit a diverse set of Juneau interests. From the ATV side it is argued that they need this trail to access backcountry area to camp, hunt, harvest and recreate. I believe that the same area they are referring to can also be accessed via Spaulding meadows. The argument of little to no snow at the trail head of Spaulding would be the same case at Montana creek. If there is no snow at one, no snow at other. However, a similar claim can be made for Nordic skiers who enjoy Montana a creek. They also have other trails on which to recreate. When it comes down to it, it seems that each user group has alternative options on which to recreate, but each also enjoy the benefits of Montana creek. It is also apparent that these two user groups cannot operate at the same time. ATV use would endanger skiers and ATV use would also degenerate any groomed trails. I believe that the fairest solution to this access issue is to have a schedule of use. Either hours, days or weeks that are designated for one user group and the same amount of time designated for the other group. This would remove conflict of use without fully excluding any one user group. If you allow all user groups to access all the time, it would default to ATV use as the snow would be unsuitable and unsafe for skiers.

I appreciate all the time and consideration that has gone into this matter. I would further appreciate consideration of a schedule of use for the trail.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 5:17 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Rick Driscoll
Email
rickdriscoll9@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I support the road closure.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 5:01 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Deana Darnall
Email
deana.darnall@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I am writing in opposition to motorized vehicles at Montana Creek. As a health care provider, I can honestly say that the cross country skiing and walking that is available there in the winter is a life line for so many. the peaceful quietness allowing for moving meditation, and the cardiovascular benefits are immeasurable. Neither of those are available on motorized vehicles. In the summer, the hiking and biking access in the summer provide the same. the trails are maintained by volunteers, the motorized vehicles have been shown to be destructive.</p> <p>Please put up a permanent gait and keep motorized vehicles out of Montana Creek. Help us eliminate the "co-morbidities" which put people at higher health risk.</p> <p>Thanks, Deana Darnall</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 4:46 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Carl Koch
Email
micp1440@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Lemon Creek
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I feel strongly that closing the area to motorized vehicles(except grooming equipment) during the winter and allowing motorized vehicles the rest of the year is a fair compromise. Winters have been getting much rainier and Montana Creek is often the only place we can ski! Please keep ATVs away during winter. They already have free run of Echo Cove where have almost been crashed into by kids riding dirt bikes. I would hate to see a skier or arc user get injured. The city would probably be somewhat liable. Thank you for your efforts with this controversial issue.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 3:21 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Lacey Derr

Email

lebartlett@yahoo.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I do NOT support closing Montana Creek Road to motorized vehicles. There are EXTREMELY limited areas motorized vehicles are even permitted to operate legally. The Montana Creek trail is an easily accessible trail by all and is also optimal to teach new riders on beginners level terrain. Excluding a group because they're motorized is unfair and discriminatory. There are far more areas Nordic skiers can access throughout Juneau motorized vehicles are not allowed. Therefore they will have many areas of undisrupted snow to utilize.

I also feel excluding the motorized community will drive a wedge further between the Nordic Ski Community and the Motorized Riding community. It is through collaboration and communication the motorized riding community can continue to grow in a positive manner, while respecting the environment and fellow outdoor patrons. We should be continuing to foster these relationships and work to provide local youth and adult riding safety courses.

Montana Creek should NOT be closed to motorized vehicles and it would be discriminatory to close it to motorized vehicles for the exclusive use of one group over another.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 2:09 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Ernest Karras
Email
Staciejoseph99835@gmail.com
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
It is a great place for ATVS & Snowmobiles the skiers already have a ski resort. How much more do they need!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 1:34 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Blake Fleming
Email
blakeworkstoplay@outlook.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I oppose closing Montana Creek Road to OHV / ORV use. Public land shall be available to all user groups. This is an established area and closing it would cause negative impacts to legal OHV/ ORV users. Let's keep public land public.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 12:19 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
RACHEL KELLY
Email
rachelangelinelkelly@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>There are hardly any options for motorized vehicles in Juneau and Montana Creek should not be closed to us. I own an outdoor vehicle we use for moose hunting up in the interior. Every late summer/fall we pull it out for a tune up before heading up north and I need an easily accessible place to run it around before showing up in the interior for 2 weeks. Another use I have for the trail is a year like this, where I cant drive it up through Canada - I still need to run the machine for a few hours to keep it in shape and this trail is an easily accessible place for me to do that.</p> <p>Skiers also have access to back country and several trails nearby and out the road - they should not get to monopolize this trail.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 11:21 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Herman Collins
Email
hermcolljr@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>You know, Montana Ck has a road built into it because of someone other than a bunch of people who only wanted foot traffic there. There are many areas where the Nordic Ski Club can use that normal people cannot! There is not one area in or around Juneau where people can legally use their ATVs or Motorcycles, not one!!</p> <p>I ask You, the governing body over the land use, are You All Communistic? Huh? Where has freedom gone to???</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 11:08 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Jared Weems
Email
jaredweems@hotmail.com
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Why don't you close it for motorized vehicles from equipment cabin to the end of road bridge? Gives the motorized vehicles access to the meadows and saves the skiers most of the road section to the bridge. That ~300ft segment would be shared with proper precaution and posting to avoid accidents. No ski loops in the meadow, just access throughway to further down the road/creek.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 10:08 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Loren Cummins
Email
ljcummins7@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I think that Montana Creek road should be open for ATV's and snowmachines. I don't own either of them but I do a lot of hiking. I have never had any issues with the snow machines up Dan Moeller and have used their tracks for hiking instead of having to slog through deep snow. The cross country skiers already have a track up at Eaglecrest and can also ski at the Mendenhall Campgrounds, the Treadwell Ditch , and out by the glacier and Dredge Lake areas. They also go up Spaulding Meadows. The snow machines and ATV's have very limited options. There is absolutely no reason why they still couldn't use the Montana Creek road with the rest of Juneau. They are just trying to grab the whole area for themselves. It's public area, let the public use it. Thank you.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 10:05 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Barry Olver
Email
bkolver@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please limit access to the Montana Creek Road during this winter period to non motorized traffic only, or establish separate access means for 4 wheelers and snow machines to allow for maintaining skiing grooming, and for the safety of skiers. This has been the standard as I understand it for the last decade.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 9:55 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Spencer Holt

Email

spencerholt410@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I have x-country skied since I was a preschooler with 4H and then learned to skate ski and have been doing that over 10 years. I appreciate all the time and effort that Nordic Ski Club has put in grooming the trails and providing great places to ski. BUT I also ride snow mobiles in the winter. I was using the Montana Creek Road to access back country on my snow mobile long before it was ever track set for skiing. Just because this area has become popular with skiers I do not believe it should mean that motorized machines can no longer use it during the winter months especially when snow is present. This makes about as much sense as closing popular kayaking areas out on the water to motorized watercraft. As bicycling becomes more popular should we close Egan Drive to vehicles. It is a matter of common courtesy between the multiple user groups so that everyone can enjoy our great outdoors. I realize the need for more recreational areas around town in the winter. I do not think that that one user group should jeopardize or prohibit the use of another user group. One idea I have thought about is the possibility of track setting Basin Road past the Mount Roberts parking lot. This valley stays cold in the winter and would provide another fun place to ski. Please do not close Montana Creek Road to motorized vehicles. We live in a great community and need to keep it accessible to everyone and stop discriminating against certain user groups. There seems to be a bias against motorized recreational vehicles in this town. There is no reason that with compromise on both sides we cannot make this work. Thank you for your consideration.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 9:54 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Yvonne Davis
Email
yennie@gci.net
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Montana Creek Road is public property and everyone should have access.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 9:45 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Donna Leigh
Email
nda3dragonfly4fish@gmail.com
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Montana Creek is my favorite cross country ski trail. Last year an ATV chewed up a set track. If motorized would stay off the set track, I think we could share. But how will it be enforced?

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 8:03 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Joseph Martin
Email
mmartin0816.mm@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I think Montana Creek should stay open to all users year round. It's not fair for a small group of skiers to take away one of the few places you can take a motorcycle and at. Yes I ride a motorcycle and atv on the snow in the winter. Don't restrict Montana Creek Trails.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 7:11 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Ann Raymond

Email

anniethomsonwa@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I support the petition to close to Montana Creek Road to snow machines. There is great access to snow machine trails close by near the John Muir trail with access by UAS. This is an access point at a similar elevation, so designating this to XC skiers is a fair trade off and serves all types of recreation activities and all types of outdoor public space users. Please close Montana Creek to snow machines.

I also wanted to add that snow machining is a sport that is only accessible to people who have thousands of dollars to spend on a sled. XC skiing, for an outdoor sport is much more accessible to people financially. Please serve a sport that is more attainable to the Juneau community.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 6:55 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Lincon Freas
Email
freasboarder@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please don't close the trail I like to ride my four wheeler.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 6:34 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Leslie Law
Email
Llaw@alaskan.com
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I would like to see it closed to 4 wheelers and snow mobiles because they often ruin the cross country ski grooming that is done. It is often the only trail that has snow to cross country ski now with the lack of snow accumulation like Juneau used to get. We've been here 22 years and one of the things we enjoy the most is to get outside and not have to hear traffic, motorized vehicles, noise pollution from various sources and enjoy the peace and quiet and solitude of nature. Maybe we can find another route for the snowmobiles and 4 wheelers to access the area?

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 9:34 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Forrest Clough

Email

forrestc73@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I struggle with this. I'm really sympathetic to the snowmachine community, and I do have concerns about anything that restricts access to outdoor recreation areas. I think the local snowmachine and off-road communities struggle with an unfortunate stigma caused by the actions of a relatively small group of poorly behaved individuals. Unfortunately, the actions of that relatively small group are destructive enough and poor enough to impact the perception of the whole user group in the eyes of many. The behavior of the cross country ski community (unless the area is closed to motorized use) doesn't negatively impact other users, whereas the behavior of a small group of individuals in the motorized community does negatively impact all other users. I'd like to see the area remain open to motorized use in the winter of 2020/2021, and I'd like to see the motorized users make commitments to utilizing this area in a way that does not disrupt others. If this community can come together to address the problems caused by a small group, then great. If not, I would very very reluctantly support restricting motorized use in 2021/2022. The local snowmachine community is largely built up on respectful and courteous individuals, unfortunately, those who are not, are often super destructive and rude. Give them a year to get their house in order.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 9:32 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
James Cartmill
Email
jcartmill8@comcast.net
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I think that it's unfair to cut out everyone Except cross country skier's from using that area it should be open to EVERYONE. We all pay taxes here

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 8:47 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Amy Diem
Email
amy_diem@yahoo.com
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I think the trail should continue to be for NON-motorized activities such as cross country skiing and snowshoeing.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 8:41 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Barbara Thurston
Email
barbara@thurstons.us
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please close the road to motorized traffic in the winter. Snowmobiles are not compatible with skiers, because of the risk of someone getting hurt, and the Damage that snowmobiles do to nicely groomed trails. There are hundreds of skiers who use this trail regularly all winter, from young children through elderly people.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 7:43 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Isaac Rumfelt
Email
rumfelt.isaac@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Lemon Creek
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not think Montana Creek should be closed to ATV usage, there aren't many places to safely ride ATV as it is.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 7:41 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Gwen Baluss

Email

gwenbaluss@yahoo.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Thanks putting the gate up to vehicles at night and winter; it really improved the area. Regarding the current discussion, I hope that a compromise is reached. I'd like to see the area continue to be multiple use. Maybe there needs to be some restrictions to minimize impacts of each use on the other. My concern is actually how motorized use and Nordic skiing both might impact the uses that I value: walking, birdwatching, sunset watching, photography, fishing. I am concerned about off-roading. New ATV trails are being forged are now crossing tributaries to Montana creek, an important fish stream. This is happening on state land, but the city should try to cooperate with the state in cutting down on the non-authorized uses in this multi-agency owned public area. I don't mind motorized use in any season, but prefer it be on the hardened surface. I am dismayed that the beautiful muskeg peat bog near the container has been pulverized to mud in some places. I'm glad cross-country skiers are using this area, and understand that good snow can be limited, but have been quite dismayed by being told, in a bossy way, to move to the other side of the trail while walking- even when I was being really careful not to mess up the ski track, and was following the yellow diagram they put up. We walkers need a clearly defined place to be and not get hassled. And finally, as a side note, I'd like to see the shooting range stick to daylight hours. I use the range sometimes, and feel that low- light shooting is a safety concern. Because the hilltop offers great views for sunrise and sunset, it would be nice to have those times of day expected to be more quiet.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 7:25 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Laura Kelly
Email
lk-kodiak@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Keep it closed to ATVs and snow machines in winter; these users are typically destructive and or noisy. Take a look at the muskeg on the sides of the roads to see their disrespectful impact. Numerous users who ski, hike & snowshoe enjoy this access all week long from Nov-May, many of whom pay to keep it maintained and patrolled. This is a watershed!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 7:17 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Mitchell Haygood
Email
haygoodm@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Lemon Creek
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I am an avid cross country skier, and I think that it is dangerous to allow snow machines in the same area as foot traffic and skiers. The snow machiners already have chess to Dan Moller, Spaulding Meadows, Jumbo, and Mendenhall Lake. I have had more than one poor interaction with inebriated snow machiners at every one of the areas I already listed previously. Why exactly do they need access to Montana Creek? My vote is to deny access to motorized vehicles In Montana Creek from November through April 1. My reasoning is because cross country skiers already have a very limited amount of space in Juneau where they can ski away from motorized vehicles.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 7:13 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Chelsea Childress
Email
chelseachildress2014@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I oppose closing montana creek to motorized vehiles and think it should remain open to all.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 6:56 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Shelly Lager

Email

lager_house@msn.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Area should be shared by all types recreation. There should be more options available for motorized vehicles and not limit what little is available. Personally My husband and I love Juneau and are born/raised here and only have 8-10 more years till retirement and due to lack of off road options we are looking to move after we retire. Currently to enjoy our love for off road we have to spend thousands of dollars a year to get our Jeeps and quads to Haines or ship in AML to lower 48. It is unbelievable that we do not have more off road options it seems hikers, skiers tend to have plenty of options. We are the only ones in Alaska with no options to Jeep or off road

My husband and I have to take our Jeep to Haines in order to go up Flower Mountain to enjoy the beautiful scenery and camping with our friends, we were just saying how wonderful it would be to enjoy that with our friends. I grew up riding quads with my father here in Juneau and over the last 30+ years the options have diminished. Teenagers should be out doors enjoying the great sport of off roading all year round. Keep it open to all.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 5:47 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Wesley Bauer
Email
wes.r.bauer@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Keep it open to all

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 5:44 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Tracy Wiars
Email
tlward@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I am 100% supportive of responsible, year round, atv, and snow mobile use on the Montana Creek trail. There are so many places to ski in Juneau but very few places to ride. Most atv and snow mobile users are very responsible and good stewards of the land allotted for riding. Please don't limit outdoor recreation to a few groups. There is plenty of room in this state and community for all users to enjoy their preferred activities. Juneau is the most limited atv community I have ever seen in Alaska. I am a lifelong Alaska resident. Please don't further limit our freedoms and grant others full access. Thank you.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 5:33 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Kelley DeMars
Email
kelleydemars@hotmail.com
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Off road vehicles should absolutely have access to Montana Creek. This is crazy that one of the only places left to ride would be closed. There's MORE than plenty of areas for people to cross country ski here.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 5:33 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Kodijo Hyatt
Email
hkodijo@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please don't close this for OHV use, there are already limited areas for riders to ride in Juneau, also, it's next to the gun range, I live close and hear gun shots over four wheelers

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 5:02 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Ron Cropley jr
Email
cropley907@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
don't close the roadddd

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 4:59 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Kelly Karl
Email
kellyokarl@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I am a x-country skier, and I support banning motorized vehicles from portions of Montana Creek road. If the road is expanded and can safely accommodate motorized traffic, then I would support sharing the road. As is, I do not think it is safe to accommodate motorized vehicles on this road.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 12:32 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Karen Dinnan
Email
dinnans@gmail.com
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>There are few places to ski in Juneau and it is true that often times the lake is unavailable and there is not enough snow in the campground. It was wonderful to have Montana Creek groomed for skiing. It clearly cannot be shared with snow machines as it would be a big safety concern. It is bad enough on the lake with a few reckless snow machine operators. Spaulding Meadows is shared with snow machine operators making it dangerous and impossible to for skiers to share. Therefore we don't even attempt that area. We think that the road should be closed to motorized vehicles November 1 - April 1.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 12:22 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Stuart Scudder
Email
rusty.scudder@gmail.com
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I would like there to be more places for cross-country skiers. Unfortunately off road vehicles and snow machines ruin the grooming that is needed for skiers. Please reserve Montana Creek for skiers

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 9:51 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Deborah Wilson

Email

debewilson65@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I believe that the Montana Creek Road needs to remain available year round to motorized vehicles. While I understand that the shortage of snow in previous years has limited the ability for cross country skiers to participate in their preferred activities, that group still has several choices. Where can off-road motorized vehicles go in Juneau? As far as I know, the only place is Echo Cove. Cross country skiers have Mendenhall Campground, Mendenhall Lake, Spaulding Meadows; and those areas are just in the valley. Off roaders need options as well. Therefore, I support Montana Creek Road remaining open year round to ALL users.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 9:34 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
jeff Sauer
Email
jeffreysauer@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I am in support of the closure. jeff sauer juneau

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 9:28 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Scott Ranger

Email

scott@scottranger.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Unfortunately, the concept of shared use doesn't work with cross country skiing and snowmobiles. As soon as one motorized vehicle drives on a groomed track, it is ruined. It seems very unlikely that the off-road vehicle enthusiasts would stay off the groomed track as it's just too tempting. Sharing for half the year doesn't work as from May to November there isn't much snow on the track for cross country skiers to take advantage of.

This is a case of one or the other. With very limited opportunity for both kinds of recreation, this is a difficult issue, but I come down on the side of the skiers. The ATV folks have other access to the area of Montana Creek and should use it.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 9:14 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Jonathan Estes
Email
shegelim@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I am against further restrictions to access to the Montana Creek road. Please do not take the action to limit the use age of motorized vehicles in the winter.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 8:58 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Daryl Webster
Email
adarylwebster@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Make MORE space available for atv use, not less. I'm sick of those favoring non-motorized recreation treating the rest of us like they own Juneau.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 8:56 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Brandal Goetz
Email
brandal88@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I would like to see Montana Creek stay open to ALL user groups (motorized and non-motorized).

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 8:50 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

mac meiners

Email

macmeiners@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Out the Road

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

It would serve little purpose to close the road to all but cross country skiing. Having lived in Juneau and grown up here skiing since a young boy using the trail systems for hunting ,skiing ,dog walking and general use I find it self serving for one group to ask for exclusive use. I have been skiing and still ski in Juneau and have been a member of the Juneau ski club and always found that the nordic club has never ever tried to join with the alpine group for any kind of compromise in any of the skiing community uses. The Eaglecrest ski area has in my view a great cross country trail set up that has safe parking and access to all the equipment need for a great experience for the nordic and alpine skiing groups. With that I can tell about walking to second and third cabin as young boy to enjoy the real back country skiing that had all user getting along both snow machines, cross country and alpine. If we had some more road access to get to different locations it would change everything. In my opinion that limiting access for one group is not in the spirit of multi use. Having supported both the ski club ,snow machine club and the gun club over the many years I find that it would be nice to be able to use share what little access we have. I do strongly feel that we can work together to access land for motorized vehicles and the skiing groups by compromising. Do not forget Spaulding trails, it also is a place where multi use does work, also look at Auke lake also works, so please consider my humble opinion because to loose any support of recreation any in form hurts everyone.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 8:42 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
ALAN WILSON
Email
AKRENOVATE@ICLOUD.COM
Phone
Residence Location
Lemon Creek
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
The area needs to be open for ALL uses. I'm positive a plan can be found to allow both groups to work together for the betterment of all. Perhaps sticking to opposite sides of the road?

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 8:27 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Wayne Wilson
Email
wayne@semicro.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Yet another attempt of a single user group to close an area to everyone else. Absolutely not! I grew up riding dirt bikes in dredge lakes, behind thunder mountain and the Montana creek and eagle beach regions. We have lost these riding area to various groups over the years caving in to organized user groups that continuously petition the city to get their way! When is it the motorized user groups turn for the city to provide equal access? Do not limit access any further for motorized groups without opening up new areas that are at least as desirable and easy to access.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 8:08 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Emogene Lea

Email

kim.lea@acsalaska.net

Phone

Residence Location

Douglas

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

My opinion, go up Montana Creek just past the bridge or in the bogs along the road and look at the long deep mud holes that were created in the 1970's-1980's by ATV's. They have not healed in nearly 1/2 a century.

ATV's are environmentally destructive.

One bad actor, can and will, cause damage to the forest and the fish habitat of Montana Creek. That can not be said of one skier or hiker crossing the terrain.

As an older person, they are loud and disruptive. As people age they have fewer and fewer accessible trails.

That noise is also damaging to the wildlife, particularly in the winter, when food resources are limited noise causes animals to flee expending energy they can not afford or readily replace.

No, no, no to ATV's.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 7:58 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Colin Shanley

Email

colin.shanley@yahoo.com

Phone

Residence Location

Downtown

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Hello Parks & Recreation,

Please close the Montana Creek Road to motorized access in winter.

With decreasing reliability of snow, Montana Creek Road is often the only place in Juneau with enough snow to Nordic ski. Motorized vehicles by their nature have far more possible recreation locations within reach.

It is not safe for families and kids to share such a narrow and winding trail with motorized users and non users.

Thank you for considering this important issue for winter recreation in Juneau.

Colin

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 7:56 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Jaye Forst
Email
jaye.forst@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I do NOT want to see 4 wheelers or snowmobiles on the Montana Creek trail. I use this trail a lot to hike in the summer and ski in the winter. Having noisy 4 wheelers screaming by ruins my Enjoyment of the trail. Please keep the road closed to motorized vehicles. Thank you.</p> <p>Jaye Forst</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 6:32 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Casey Walker
Email
cwalker@colaska.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I think it's ridiculous to limit to only one user group in the winter time. I have three boys who are into both motorized sports and skiing. With COVID's effect on school and the normal darkness of winter, limiting the winter access for any sport would be a huge disservice to our kids. Who has more trails accessible to them? Cross country skiers or off road vehicles? In my opinion, you can ski anywhere and not get a ticket. But you jump on something with a motor and your very limited. Don't allow a user group to cut off access to anyone, in the end it limits our kids options to get outside and away from the computers!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 5:34 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Richard Deakins
Email
rdeakins@gci.net
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I think that the winter use of Montana Creek Road should be restricted to non-motorized users. I am a member of the Nordic Ski Club and I do use the area for recreation when its covered in snow. I appreciate the use of my member fees and the work of the Club's volunteers to groom the road with ski tracks. Due to the lack of snow elsewhere, Montana Creek Road is sometimes the only place where groomed trails can be maintained and skiing can be enjoyed.</p> <p>Allowing motorized users access to Montana Creek Road during ski season effectively ruins the skiing. I do not object to the motorized use of the area during the time of the year when it isn't snow covered. I think that alternating use of the area seasonally is a compromise that both motorized and non-motorized users should accept.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 5:14 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Coleman Adams
Email
cole9040@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please keep public lands open to all of the public who want to use it no matter the time of year!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 4:22 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
James Robinson
Email
mj.robinson318@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I support the closure to motor vehicles. I ski the area and appreciate the grooming done by Nordic Ski Club. On one occasion I saw ATVs ruin fresh snow and grooming. Thx for taking my comment.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 6, 2020 3:54 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Scott Marnon
Email
philip.marnon@alaska.gov
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Montana Creek trail should be used for cross country skiing in the winter months. Allowing snow machines on would ruin the track that takes lots of time, money, and effort to set. Also, I don't believe it would be safe to mix the two activities on such a narrow trail.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 5, 2020 10:45 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Cristina Della Rosa
Email
astronomyhumor@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I would like road closed to orvs. It is not wide enough for both skiers and orvs. A lot more people will use road for skiing than driving an orv. The road is a very short drive for an orv. The Juneau Nordic Ski Club has been grooming for many years with volunteers and funds from membership fees.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 5, 2020 10:12 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Noah Jenkins
Email
noah.jenkins.iaff@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I think the trail should stay open for all winter use including Snowmachine use. Thanks

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 5, 2020 8:00 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Wayne Coogan
Email
wdc@cooganalaska.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Your project overview says, "The closure has been requested by the public and the Juneau Nordic Ski Club." We know who the Juneau Nordic Ski Club is. However, we ask you to please define precisely who is "the public" that requested the closure?

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 5, 2020 7:50 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Mary Larsen
Email
79irvington@gmail.com
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I'm a cross country skier and hope we can find a way to share with snowmachiners during the winter since they don't have many other options. Maybe they could ride carefully so minimize track impacts. I don't mind skiing in snow machine tracks as long as they don't churn up mud.</p> <p>Hikers and dog walkers tear up xc ski tracks as well and they do have other places to go. I encourage them to avoid groomed tracks at Montana Ck as well as on the lake and the North Douglas spur road.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 5, 2020 5:59 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Stefanie Jones
Email
drstef@ymail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I think there is plenty of room on Montana creek for all groups to share and get along amicably. One could argue that cross country skiers and other non motorized users have every other trail in Juneau including Eaglecrest and the Mendenhall campground.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 5, 2020 5:54 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
joseph taylor
Email
jrtalaska@gmail.com
Residence Location
Lemon Creek
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please keep Montana Creek road OPEN to snowmachines in the winter months

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 5, 2020 4:55 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Richard Etheridge
Email
fairweatherwood@gmail.com
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I would like to add one more voice to not closing Montana Creek Road. Legal ATV access points are so limited in Juneau, losing one more without giving them a legitimate place to go feels very discriminatory. People on skis can literally go anywhere there is snow.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 5, 2020 3:54 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Christa Baxter
Email
christabaxter@rocketmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>This is outrageous that the city would even consider only letting one user group use the Montanan creek road during the winter months. This would set a bad precedent and Would put a big divide in this community. Please let's keep the Montana creek road open to all user groups. Thanks</p> <p>Christa</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 5, 2020 3:32 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
C Post
Email
postchrissy@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I enjoy frequent skiing Montana creek in the winter. Hopefully there can be a way to direct conflicting motorized traffic to an alternate location that is considerate of the cross country ski trail maintenance personnel and users. I do support balanced multiple uses of our public lands and feel the challenge is to design and educate for different user groups. I see the closure as one strong possibility but am open to other solutions that address the situation.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 5, 2020 3:30 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
jerry rounsley
Email
jrounsley@gci.net
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Close it. If its open to motorized vehicles, they should have a permit and be required to repair their damages and be required & monitored to pickup all their trash which is everywhere right now where snowmachines go.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 5, 2020 3:26 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Pilar Scott

Email

Pilarscott@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Please do not allow motorized use of the Montana creek trail. This is one of the only places close by that reliably has snow for cross country skiing. There is a time and money barrier to using eagle crest. Snow machines/4 wheelers are not compatible with the groomed trail. They will absolutely tear up the groomed tracks as we've seen on Mendenhall lake. Motorized users have the whole Spaulding and dan moler area to use. Entry level cross country skiers need properly set tracks to enjoy skiing. Cross country skiing is an affordable and easy way to enjoy the outdoors and is available to people with a wide range of physical skills and budgets. You can buy used gear for next to nothing and it is the opposite of an elitist sport. Snow machines are costly and push other users out of the space. Part of why I chose to live in the valley is due to the proximity to the groomed trails at Mendenhall campground and Montana creek. Do not let a vocal minority ruin this opportunity for a large amount of locals who are looking to get outside in the limited snow season.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 5, 2020 3:03 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Susan Wilkie
Email
susanwilkie@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
In my opinion you can not restrict access to just JNSC. It's asking for a part of our Alaskan outdoors to be given over to solely one group. Some families wish to ski, some wish to ride wheelers and snow machines. One is no better than the other and no one group should get preferential treatment or usage. It is completely feasible to share that section of the road with a little bit of compromise and respect of each other's passion for the beautiful Alaskan outdoors.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Friday, September 4, 2020 2:34 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Mitchell Laudert

Emaillaudertmitchell@gmail.com**Phone****Residence Location**

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

The JSC has inly two places to go here in juneau, Dan Moller and spaulding meadows up the lake creek trail. The skiers on the other had have more than two places to go they have dredge lakes trails, eagle crest trails, out at east glacier on the lake, the Mendenhall camp grounds, and multiple other places that they can go where as the snow machines can not. Last year there was an incident involving a skier and a snowmachiner on the Montana creek trail. The skier was throwing their ski poles at the rider who was minding their business and staying out of the skiers way. If the skiers get the trail closed out Montana creek road this closes off a really big area that riders of juneau will never get to explore. Also if they get this trail closed down they will try to close down other trails in juneau and make it a full no motorized use town making it so the riders have to leave town and go else where to ride.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Friday, September 4, 2020 2:19 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Dillon Tomaro
Email
dillonpaultomaro@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I use my snow-machine on the Montanan creek trail every winter to access areas back there for trapping. I need that area to be motorized accessible in order to continue trapping back there

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Friday, September 4, 2020 11:07 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Todd smith
Email
smittyinjuno@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not accept closure of this road. This is to be open to all user groups.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Friday, September 4, 2020 12:29 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Pamela J Crowe
Email
crowestuff@gmail.com
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
This is PUBLIC land, it must be kept open for ALL members of the public to use. Talk out hypocrisy, embrace differences, accept all human pursuits, and yet we keep want to close and segregate another area and keep others from enjoying the things they choose because a groups perceived "needs" have more value. Keep it open for all users.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Thursday, September 3, 2020 9:15 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Spencer Davis

Email

recnepsdavis@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Before you make your decision. Look at how many different trails there is in Juneau. Probably hundreds. How many are open to ATV's? The answer is 1. Dan molar and spaulding are not feasible for ATV's due to the steep hills. Montana creek is a road, that is state land past the bridge. There is no reason why skiers and atvs cannot share there road. They share dan molar trail just fine and have for years.
 Does cbj have the authority to close a state right of way? Do we need to seek out state right of way laws and regulations about public land use.
 Thank you for your time. And please don't take away what little one group has to apeas another group that has SO many.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Thursday, September 3, 2020 6:50 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Jeremy Roselle

Email

weehahjer@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

To Parks & Rec.,
I find it very frustrating that there is a proposed closure for Montana Creek Road. We live in the middle of nowhere Alaska where there are many places that would be ideal for four-wheeling, 4X4 off-roading, and snow machining. However, off-road recreation is greatly restricted. There are over 200 hiking trails in Juneau, but only two trails open to off-road vehicle use; Montana Creek Road being one and the other out by Amalga Harbor. Montana Creek Road is the only easy access road open for use by four wheelers and snow machines that is still within cell phone range should there be an accident. Parents teach their children to ride motorcycles and snow machines there. It appears to me, this is about Nordic ski enthusiasts and snow shoers having things their way. The cross country skiers have places in which to ski already: Spaulding Meadow and Eagle Crest area to name just a couple. We all pay Juneau taxes. We should be given equal opportunity to enjoy recreation. This proposal smacks of entitlement by a sliver of Juneau residents who, like small toddlers, want all the fun to themselves.

Thanks,
Jeremy

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Thursday, September 3, 2020 3:58 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Laura Heumann

Email

laura_heumann@live.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I think this is totally unreasonable. There are too many other solutions to the NORDIC skiers problems. I.e, all of the vast other areas for this same activity. ATV users have such limited options, every spot continues to get taken away. The very minimum that should happen if the skiers don't want to share is making a schedule, alternating activities.

Literally EVERY other city and town in alaska utilizes ATVs. The thought that the sound if "offensive" to others or the tracks upset the skiers is just silly.

It makes more sense to find an new place for the Nordic ski club and leave this place to be used for ATVs as they have no where else to go, and this is actually a decent, safe area. Unlike expecting people to drive all the way out to echo towing heavy machinery on dangerous road conditions.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Thursday, September 3, 2020 3:12 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Sara Manning
Email
saramanning_16@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I am against the road closure. The Montana Creek area is a great place for beginners to go learning how to snow machine, due to the easier terrain. If that location is closed it limits the places people can go to learn without having to get onto one of the trails. There is not many places to go to snow machine, and even the snow machine trails now are currently multi - user, and are shared with skiers. The Montana Creek road should fit the same standard and requirement. As a lifelong, participating to the community, Juneau resident who enjoys snow machining, myself, along with many others would benefit from leaving the Montana Creek Road open to motorized vehicles.</p> <p>Thank you, Sara</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Thursday, September 3, 2020 3:09 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Jonah Brown
Email
907navigator@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Montana creek should NOT be closed to motor vehicles. There are plenty of places to Nordic ski, there are not too many places to legally drive atvs and orv's.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Thursday, September 3, 2020 11:45 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Patrick Shanley
Email
patrickshanley@ymail.com
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I believe there should be more areas to use motorized vehicles not less.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Thursday, September 3, 2020 10:18 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Suzanne Bavard
Email
suzannebavard@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>The ATV/Off-Road community is already severely limited in where they can enjoy their sport. I don't think it is fair to limit access to an option that they already have so few of. As shown by proof over the years, you give an inch, they take a mile. The Off-Road community, rightfully so, is gun shy to give up any access they already have, in fear of losing it completely. I believe there can be a solution where everyone is satisfied, but both groups, as well as CBJ need to work together to make this happen, whether it is an additional access point for motorized use or another option altogether. Let's work together.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: Parks Rec
Sent: Thursday, September 3, 2020 10:04 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: FW: montana creek road access

-----Original Message-----

From: Kessler, Lyle E CDR <Lyle.E.Kessler@uscg.mil>
Sent: Thursday, September 3, 2020 9:44 AM
To: Parks Rec <Parks.Rec@juneau.org>
Subject: montana creek road access

While I think it would be great if both snowmobilers and Nordic skiers could use Montana creek in the winter months, the trail is not wide enough to support both. If a snowmobile were to use the trail once the track has been set, it would render the track unusable to skiers. I wholeheartedly support continued development of more trails so that both user groups can utilize the area, as I think there is more than enough room to accommodate both groups, however, until such time as both groups can use it without interfering with each other's' use, I support exclusive winter use for skiers. Skiing has a much lower cost of entry, supports youth sports, and we already have a well-established 4H ski program that helps kids get into skiing at a very low cost, literally less than you'd pay for fuel for your snowmobile.

I do think it's pretty ridiculous that in a city with the land size of Juneau, we have to even have this discussion, because there should be plenty of room for both groups.

Lyle Kessler

Juneau, AK

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 4:25 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Mike Bethers

Email

mikebethers@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Out the Road

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Thanks for the opportunity to comment. Closing public access to public land is a really big deal. It should never happen unless there is a well documented problem that cannot be solved any other way and the last thing the CBJ should do is add another regulation governing public activities. At this point, the snow machiners are much more restricted in open areas than the nordic skiers so I think the skiers should be willing to share the road. Do not close Montana Cr road to motorized use-it would lock motorized users out yet another place to play in Juneau. If its a safety issue you could put up a sign at the rifle range gate that would pivot-when skiers head up the road they could turn a sign toward the road that indicated skiers on the trail so snow machiners would know they up there along the road somewhere and they could watch out for them Thank you MB

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 8:25 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Jill Taylor

Email

jillataylor@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Downtown

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Hello,

I am a 20+ year resident of Juneau. I support closure of Montana Creek Road to motorized vehicles November 1 through April 1, extending from the gate by the Hank Harmon Rifle Range to the end of the road. I am a Nordic skier and past member of the Nordic Ski Club. This area is one of my favorite and peaceful places to ski in Juneau. It is also the most sensitive to erosion and damage from vehicles, both off and on road. Closure of the road to vehicles during the specified date range would allow for continued use of the road to skiers, walkers, hikers in the winter, and other recreational uses during the summer.

Thank you for taking my comment on this. Again, please close the road to vehicles during the winter months.

Jill Taylor

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 1, 2020 11:56 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Jesse Ross

Email

ross_jesse@hotmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Lemon Creek

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

As a trapper who used this for years on a snowmachine to access my trapping area, the ski club is trying to solidify this for their group while leaving out atvs and snowmachines and other users. I safely trapped this area approx 6 years ago and was the first person making tracks up the road, I was thanked by several skiers. 2 years after the gate went up I was cussed at and asked to get off the skiers area. this is selfish and violates several public land use codes, state and city. I always drove slow and never crossed the set ski trail. I rode a yamaha bravo longtrack that is a utility snowmachine. I also saw atvs being safely used to access mining areas. This is proof that machines and skiers have and can coexist. I also helped groom the trails for the ski club. It seems they want exclusive access to this area and that just isn't fair to other groups...this is a community issue and one that will set precedence. Please choose to not remove this area from trappers and other winter users such as myself for the interest of the ski club.

Jesse Ross

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 1, 2020 11:40 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Ervin Lott sr
Email
eglottsr@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Lemon Creek
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Leave open also should open all way to the end past the bridge be nice to have a four wheel area

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 1, 2020 11:23 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Sean Janes

Email

sean@beyondak.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Allowing recreational snowmobile use on the Montana Creek Road will prevent nordic skier activity because the snow grooming gets torn-up by the heavy tracks of the machines. As the tracks freeze and thaw it becomes extremely difficult and unsafe to glide along for skiers.

Also, snow-machine users have access to the Mt. Jumbo corridor, Dan Moller Corridor, Mt. Troy corridor, and Spaulding Meadow corridor which enables additional access to wide open spaces for operators.

Juneau nordic skiers have far less terrain to use compared to snow-machine users. Why allow Montana Creek Road access to snowmobiles when a corridor to Spaulding Meadows already exists?

Please continue to keep Montana Creek available for the many nordic skiers in our community by prohibiting recreational snow-machine use on the road / trail.

Sincerely,

Sean Janes

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 1, 2020 9:34 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Patricia Jouppi
Email
pjouppi.art@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>My husband and I are older and Nordic skiing on Montana Creek is our only source of aerobic outing in the winter. That location is very important for many including UAS students. We previously lived where there was shared Nordic ski/snowmachine use. It never worked: resulted in injuries and even deaths of skiers. The groomers work hard to make this trail usable to us well into the spring which would be destroyed by snow machines. Going to Eaglecrest, out the road or onto the lake is not an option for us. Montana Creek Nordic Area is beautiful serene and we would not want it to be open to all use.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 19, 2020 1:05 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Abby Jahn

Email

abbyrnjahn@gmail.com

Residence Location

Douglas

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

This comment is in regard to the first issue, whether Montana Creek road should be closed to motorized vehicles during the winter. As for the second issue, I am in support of keeping the trail open to all users year-round (motorized and non-motorized) with the exception of the winter months (as identified by this proposal, 11/1-4/1). There is less user conflict during the summer months.

I am a resident of Juneau and a recreational user of public lands in the region. Nordic skiing has a rich history in Juneau. It is a pillar of the recreational community during the winter months and is a safe, fun, and healthy way to encourage outdoor activity for all ages. The Juneau Nordic Ski Club (JNSC) requested this closure because they identified that this area is important for their organization and programs to function effectively and safely, additionally there are a growing number of nordic skiers in Juneau. This road retains snow, is easy to access for the community, is a fairly "flat" trail ideal for beginners, adaptive skiers, and can handle large groups of non-motorized users. These reasons also make this location ideal for both JNSC youth programs and individual users during the week and weekends alike.

Multi-purpose trail systems serve their purpose because they provide a breadth of opportunity for recreational users to enjoy a unique outdoor experience. Unfortunately a combined motorized and non-motorized use on this road jeopardizes the safety of all. The work that the JNSC contributes to grooming and maintaining the trail for all non-motorized users is compromised when a snowmachine or ATV drives on the trail. There are other motorized trail options in the Juneau area for all users to enjoy. These are important to the motorized community and should be maintained as such.

One alternative to maintain a motorized and non-motorized trail would be to open the trail on select days of the week to nordic only and other days of the week to all users. That may minimize some conflict between user groups. If the JNSC can determine which days of the week are most valuable to their operations (e.g., youth program days or weekends) then this may be a potential option. Unfortunately, snow doesn't abide to any schedule so this is not likely to be viable.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 19, 2020 5:27 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Nicole Auth
Email
nicoleauth207@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please support the closure and protect the land. It is a special spot for Nordic skiing and retains snow when other places are washed out with rain. Motorized traffic has ruined echo cove, it's so noisy and disruptive to those hiking and fishing.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Friday, September 18, 2020 10:02 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Steve Wilson
Email
anchoragebiathlonclub@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
As a visitor to Juneau I seek ski recreation areas, both Nordic and alpine. I can fly with my skis, but not my ATV/snogo--so having opportunities for ski recreation are important criteria when choosing a destination. Motorized vehicle usage and ski trails are not compatible in the same place and time. I support the Montana Ck. road closure.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Friday, September 18, 2020 8:17 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Robin Mulvey
Email
robinlmulvey@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I support the closure and gate as a means to protect valuable and sensitive habitats and recreation areas from the destruction of motorized vehicles.

Lauren Verrelli

From: Kim <kim.lea@acsalaska.net>
Sent: Friday, September 18, 2020 2:49 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: Photos of Montana Creek Recreational trail 9/16/2020
Attachments: image0.jpeg; image1.jpeg; image3.jpeg; image4.jpeg; image5.jpeg; image6.jpeg;
image7.jpeg; image8.jpeg; image9.jpeg; image10.jpeg; image11.jpeg; image12.jpeg;
image13.jpeg; image14.jpeg

EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

Sent from my iPhone. These photos reflect conditions after a few days without rain. They include the old road bed, new off road bed trails created by Atv riders and where an atv crossed a marked fish habitat stream bed.







Kim.lee@acsalaska.net photos 9/18.



Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 8:50 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
William White
Email
william.white81@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please keep the road closed to motorized vehicles during the proposed winter months and to allow for continued cross country skiing. If you open the gates it will no longer be feasible to cross country ski.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 8:48 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Karen White
Email
karen.white52@outlook.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I am in favor of this proposal. Many Juneau residents utilize this winter cross country ski stretch. If the gate were opened to motorized vehicles, it would essentially be closed to skiers. Even hiking the trail in the summer is dangerous with motor cycles clipping past. My husband and I were nearly hit by a speeding motor cycle recently. Please keep the gate closed during the proposed winter months.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 16, 2020 6:58 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Elizabeth Landes
Email
el.landes@att.net
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
What's there to lose?? On any given day Montana creek is frequented by skiers for the duration of snow coverage. It will become safer with the absence of vehicles. It will give more space to skiers (think social distancing...??). Less road maintenance. Let the people ski!!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 7:07 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Rodolfo Cunan
Email
igotnothing143@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I think that Montana Creek Road should remain open during this winter to motorized as many people seek outdoor activities, specially for atvs owners. there isn't really a park or recreational for atvs owners. As I was so happy to buy my very first atv with snow plow of course but unfortunately there isn't a trail for atvs. I searched and searched where to ride atvs in juneau. Not a single information about where you can ride atvs in juneau. As I was talking to stranger man about Monta Creek Road where you can ride atvs, I saw hope in fun outdoor activities. I hope you take this in to consideration for atv owners or maybe build a trail or other trail that can be explore with atvs. It be benefit the city, tourist, local people, and other businesses. Thank you

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 13, 2020 9:22 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Krista Arvidson
Email
akrovers@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
As a year-round user (hiking, dog walking, cross country skiing) , I am writing to voice my support that Montana Creek Road to be motorized vehicle-free. Thank you for considering. Krista Arvidson

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 13, 2020 7:39 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Christine S'gro

Email

christinesgro@yahoo.com

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Please close the portion of Montana Creek Road to motorized vehicles from November 1 through April 1st.

As a resident in the Mendenhall Valley, I enjoy walking and skiing on the road. When walking the road with motorized vehicles I feel as though I am putting my life in danger. The MV's are loud, they go fast, and they put out a lot of exhaust. Please close the road.

Thank you.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 12, 2020 10:32 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Vanessa Pereira
Email
vanessa_is@live.com
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I live on River Rd. and would be lovely to enjoy winter without fear of cars when I head that way to cross-country ski.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 12, 2020 6:16 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Rodney Steger
Email
rodneysteger@gmail.com
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Montana creek needs to be open to offroad motorized vehicles year around. I am an avid cross country skier and cross country skiing can be done anywhere. I also enjoy snowmobiles and offroad vehicles and have found that areas to ride around Juneau in the summer and winter are very limited and need to be increased. Off road motorized vehicles are an extremely educational tool for the young for safety and for teaching them mechanical maintenance. Having very little places to ride and get my kids interested is one of the only downsides of living in Juneau.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2020 9:32 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Kristin Wright
Email
wright@alaska.net
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I just walked this road today. Gorgeous. As a 30+ mile walker each week, I feel that we have tons of trails to use. I don't feel that ATV/Snowmobiles have the same. I recommend that this area not be closed to motorized vehicles during November 1 - April 1. If a hiker is bothered by motorized vehicles, then they can choose to hike somewhere else.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2020 9:14 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Nicole Steger
Email
nicolesteger@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Montana Creek Rd. should be left open to off-road vehicle travel year round. Cross country skiing can be done nearly anywhere in the winter, there are too few options for those whose recreation preference is utilizing motorized off-road vehicle including but not limited to, snow machines.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2020 6:23 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Elizabritta Buntin
Email
elizabritta@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I support the proposed closure of Montana Creek Road to motorized vehicles from November 1 through April 1!



JUNEAU SNOWMOBILE CLUB

September 11, 2020

Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee

Re: Use of Montana Creek Road by Motorized Vehicles

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to start off by saying that the Juneau Snowmobile Club is opposed to the proposal by the Juneau Nordic Ski Club to limit the Montana Creek Road to only one user group during the winter months.

As stated in a previous letter dated July 31, 2020, from Parks Director George Schaaf to the PRAC, he stated in his background information that the Montana Creek Road has a history of legal use by snowmobiles in the winter. His statement shows that snowmobiles have had precedents set for many years riding on the Montana Creek Road. George has also stated in his background information that the Juneau Nordic Ski Club started setting tracks the following winter after the existing gate was installed in 2014. The Juneau Snowmobile Club has been riding the Montana Creek Road for many years before the gate was installed, and before the Nordic Ski club has been setting track.

The Snowmobile Club has worked closely for many years with the Juneau Nordic Ski Club, letting them use our equipment for grooming and working on other issues between the two clubs. The Juneau Nordic Ski Club has not once reached out to the Juneau Snowmobile Club since their organization has been setting track to ask about a possible solution to their problem. It has now come to light that the Juneau Nordic Ski Club doesn't want to be good neighbors and try to find a solution but to demand that only their user group is worthy of using certain trails/roads during the winter months.

I highly caution the PRAC to not want to go down this road of only letting certain groups use areas for recreation. This will only open the door for other organizations/user groups to propose the closure of other areas. For example: A closure of Spaulding Lake Creek and Dan Moller parking lots to all hikers, Nordic skiers, and dog walkers during the winter months. To only allow the Snowmobile Club (who paid and volunteered their time to build those parking lots and maintain the trails) to use these parking lots and trails. Another example could be the Juneau Douglas Ice Association wanting to propose that only their user group wants all the ice time at the Treadwell Ice Arena. This would mean no usage for Adult Hockey Association, Juneau Skating Club, open skating, or speed skating at Treadwell Arena.

So I guess what I am getting at is does the PRAC as a committee want to divide this community by letting one user group get whatever they want, or would you rather come up with a solution for the betterment of all user groups? I highly recommend that the PRAC gets all user groups involved in a committee to figure out how we can solve this problem and move forward for all user groups. Thank you for taking the time to listen to all sides.

Sincerely,

JSC President
Corey Baxter

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 8:11 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

John McFeeters

Email

feet@earthling.net

Residence Location

Douglas

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I am writing to request that Montana Creek road beyond the gate be closed to motorized vehicles between Nov. 1 and May1. This is an important location for nordic skiers in the winter. Many days when the snow is not good at other places to ski at sea level, the ski conditions at Montana Creek are great. It is an important place for young skiers who are training for upcoming races. It provides a beautiful scenic ski for those who live in the valley or out the road and who can't drive all the way to Eaglecrest.

Many volunteers and volunteer hours are used to maintain this trail in top condition. It is not a trail that can be shared with ORVs considering how narrow it is. Please consider closing it to any motorized vehicles.

Thank you,

John McFeeters

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 8:09 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Cynthia McFeeters

Email

mcfeetersc@gmail.com

Residence Location

Douglas

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I am writing to request that Montana Creek road beyond the gate be closed to motorized vehicles between Nov. 1 and May1. This is an important location for nordic skiers in the winter. Many days when the snow is not good at other places to ski at sea level, the ski conditions at Montana Creek are great. It is an important place for young skiers who are training for upcoming races. It provides a beautiful scenic ski for those who live in the valley or out the road and who can't drive all the way to Eaglecrest.

Many volunteers and volunteer hours are used to maintain this trail in top condition. It is not a trail that can be shared with ORVs considering how narrow it is. Please consider closing it to any motorized vehicles.

Thank you,

Cynthia McFeeters

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 1:40 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Grace Corrigan
Email
gkc193@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Voicing support for the closure of Montana Creek Road to motorized vehicles from Nov. 1 - April 1. Personally, I fall all the time while cross country skiing- even on the trails so lovingly and tediously groomed by volunteers. I don't just fall over, or fall forward, I'm a skiing yardsale. One ski over there, one ski over here, poles in the tree, blood maybe. If motorized users want to freely rip it, they shouldn't have to worry about noobs like me crashed headfirst into the snowbank they were planning on gunning it through. For the safety of the young and the clumsy as well as the preservation of the quiet and lovely winter trail that is Montana Creek after a fluffy dump, please consider my comment. Do it for the children.

Lauren Verrelli

From: Malou Peabody <mdewolfpeabody@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 10:10 AM
To: Parks Rec; Lauren Verrelli; info@jnski.org
Subject: Re: Montana Creek XC Ski Trail - additional thoughts

EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

Greetings,

I have been thinking so much about Montana Creek, I decided to send you a second email.

Especially during this covid winter it is more important than ever that the Montana trail will be available to as large a portion of the general public as possible.

Snowmobiles tear up the snow so much, it quickly becomes a difficult chore to hike, walk the dog, ski, snowshoe, or run on the same trail. Of course, there is also a strong safety concern with mixed trail usage when snowmobiles are on the trail. This means the trail will quickly become used only by those folks who can afford a snowmobile.

Snowmobilers currently have two free access points to the vast terrain they enjoy: Dan Moller and the trail behind the university.

X-country skiers also have two trails within our community to enjoy for free: the campground and Montana Creek. Eaglecrest is not a free trail and requires a long drive from the valley.

I would think this makes the use of our free trails pretty fair between the two groups, except that snowmobilers already use far more acreage of our public lands under the current scenario than most x-country skiers, dog walkers, runners, and snowshoers ever will.

Our community is so lucky that the Nordic Club maintains these trails for all to enjoy at no cost to the city. Those of us who can, donate to the club. Yet, the entire community gets to enjoy the fruits of their labor.

Thank you for your time,

Malou Peabody

On Tue, Aug 25, 2020 at 7:05 PM Malou Peabody <mdewolfpeabody@gmail.com> wrote:

Greetings,

I am writing to request that the road beyond the Gate at the Rifle Range remain closed to motorized users from Nov 1 to May 1 and to have a pedestrian kissing gate permanently installed.

In winter I utilize the Montana Creek trail every day as it is the only trail in the valley that offers continuous snow until May during those winters when Juneau enjoys snow at sea level.

XC skiing is my daily medicine in winter as it helps correct lower back and other structural health issues.

I moved to Juneau in 1991 and left for about seven years in 2005. My husband and I could not wait to move back to our "home town" when the first opportunity arose. We chose to live in the valley to be in close proximity to our xc ski trails. Montana Creek is a jewel to everyone who lives in the valley. Juneau's population center is the valley and everyone here can be on their skis and at Montana Creek in less than ten/fifteen minutes.

As Montana Creek is a groomed trail, it is enjoyed by runners, dog walkers, snowshoers, hunters, and skiers. I believe keeping this trail available to non-motorized sports offers the most diverse use of the trail, regardless of income level.

ORVs create an exclusive use zone around them just by their operation – excluding non motorized users. If ORVs (primarily snow machines) get the green light for winter use, we will lose our groomed ski trail at Montana Creek, and I would be just devastated.

Thank you for your careful consideration,

Malou Peabody

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 9:36 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Anne Stadnychenko
Email
astadnychenko@gmail.com
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I agree with the Juneau Nordic Ski Club proposal to keep Montana Creek closed to motorized vehicles from November 1 to April 1. Having peace and quiet is essential for a good cross country ski, enhancing the recreational experience and promoting exercise. Having vehicles in the area would conflict with those experiences.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 9:01 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Adrian Celewycz
Email
acelewycz@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please keep Montana Creek non-motorized from November 1 to May 1. Please install a gate to restrict motorized access

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 7:00 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Kerry Kirkpatrick
Email
kirkpilling@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I would say they should find a way to share it but I don't believe they really are compatible. Juneau has a lack of roads and trails that can take the traffic of ATVs without serious destruction. What about giving them access to hidden valley in the winter months. Or maybe they could organize as a group and purchase some land out the road. Maybe they could work with trail mix for some specific trail building that can sustain that kind of use. How about working with the native corporation on their land to eagle crest road. I don't know that one group should be excluded but if I had to decide it would be based on who I've seen using the road in the winter. I ski it when there is snow probably twice a week. There are always skiers but I've never seen a snow machine or ATV there except for the machine laying track.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 11:39 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
James Reid
Email
jamesareid65@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Keep it open for everyone's use. The road leads to State Land.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 11:23 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
James Parr
Email
panhan7@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Road should be open to all user groups year round . As should all parks and trails iin the juneau area.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 11:10 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Jessica Fuller
Email
jessicafuller2010@yahoo.com
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Closing the road to ATV is absolutely ridiculous. We are the 2nd largest municipality in the entire country and do not offer any legal rideable trails other than echo cove. I am a cross county skier myself and there are an abundance of places I can go to ski including the Mendenhall campgrounds located right by Montana Creek. Alaska is plenty big enough to let everyone live this one life we get. Keep it open to all year round.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 9:55 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Lucas Musielak
Email
alaska.907@icloud.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
That road was built by vehicles, for vehicles. It is a perfect access to revenue generating cabins that could be accessed by snowmobile. It's one of the coldest and shadowed places that allows such recreational vehicle Longer term access. The skiing can happen it so many multiple places in Juneau, that it doesn't seem fair to not allow all user groups.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 9:39 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Daniel Holt
Email
drdanielholt@gci.net
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not support the unfair exclusion of motor vehicles on the Montana creek trail!
Thanks Daniel Holt

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 9:26 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
DeeAnn Fuller
Email
dfull907@gmail.com
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please don't close one of the only acceptable places for riders. Thank you.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 9:23 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Anthony Lindoff
Email
awlindoff@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I support closure of motorized vehicles on Montana creek road.
AWL

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 9:21 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Al Brouillette
Email
abrouil431@aol.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>The portion of the road under consideration is a little over 3 kilometers with a river on one side and a dense forest on the other. The type of cross country skiing most people do there (skate and classic) requires a trail width of about 10 to 12 feet which makes the his road ideal. A trail of this width is not easily found around Juneau. It takes me about 20 minuets to ski one way. I imagine it would take 3 to 5 minuets on a off road machine. Not a very long ride. A lot of time in the winter Montana creek road is the only place that has enough snow to ski on. Especially for the many skiers who live in the valley. There are 400 skiers and growing in the Juneau Nordic ski club.a lot of them like me ski for 40 to 60 minuets a day as a work out. Maybe if we put our heads together we can formulate a plan a dedicated ski area.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 8:54 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Garrett Paul
Email
gpaul99@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Lemon Creek
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I am opposed to the closure of Montana Creek Road to motorized vehicles from November 1 through April 1. I believe it is a very bad idea to prevent one user group over another from recreating in the Montana Creek Area. This area is one of only four locations in Juneau, AK where citizens can legally operate recreational vehicles. All other areas have been closed or are seasonal based on conditions. By closing this place to motorized use during winter is favoring one user group over another and sends the clear message that CBJ is continuing it's anti-motorsports agenda and further subduing an important economic driver. Residents of Juneau have been enjoying this area for decades either with recreational vehicles, or on foot. Please don't continue the current pattern of shutting down areas for motorsports use. This is a healthy, centuries old pastime that should be promoted, not shunned. Juneau needs more riding areas, and that's what we should be talking about instead of shutting down what little remains.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 8:41 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Marc Scholten

Email

scholtenmarc@gci.net

Phone

Residence Location

Douglas

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Montana Creek Road Winter Closure Sept. 27, 2020

Thanks for this opportunity to comment on the proposed Montana Creek Road winter closure. I support the closure of Montana Cr. Road from Nov 1 to May 1 to allow the continuation of ski grooming by the JNSC which has been grooming the area for 15 yrs. The reason I now live in Juneau is because of the skiing opportunities provided in the Juneau area. Skiing has continued to be a life long passion for me as well as thousands of other Juneau residents. Due to accelerating changes in the variability of winter weather and increased temperatures caused by climate change, skiing opportunities are decreasing. This situation has required skiers to concentrate in areas with lower temperatures and northerly exposures, such as Montana Cr Road.

I recommend that the area remain non-motorized during the whole year due to the destructive impacts motorized use has on the land and waters accessible from the road. I have worked as a land manager in the recreation field for the Forest Service on the Juneau Ranger District, and worked on Off Road Vehicle issues for 20 years. In almost all instances motorized and non-motorized use are not compatible, usually with the motorized user displacing the non-motorized user. Motorized use adjacent to non-motorized use in a narrow width road corridor would be extremely dangerous especially to non-motorized users. This would be a persistently dangerous safety issue. The Forest Service would receive several reports of incidents every year when motorized use of ATV's and snowmachines was allowed on the narrow trails of the Dredge Lakes Unit of the Mendenhall Glacier Recreation Area. These threats to public safety led the Forest Service to close the Unit to motorized use 1996-1997 by amending the Mendenhall Glacier Recreation Area Plan.

In addition to public safety the use of ATV's off of prepared trails is immensely destructive to vegetation, soils and streams. Most of the ATV trails in the Montana Cr. Area were pioneered by illegal use and continue to increase in number and distance. ATV's continue to cross Montana Cr, which is a salmon stream, damaging fish habitat and disrupting salmon spawning. The damage to the forest resources including vegetation and soils is immense. The mostly organic and poorly drained soils that persist in the area are easily damaged and remain damaged for decades.

Please take these issues into account by not only closing the area to motorized use in the winter but for the whole year.

Thanks so much for the opportunity to comment,

Marc Scholten

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 8:27 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
David DeMars
Email
djdemars@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
The CBJ and State should be opening up riding area's not closing them. Their should be a audit for the money they get from the Government for maintaining these trails. Their is supposed to be a percentage of these trails that are for motorized vehicles.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 8:25 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Harrison Holt
Email
harrisonholt12@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not support the unfair exclusion of motorized vehicles utilizing the Montana Creek Trail in the winter.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 8:24 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Cindy Fuller
Email
cash66smf@hotmail.com
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I do not support the proposed closure of Montana Creek road to motorized vehicles. Numerous individuals in Juneau enjoy using off road motorized vehicles. They also contribute a considerable amount of income to Juneau businesses purchasing and repairing these vehicles. The trailers and gear required to operate in the very minuscule areas where they are allowed contribute to our limited market economy. A closure of this are would reduce that market even more. The amount of unmotorized trails in Juneau far exceeds the ratio of motorized trails. A snowmobile or atv user contributes far more in dollars than a cross country skier or a hiker. I've been told you can figure it costs about \$100.00 per hour to snowmobile. My children have proven this many times.</p> <p>Historically this road has been a motor vehicle supported roadway and it should remain that way.</p> <p>Thank you, Cindy Fuller</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 8:20 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Eric Sidney
Email
ericlogen@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
There are not many spots for people to ride motorized vehicles in Juneau and there are many spots for people to cross country sky and nature walk all over town. I believe we should keep it open for people to have more freedom to explore the outdoors as they choose

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 8:13 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Don Howell
Email
donhowell48@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not support closing Montana Creek road to snow machines, in fact the 200 acre gold claims the city owns up Maginis creek would possibly make a good spot for a motorized park. We need more space not less and it doesn't cost the city anything because we will build and maintain our own trails. (Maginis creek is at the end of Montana creek road)

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 8:11 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Joann Sidney
Email
swampy@alaska.net
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please keep Montana creek open for snow machines and off road vehicles

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 8:09 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Kristel Liska
Email
kristel@thegrindcoffeeco.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not support the closure of Montana creek to motorized vehicles during the winter. I feel this is unfair as there is such a limited place to use motorized vehicles in Juneau.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 8:06 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Jeremy Sidney
Email
jeremy.sidney12@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
do not close this area down , discrimination against thus group is wrong and will stop many peoples only way to get out and enjoy this area , also as a user group we are inclusive to all , you seem to play favorites but tax us all in the name of multiple use areas!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 7:54 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
steve klinger
Email
klinger422@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I dont support the closure to motorized vehicles. Let those boys run!!!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 7:47 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Naomi Hobbs
Email
naomihobbs@me.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Our community needs more riding areas. The youth need outdoor activities and not everyone hikes, bikes, and skis. Our youth that ride motorized vehicles grow up to be our mechanics and work in the mines and raise their families to do the same. Juneau has plenty of land and already many locations to hike, bike, and ski. There are too few places to ride motorized vehicles, please do not take more away. Juneau needs diversity. My brother recently left Juneau because he could not ride like he loved to do for so many years as a teenager. He took his family north where there are plenty of places to ride all year round.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 7:44 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Al Hill JR
Email
melassandro2011@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Lemon Creek
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I don't believe it to be fair. Or the right choice to ban motorized activity vehicles . There are. Many many choices. For the non motorized. Which are. Regularly maintained for there convince. The choices are limited to the. Motorized. Group and only getting smaller. This is not about. Either group. Disrespecting the land. This is about greed and the in ability. Of grown adults. Knowing how to share .

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 7:43 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Doug Rountree
Email
drountree@gci.net
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
We need more places for motorized vehicles not less

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 7:37 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Marion Hobbs
Email
marionbhobbs@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Over the years, most of the riding areas have been taken away from motorized vehicle users. This is horrible planning and it drives people out of Juneau. There needs to be more areas to ride, not less.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 7:31 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Brent Howell
Email
hcatllc@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I am very much against the proposal to close the road. Skiers have many other options and 4wheelers have very few. It is also the perfect spot for motorized vehicles due to the lack of residences affected by noise.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 7:26 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Susan Cox
Email
navecox@gci.net
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I support the proposal to close the Montana Creek Road beyond the rifle range to motorized vehicles over the winter. Thanks for taking public comments - Susan Cox

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 7:17 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Daniel Gibb
Email
gibbdan8@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
There are so many trails that are already closed to motor vehicle use. Why do some people think they deserve to have everything? Honestly it should be kept open and expanded. Should also be new areas opened to motor vehicle use.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 1:47 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Rosemary Slotnick
Email
Rosemary.slotnick@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I take my kids skiing on Montana creek road every winter. If the road is not closed then it will not be safe to take kids skiing there. This is an important area for x country skiing in Juneau and I hope that Parks and Rec ensures that it remains so. Thank you

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 1:08 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Nathan Adams
Email
nathanjadams@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please maintain road closure as requested by the nordic ski club. We regularly recreate cross country skiing at least weekly throughout the winter (snow permitting of course).

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 1:05 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Jesse Smith
Email
bandit4728@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not support this !!!!! This is why we have eagle crest !!! There are very few places people can ride there toys and to take one away is ridiculous when the city has a designated ski area Not cool at all

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 12:34 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Megan Freas
Email
meganfreas25@gmail.com
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
The road should stay open for all parties and not designated for just one. I walk my dog out there regularly. My son and husband take my sons quad out there as well. Keep the road open for EVERYONE!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 11:56 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Emily Haskett
Email
emmhaskett@icloud.com
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not support this unfair proposal to close a portion of Montana Creek Road to motorized vehicles.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 11:27 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Jeremiah Beedle

Email

jerbeedle@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I do not support the unfair closure to of the Montana Creek area to motorized users. As a city we need to support as many user groups as possible to every area open to its population. The motorized user group supports unit sales, repairs, outdoor gear purchases, fuel sales, and the necessity of larger garages or storage units for off season storage. Income is generated for the sales and servicing businesses as well as taxes generated through them. The motorized off road user group has lost much of its access to recreational sights over the years. I grew up respectfully enjoying the Dredge Lake trail system on a Motorcycle. My friends and I had to keep our grades up, make money for fuel and maintenance, repair our own equipment, and in return we had a great place to spend every day after school keeping out of trouble. Impressionable youths in need of a demanding physical activity to help manage the both physical and emotional challenges of young adulthood no longer have easy access to such sights. Limited access to off road recreational sights and the freedom to enjoy them is a drawback to trying to entice young working class families into Juneau's economy. As an aging population we need to seriously consider a comprehensive plan to broaden Juneau's desirability to working class families. At present less than 40% of the employees in one of CBJ's largest tax generating industries reside in Juneau. The employees in the mining industry have been leaving Juneau in great numbers. I see this as a barometer of how CBJ is doing in respect to retaining and attracting families. Restricting further the outdoor recreational sights to be enjoyed by multiple user groups is a step in the wrong direction.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 10:39 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Joel Nudelman

Email

joel.nudelman@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Douglas

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Juneau is fortunate to have the climate and terrain for snow sports but for the past ten years or so, our winters have become less dependable. I recall many winter days when it was raining throughout the borough, yet the Juneau Nordic Ski Club grooming cadre was taking advantage of the snow hole on the gated portion of Montana Creek road. They were providing an excellent ski surface for the community. This area is the most snow-dependable location in Juneau for Nordic skiing. JNSC is a self-sustaining group of skiers and volunteers of all ages and ski levels who are out enjoying the beautiful scenery and excellent company of fellow skiers. This trail is important to Juneau's youth through the 4H program and the Junior Nordic Ski Team. Kids from our community have competed in statewide Nordic ski competitions and some have gone onto NCAA cross country running and track programs, an excellent crossover sport. This venue has been important for me and others in the community for staying physically active and fit.

On multiple occasions the past two years, I've been troubled to read the JNSC trail report informing members that ATV's had shredded a beautifully groomed trail. I realize there is another user group who would like this same access, however they have many miles of backcountry opportunities on Spaulding meadows and on Douglas Island for snow machining. Some believe that the motorized and non-motorized uses are compatible, but at this location, they are not! The trail is too narrow for both skiers and snow machines, and hard breathing skiers will have a difficult time skiing behind the exhaust of snow machines. Blind corners make for a high likelihood of accidents between skiers and snow machines. Additionally it will be difficult to keep the snow machines out of the set ski tracks. I urge the CBJ to keep the gate locked during the ski season to eliminate access to ATV's, which cause damage to the groomed trails.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 9:55 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Nick Meyer
Email
nick.w.meyer@icloud.com
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
The access available for motorized vehicles is already more limited in Juneau than any other community in Alaska. They last thing we need is to lose another trail. I do not support this!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 9:31 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Hanes Susney
Email
swampy@alaska.net
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
This is a very important area for motorized Use don't close it. It is very important area for wheelers snow machines

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 8:36 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Chad Thomas
Email
chadpt@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I do not support the unfair closer of the Montana Creek trail to motorized use. The Nordic Ski club has access to every trail I'm Juneau including trails that are designated for motorized use by snowmobiles and ATV's. The motorized vehicles provide a nice trail for skiers and we do not discourage the Nordic skiers from enjoying the same trails as us. Please consider the very limited access that the snowmobile and ATV rides of Juneau have in your decision making process.</p> <p>Thank you, Chad Thomas.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 7:38 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Nathan Wiley
Email
nathanwiley001@gmail.com
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I think it is acceptable to close to motorized use. Motorized vehicles do irreparable damage to the environment at an incredibly fast rate. Also, it is dangerous to have a shared used trail when motorists (Including children) are operating unmonitored around other trail users. Thank you!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 7:34 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
John Bishop
Email
jbishop@ptialaska.net
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not support the closure proposal. There are very few places to operate snow machines, and conversely there are unlimited opportunities for cross country skiing. Once again, it looks like a certain group of people are committed to forcing their agenda to limit the choices of others.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 6:30 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Ron Baxter
Email
scoreys2@yahoo.com
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Leave it open! Stop taking away snow machines trails to ride

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2020 6:26 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Pam Baxter
Email
pambaxter47@gmail.com
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I believe that the Montana Creek trail should continue to remain open to motorized use.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 9:55 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Camden Erickson
Email
ericksoncamden@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
The area for people to use motorized vehicles is already very limited. There are many other non motorized trails for people to use.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 9:37 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Nolan Ramseth
Email
skiak2002@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
To close one of the only two places in juneau where snowmobiles are allowed would be killing accessability to snowmachining in juneau. Don't take away what we already don't have

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 9:02 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Jeff Trucano
Email
jefftrucano@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I feel this should be a shared area, as there are already very limited areas to enjoy ORV's.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 8:21 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Mariann Cummings
Email
mmcummings1@aol.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please keep it open! There are so few places to go with snow machines! So nice to be able to enjoy this area for a family outing during these months of short day light and snow! This should continue to be enjoyed by all! Please! Thank You Mariann Cummings

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 8:06 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Kristin Kibby
Email
kibby911@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Do not close the road please!!!!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 5:31 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Nick Carson

Email

mr.nickcarspn@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I think it would be a great access point and possibly open up new places to ride snowmachines and maybe help with congestion on the Spaulding trail that can be pretty tight for sleds let alone two especially in the steeper parts of the trail leading to the meadows, but I also understand that people who like to cross country ski want the area strictly for them, I think if there was a way to put a lane for two skiers to ski side by side and two sleds to ride side by side with in a safe manner and at low speeds on the sled, but I also do understand theres alot of arms up cause of the noise from us on sleds, I get it, but at the same time cross country skiers have anywhere and every where to go people with snowmachines have very limmited places to utilize for the fun, I'm all to respect others out in the wild enjoying our beautiful country but I do not stand for one party to stomp on another for their own gain, if there can be a common ground we can land on that works for every one than awesome!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 4:49 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Kasen Spickler
Email
kasen_spickler@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I do not support the closure of Montana Creek road to snowmobiles or off road vehicles. This road is one of three legal areas for snowmobiles. The Nordic ski club has numerous other trails that they groom and maintain.</p> <p>If the closure does happen, I don't think it's right for the ski club to be able to use their off road equipment to groom the ski trail.</p> <p>Closed means closed.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 2:09 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Kris Benson
Email
kbenson722@gci.net
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please close Montana Creek Road to motorized use Nov.1 to May 1, excepting the groomers for cross country trail maintenance. At times, this is the only Nordic ski trail that is useable in our area. I expect that to be more so in the future. The use of this valuable Nordic ski resource would be ruined if motorized users were allowed. It simply isn't big enough to accommodate both skiers and snowmobilers.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 1:53 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Jacob Bicknell
Email
j_bicknell7@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not support the unfair exclusion of motorized vehicles utilizing the Montana creek trail in the winter.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 1:45 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Gary & Laurel Mendivil Mendivil
Email
MENDIVILGARY@GMAIL.COM
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please close the portion of Montana Creek Road past the rifle range to motorized vehicles from November 1 through April 1. Please see our letter from the August meeting packet for additional details.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 1:01 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
matthew Rumery
Email
mattrumery907@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do NOT support the closure of the Montana creek road to motorized vehicles. This has been a one sided topic for way to long, the riding community keeps getting shut out of places and never giving an alternative option.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 12:51 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Nikolaos Hebert
Email
nikohebert1@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not support the closure of Montana creek trail to motorized vehicles through the winter months. This would be very unfair to a large part of Juneau's residents. Cross country skiers have several places to ski but motorists have only one place! And that's Montana creek!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 12:42 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Jaret Reid

Email

jaretreid@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I'm born and raised here in Juneau. In my 35 years I've watched and felt the pressure of recreational riding areas slowly being made off limits to the point where I've received tickets for unlawful atv riding and witnessed fellow riders experience the same punishment. Simply because our riding areas are being taken away from us. I100%oppose this action for the right of good clean recreation atv riding. If this is an actual consideration, I would suggest developing or opening up other terrain to compensate. For Juneau being on the top of the nations list for its square mileage we should be able to come up with an easy alternative/solution to support everyone's needs.

Thank you,

Jaret Reid

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 12:37 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Cole Cheeseman
Email
cheeseman.cole@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
This needs to stay open to motorized vehicles, there is only a couple places to ride and the skiers and hikers have plenty of other trails they can use. Don't take the little bit of trail we have. When there's multiple for the skiers and hikers. Also if they wanna close it down to motorized vehicles then they shouldn't be aloud to use there groomer on the trail either

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 12:24 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Mike Sturrock
Email
sturrockm@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not support the unfair exclusion of motorized vehicles utilizing the Montana Creek Trail in the winter.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 12:15 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Nick Fagnoli
Email
fagnoli@live.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not support the closing of motorized access to the Montana Creek Trail, please do not exclude our user group from enjoying this trail. It's just unfair.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 12:10 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Gordon Johnson
Email
smitten@gci.net
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Here we go again. The motorized user groups have nowhere to go because Juneau is a lockout place and it is really bad. Go to any other town in Alaska or the Yukon the residents that live there share the lands. There is no sharing in Juneau, Alaska as it's one group that wants it all. I know what's going to go down and that is the decision to close Montana Creek Road has already been made then public comments then the deed is done. At last count there are 56 trails for the skiers and hikers plus the most beautiful tracked runs that are really big at the Mendenhall campground and all of Dredge lake area so please reverse the decision to close Montana Creek road and for the first time ever let the motorized fun loving residents have somewhere to go.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 11:46 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Nan Schonenbach

Email

ronnan@gci.net

Phone

Residence Location

Out the Road

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I enthusiastically support the proposal to close the CBJ- owned section of Montana Creek Road from the Harmon gun range to the bridge over Montana Creek to motorized vehicles (except for ski track setters) during the winter months. Montana Creek is my favorite place to cross country ski in the Juneau area and one of the most convenient to my home on Lena Loop. My husband and I ski there often and we always see lots of other skiers on the trail. It is used by people of all ages and often by their canine companions. It is a beautiful, peaceful place where the snow seems to remain skiable after other locations lose their snow or became too icy. There is a dedicated group that maintain the track and a diverse group of people that ski it. If it were to be opened to the few, (mostly young adults I suspect) that operate snow machines, the peace and quiet would be lost, it would be difficult to maintain the track and it would be more hazardous for the many skiers and their dogs that have enjoyed the trail and maintained it for many years. If I had to share the trail with snow machines I would probably stop going there as it would ruin the experience for me. It would be a shame to allow a small number of snow machine operators to so adversely impact the experience of a large community of skiers.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposal.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 10:07 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Darrell Wetherall
Email
alaskahood@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I'm writing to implore the advisory committee to maintain the status quo and recommend to the city manager that no changes be made in regards to Montana Creek Road status. The Nordic Ski Club is just one of many user groups that use this area in the winter. It is very clear from the comments they submitted it is their intention to close the road at the exclusion of other user groups so that they have sole access for their hobby of choice. There are many snow machine and ATV enthusiasts that use this road, a legal use in the winter. State DNR land beyond the bridge is one of the few legal places to ride off road vehicles. Closing the short section of CBJ road to vehicles, whether for the winter or year round, effectively chokes off access and will result in intentional violations of the manager's order, further fueling the conflict between the NSC and ORVA. I find it absolutely hypocritical that the NSC has the nerve to ask for a closure to snow machines and ATVs but wants an exception so that they can run their motorized groomers on the road. Before any closures are made further limiting ORV access, CBJ should revisit an ORV park here in Juneau.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 9:50 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Ron Schonenbach

Email

ronnanschonenbach@yahoo.com

Phone

Residence Location

Out the Road

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

There is no question that the road must be closed to motorized users from 11/1-5/1. The number of skiers who cherish this road is impressive. The area is colder and greater snow depth so it is used the entire season when other areas have no snow.

There is simply no way that snow machines and skiers can be compatible on this narrow road. The only exception as in the past is the track setter. Maintaining a track and a skate surface makes this a wonderful short ski. Opening to snow mobiles would completely eliminate the peacefulness that is available to skiers.

I'll say it one more time: this road cannot be made comparable between the two user groups. Thanks for taking comments.
Cheers, Ron

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2020 7:16 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Anies Sadeghi
Email
capt.sadeghi907@hotmail.com
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
In my opinion the Montana creek area should be open to ATV access all year around. Recreational areas for riding in Juneau are scarce, and many people enjoy riding. There are many more areas permitted to cross country ski and walk during the winter seasons aswell.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2020 5:00 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Trisha Buchwald

Email

trishabuchwald@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I am a resident of the Montana Creek area and am writing to express my opposition to the Montana Creek Road closure. The proposal states increased use by Nordic skiers has led to conflict with other users of the area. The proposed solution to eliminate access to the area for established users in order to accommodate new users defies common sense.

The justifications for the closure are particularly troubling and clearly show a bias toward favoring JNSC activities. Although, I greatly appreciate and benefit from the efforts of JNSC I'm very uncomfortable with the precedence this sets. Part of the justification was that motorized vehicle use damages tracks set by JNSC and leads to conflict. I walk the campground daily, which part of the year is groomed by JNSC. Foot traffic can damage their grooming efforts and occasionally leads to conflict with Nordic skiers. Should I be concerned that a bike path closure on Skater's Cabin Road is next? The justification also noted parking issues with skiers at the range creating conflict. Closing the road seems like a strange solution to this problem. Are there other viable options, limiting range parking to range users, offering a ski shuttle, ect.?

Additionally, closing the road creates a safety risk in my opinion. Last year my husband suffered a broken bone after a bad fall while Nordic skiing. Thankfully, emergency services weren't needed in his case, but they may be in the case of others in similar situations. By closing the road, I believe you may be also limiting accessibility of emergency personnel to the area.

The proposal on its face seeks to discriminate against recreational activity that already experiences limited access in the area. I moved to Juneau from western Alaska 10 years ago, where off-road vehicles are an important part of subsistence living. Prior to our move, I was advised by numerous Juneau locals to not bring along our vehicles because the local government strongly against their usage. The Parks & Rec memo clearly demonstrates that assertion. I think there is plenty of space in Juneau for all types of recreation to coexist and hope you will look for alternatives to the proposed solution to address any issues that the area is experiencing.

I appreciate you taking the time to consider my opinion.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2020 5:50 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Randi Kubik
Email
randi_kubik345@hotmail.com
Residence Location
Lemon Creek
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Keep it open

Lauren Verrelli

From: Elizabeth Einset <eeinset@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2020 5:34 PM
To: Parks Rec; Lauren Verrelli
Cc: info@jnski.org
Subject: Montana Creek Road Closure

EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

Hi,

As a member of the Juneau Nordic Ski Club, I'm writing to you today to express my desire to keep the Montana Creek Rd winter ski trail area closed to motorized vehicle access from November 1st until May 1st each year.

Mixing foot traffic with motorized vehicle traffic is dangerous and sets the skiers and snowshoers up for potentially serious accidents. Fast moving vehicles operating in the dark, during snowfalls, coming over blind hill crests and around blind corners present a deadly challenge to people on foot.

Operating vehicles on the ski tracks will immediately destroy carefully prepared and maintained classic and skate ski tracks. The volunteers of the Juneau Nordic Ski Club spend hundreds of hours every year creating safe ski tracks for any Juneau citizen that wants to get out on Nordic skis for recreation. The operation of snow machines or ATV's cannot co-exist on the same trail as the ski trails.

This is the one sea-level trail that reliably and consistently holds skiable snow for the winter - and it's an important trail for Juneau's youth skiers & racers and adult recreational skiers alike.

Please consider that there are literally dozens of miles of snowy terrain available for use by motorized winter vehicles. These powerful machines can easily climb hills and mountains to access wide open country for hours of motorized recreation - don't ruin one of Juneau's Nordic skiing jewels by allowing motorized use of the Montana Creek trail.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Einset

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2020 1:32 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Brenda Wright
Email
bewright@gci.net
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>Montanc creek road is sometimes Juneau's only available site for cross country skiing. Our winter weather is not foreseeable but often, not even Eagle crest has some snow for cross country skiing. I think it would be ok for motorized 4-wheelers to use Montana creek road in summer, but not take the only good site for cross country skiing in Juneau from Nov. to April. It is only 3 Kilometers from the bridge to the end of the road. Please allow skiers to have its use in winter. Thank you, Brenda Wright</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2020 4:58 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Meagan Hinton
Email
meaganranger@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I feel that closing Montana Creek to motorized vehicles in the winter is the only choice you have. Many people like to ski that area and one snowmobile would ruin the tracks for a large number of skiers. It seems like a huge problem, that the city would allow a large percentage of people to lose one of the only more reliable skiable areas in large parts of winter for a very few number of snow mobilers who have reliable trails for snow such as Dan Moller trail.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 8:31 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Cokeley Bronson
Email
akcokeley@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Let us continue to use the Montana crk. Trail access for motorized vehicles...please

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 2:52 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Troy Whitlock
Email
troy.g.whitlock@faa.gov
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I believe the road should remain open to motorized vehicles. The skiers have taken over the campground including the new trail across from skaters cabin they also have Eagle crest.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 2:31 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Rachel Michaud
Email
rachelam24@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Closing the Montana Creek Road to motorized vehicles is unjust and shouldn't be done. The Nordic ski club has many other areas in Juneau for use and does not need this road closed down for their use.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 2:16 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Aimee Richards

Email

aimnorth11@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Out the Road

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Our family of four regularly uses the Montana Creek road for cross country skiing in the winter months. We would like that activity to continue in a safe manner for our children. Last year our two sons joined the Juneau Nordic Ski Club's recreational program. The club offered practices at Eagle Crest, Montana Creek and at the Mendenhall Campground. While well-groomed, the trails at Eagle Crest were a little too technically challenging for our kids. Mendenhall Campground was a good location however, on more than one occasion, adult skiers complained about the group taking up the too much trail space. Montana Creek on the other hand was the perfect practice space for both the younger and older kids in the club. The older kids were able to practice both their skate and track skiing and the young kids were able to train and play snow games that required more space in the meadow area at the beginning of the road (this was especially great once Covid hit and the kids needed to be spaced six feet apart). The Montana Creek ski area was also perfect as we didn't worry about our little ones crashing into trees or older, bigger skiers. Likewise, they didn't get in the way of any of the more experienced skiers on the trail. The Montana Creek ski trail offers a safe, healthy and climate-friendly activity for our entire family. We oppose any changes by CBJ that would jeopardize the safe use of the ski trails.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 1:28 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Zachery Hansmann
Email
zacheryhansmann@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I feel this is wrong to the community as a whole, we need a space to ride that's a little closer to home. Not everyone has the time to load up and take the drive out to echo every time. Atv's are a great way for family's to bond together creat memories for a lifetime and get their children out of the house and away from technology to explore and appreciate our wilderness. Please Juneau, reconsider what shutting down Montana creek would actually do for this community!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 1:02 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Andrew Markovich
Email
ajmarkovich@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
If one group gets to use it than all groups should be able to, so no to the closure!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 12:34 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Dorion Hobbs
Email
dorionhobbs@aol.com
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
If the closure is put in place it should be closed to all activities and access, not just one particular form (ie. motorized) This is the typical one way, no fun outside of walking trails, "I don't like it therefore no one should be allowed to do it" policy that Juneau has had for years has needs to stop.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 11:26 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Noora Parish
Email
noorafait@hotmai.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
My kids and I like to cross-country ski there and it would be so nice not to have the tracks messed up and the pollution and noise from motorized vehicles.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 10:13 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Annie Kessler

Email

railyuh@gmail.com

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I support closing the road to motorized vehicles during the winter months. Motorized vehicles can utilize the road the rest of the year, but skiing can only take place during the winter. If motorized vehicles are allowed on the road, they destroy the carefully laid ski tracks and make it very difficult to ski in that area. So many people enjoy Montana Creek skiing, including my family. It's one of the few places closely accessible in the valley, and the only one with reliable snow throughout the entire season.

I'm all for sharing the road, but it makes sense to me that a compromise can be reached by allowing motor vehicles to use the road during the rest of the year, and reserving the road for skiing during the winter months. It's only a few months out of the year, and it makes a winter sport possible for many people.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 7:45 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Tiara Ward
Email
tiara815@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>If you close the road, people who want to use the archery range and walk their dogs will clog up the parking available at the outdoor rifle range; which is used year round. Nordic skiers already have an entire track at the skaters cabin/Mendenhall camp ground in the valley, in addition to Eaglecrest.</p> <p>If a road closure is imminent, please develop an additional parking area (which might be a good idea anyway).</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 7:49 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Marjorie Hamburger
Email
marjorie.hamburger3@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Having Montana Creek as a groomed, cross-country ski location these past years has been so valuable! As you likely know, it is the spot where the snow stays the longest, in addition to just being beautiful, a great ski track, a great place to connect with nature, friends and family during the long winter months, etc. My children have participated in the Nordic Ski Team and developed into healthy, active young people. Montana Creek closed during the winter months is a gift to the community. Whereas motorized vehicles have many options for where to go, skiers looking for groomed trails have just a few. Please keep the road closed as it has been. Thank you.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 4:38 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Joe Bland
Email
joekimb`@outlook.com
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
The road should be open for all to use, not just one special interest group. There are more than enough areas that are set aside for all special interest groups to enjoy their chosen activities. It's a shame that the entire road is not open so that those who would like to enjoy a picnic on the sandbars or fishing for trout, or simply taking a nice drive are able to.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 6:19 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Herman Collins

Email

hermcolljr@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Douglas

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

This Road should NOT be closed from the Public no matter what form of transportation they use! We all pay Borough taxes and we all should have a voice in what is being considered. Leave the access open to use by Fourwheelers! All of the time!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 12:27 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Daniel R. Martin

Email

daniel47m@protonmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Hello and thank you for taking my comments. I am in favor of continuing the de facto closure of Montana Creek Road to motorized vehicles that has existed for many years. Although I respect the different perspectives that different user groups have, I must assert that non-motorized uses are qualitatively different than motorized uses, and that non-motorized uses have far less impact, in terms of noise pollution, noxious odors and physical presence than do motorized uses. Any individual non-motorized user takes up far less space and makes less impact on the experiences of other users than does any individual motorized user. Snow machines may be appropriate for wide open alpine spaces, but not for the heavily used, somewhat confined spaces of the Montana Creek Road.

Thank you for your consideration.
Best,
Daniel

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 10:45 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Luke Canady
Email
brownes25@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>The Montana creek road is an awesome place to pull the boys in sleds during the winter, as is the trail after the parking area. Also, I am concerned about ATV and Snow machine access back there. Being an avid fly fisherman, Montana creek is an amazing fly fishing creek! Folks on ATVs don't seem to care about that. Machines are a blast, but best left in areas where they won't cause damage to the eco-system.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 10:23 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Stacie Karras
Email
staciejoseph99835@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please More roads and areas to ride recreation vehicle. Thank you.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2020 9:12 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Koreana Rosson
Email
korsky907@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Keep it open for everyone to use!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2020 10:43 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
John Logan
Email
jtlogan@alaskan.com
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please keep the Montana Creek Road open to all users all the time.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:19 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Roscoe Bicknell
Email
rgbiv907@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I strongly oppose this !! It is a multi use trail and should stay this way . I have enjoyed this trail for the last 37 years as well as my children and many of Their friends . It seems odd to me that you would consider taking a multi use trail And give it to a single user group for there exclusive use . Do the community a favor and leave it as it is !!!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:11 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Ambrose Bucy
Email
ambrosebucy@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I am a cross country skier. My team and I love to ski around on the Montana creek trail, and we go a lot. But if motorized vehicles were allowed to go there. Then it would ruin the groomed trails, and make it dangerous for us skiers who regularly go there

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 9:48 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Karlynn Welling

Email

rkwell@gci.net

Phone

Residence Location

Out the Road

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I fully support the complete closure of Montana Creek road past the gate at the rifle range to motorized vehicles from 11/1-5/1. This trail is a gem for nordic skiers/snowshoers/walkers in the winter months because the micro-climate around the river keeps the snow conditions good- surprisingly when you can't ski at the campground (which has been happening more and more with our warming winters) the snow is still skiable at Montana Creek. It is an important area to be able to exercise...especially now during covid when gyms are running at a lower capacity. We want to encourage healthy options like this for our community. It is awesome to be able to access skiing without having to drive to Eaglecrest for those of us living out the road or in the valley. The 3k section isn't long for a motorized vehicle...but perfect for those out getting some exercise on their own power. I'm sure you will find that the number of people using this trail in a non-motorized fashion far out-numbers the handful who wish to use it on an ATV...(I'm assuming snowmobilers won't bother hauling their machine up because you can't access the meadows due to multiple slides up beyond where the grooming stops). So here is the problem...the ATV's make a mess of the trail in one pass that takes hours of effort to groom for skiers. I appreciate the attempt to pacify the motorized group in the winter by allowing them 5 days per month - with the requirement to re-groom the trail. They will quickly find that the effort it would take to get the trail back in the same condition (I see our groomers out there shoveling out ruts...or surplus snow from one area to another area of low coverage...before they even groom) is not worth it. It really doesn't make sense for it to be shared in the winter.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 9:30 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Gerald Grant

Email

gg1631@aol.com

Phone

Residence Location

Douglas

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I have lived in Juneau all my life, and I can't imagine living somewhere else. But The city and The federal government just keeps taking away thing that I love to do, and taking away this road access from are user group is just ridiculous. It was sad when the bridge was cut in half two stop us driving are cars and trucks up there. If you take this away I will not have anywhere to take my grandkids to learn how to ride a snowmobile or 4 wheeler in the winter.
we are also hoping to build access to Spalding Meadows from Montana Creek road someday. if we can find the proper access. our current access to spalding Meadows is not necessarily the best if we had access through Montana Creek we couldn't have more access because there's more snowfall in the valley are better parking as well.
Please don't close are road!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 8:16 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Emily Wright
Email
emilyrpatton@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Our family skis on Montana creek road almost every day that there is snow during the winter and we never see motorized traffic or snowmobiles using this road. Snowmobiles have their own access off of lake creek so I'm not sure why they would need or want to use Montana creek. I would much prefer that this area be motorized vehicle free in the winter for skiers and hikers.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 7:55 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Arthur Bloom
Email
artmbloom@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
ATV's and cross country skiing mix like oil and water. Ridiculous to suggest that there can be shared use in the winter. Just like 50 years ago with snow machines and the Spaulding Trail. ATV is a misnomer, they are not really all-terrain. They destroy muskegs, and they will destroy groomed ski trails that get so much use. There should be no motorized vehicles on ski trails, period...

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 7:29 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Richerd Deems
Email
dickd@alaska.net
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I'm a user year around of the montana creek road. I spend lots of time cross country skiing and hike the road quite a few times in the summer. It's been awhile since I hiked the road but today I was up there with a friend. We were both shocked by the damage the four wheelers have done. If they only wanted to ride on the rode it would be ok but anyone with a machine wants to branch off and explore.I think it would be willl worth the time of the committee to walk the road and see for yourself the damage before you decide. I have never seen any damage caused by skiis on the top of snow..</p> <p>Thanks for your time. Richard Deems</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 7:23 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Marjorie Hamburger

Email

marjorie.hamburger3@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Downtown

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

While I appreciate Michele Elfers trying to find a compromise of sorts for shared use of Montana Creek during the winter, the proposal for motorized users to have 5 days during the winter is really not feasible at all. It takes a while for the volunteer groomers to pack the base of snow and give us skiers a great surface and track for classic and skate skiing. Grooming the snow after it's been torn up by 4-wheelers (or whatever it is that folks want to drive in the snow) is not just a couple hours of work - it takes experience, proper machinery, etc. I just don't see the motorized user folks having the time, know-how, and, frankly, inclination to take out ruts and fix the trail after their 5 days. Is the Juneau Nordic Ski Club supposed to lend their grooming machinery to inexperienced folks? It could take another 5+ days to get it fixed, and that predicates that it snows during that time! This simply doesn't make sense.

Is there no other option for motorized vehicles in the winter? Please leave well enough alone for this location and let the skiers, snow shoers, dog walkers, and lovers of quiet enjoy Montana Creek in the winter and, instead, help the folks who need wintertime access for motorized vehicles find another location.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 7:15 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Morgan Michels

Email

memichels.ak@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Downtown

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Dear PRAC Board Members,

I fully believe that all user groups should have access to trails in the Juneau area and that the discussion on the use of the Montana Creek road/trail is a great opportunity to work together to ensure this in our community. I am not asking you to choose one sport over another. Motorized use on Montana Creek is primarily ATVs and dirtbikes which are summer activities. Skiing is a winter activity, thus these two groups do not actually create a conflict of use. In the short term we need to ensure that access to consistent nordic skiing is an option this winter, while looking for long term solutions in our community for recreational access for all user groups in the years to come.

In 2014, the city put a gate and signage in place to address numerous issues created by having 24hr access via motorized vehicles to the Montana Creek area. There has been very little conflict since that decision until the last two winters when something changed. The kissing gate that was put in place was removed thus allowing for access onto the groomed trail by motorized users. The result was a safety concern for coaches, families, and individuals who use that trail in the winter as non-motorised activities are incompatible with skiing. The Montana Creek trail and road are relatively skinny and meanders back and forth along the creek. At peak hours, after work or school in the winter users are navigating primarily in the dusk or dark making it especially concerning when considering coming upon a fast moving vehicle around a bend. Motorized vehicles also leave deep grooves and ruts in the trail which are hard to ski over and around, especially for beginning and intermediate skiers which are the level of the majority of athletes in the youth nordic programs. In conclusion, mixed motorized and non-motorized use on the Montana creek road/trail creates an unpredictable and unsafe environment during the winter.

I am asking that you follow through and reinforce the policies you have already seemingly put in place and maintain winter closure of the Montana Creek road to recreational vehicles. Without the volunteer grooming of the Montana Creek trail this winter, we cannot provide the youth nordic ski programs for kids and teenagers in our community.

This year, more than ever before, outdoor recreation opportunities are critical to the health and safety of our children. More and more indoor sports and club activities are unable to happen due entirely to the pandemic. I have been working with volunteers and coaches in the community to develop and offer increased capacity in our programming to meet the demand for healthy ways for our kids and teens to socialize, have fun outside, and get exercise this winter. Our programming is contingent on access to groomed ski trails. Montana Creek is the only area in Juneau that has a consistent snow pack and terrain that is within reach for all skiing abilities throughout the winter. Practices held at the Montana Creek area account for nearly half of all the on-snow practices in the last 3 years.

In the past we have offered a recreational program targeted at younger kids open to ~40kids and a race and development program open to ~30 mostly high school but some middle school athletes as well. This year we will have increased capacity in the recreational program ~40 participants and split the race and development program into two groups, one for middle school and the other for high school and have a combined capacity of ~40. Last year we had 67 youth participants and this year we are opening it up to allow for 80+ participants. We are also increasing coaching capacity and planning to have small group sessions to ensure we are following current safety and health guidelines. We provide scholarships and gear rentals on an as needed basis to ensure that there are no financial barriers to participation. All of this is to make the point that we provide essential youth

programming and are counting on the fact that there will be consistently groomed and maintained trails for our athletes to ski on at Montana Creek area. Please consider the youth nordic programs this winter and enforce a non-motorized/motorized use of 6 months/6months.

Thank you for your work on this pressing issue,
Morgan Michels
Youth Nordic Program Co-Director

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 7:11 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Lori Klein
Email
lori.alaskafamily@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>Thank you for accepting comments on this issue. I am a resident of Auke Bay and a member of the Juneau Nordic Ski Club. I do not support access for motorized vehicles on Montana Creek Trail.</p> <p>My family and I walk Montana Creek trail in all seasons and occasionally ski there during the winter. The safety of those using the trail should be the primary concern of the city. The trail is narrow in parts, there are blind corners, and the risk harm to walkers/hikers (especially with children and pets) would greatly increase if the trail was open to motorized vehicles.</p> <p>I'm also concerned about the damage to the trail, surrounding forest, and the creek itself, and important salmon habitat. Earlier in the summer, while walking the trail, I came across a section of the forest immediately adjacent to the trail that was significantly damaged by an ATV (tracks were visible, the ground was torn up and the vegetation was crushed). This area is too precious to risk damage from motorized vehicles when there are other options available in Juneau.</p> <p>Thank you for considerations of my comments. Lori Klein, Auke Bay</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 6:36 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Jonathan Heifetz

Email

jonheifetz@yahoo.com

Phone

Residence Location

Douglas

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I am in favor of closure to motorized use (except for ski trail grooming) during the Nov 1 – April ski season. There are several reasons for this closure including safety and incompatibility of Nordic skiing with snow machine and other motorized use. Once a motorized vehicle has used a ski trail, the ski trail can no longer be used for skiing. These topics I'm sure have been well documented by other comments.

It is not clear to me why motorized users want to use this trail/road. There is only a short section of road. Taking a very short snow machine ride to the end of the road and back is not the entire story. In speaking to some motorized users, they have expressed the interest of using the Montana Creek road/trail to access higher elevation areas. There is already permitted access to these areas via a dedicated snow machine trail to Spaulding meadows. In addition, there is already permitted access to other areas including the vast alpine areas of Douglas Island via the Dan Moller trail. To sacrifice the Montana Creek Nordic ski and walking trail to a small user group that already has access to alpine areas via other trail systems does seem fair and equitable given the large numbers of skiers that use this area on a regular basis.

Seemingly lost in this conversation are the impacts of off-road ATV use on the upper Montana Creek watershed. ATVs are getting access to this area through CBJ property. Alaska Department of Fish and Game and my observations have documented that ATV's are causing impacts to some of the small tributaries to Montana Creek that are used as rearing and spawning habitat for salmon and trout. ATVs are going off-road and are crisscrossing these tributaries. As an organized group the Juneau Off Road Vehicle Association (JORVA) should be self-regulating such destructive behavior and discouraging their members from impacting fish habitat. The CBJ should consider closing access to this to ATVs year round until JORVA can assure us that their constituents will refrain from causing impacts to fish habitat.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 6:20 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Randy Host
Email
host_randy@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Lemon Creek
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
No motorized vehicles.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 5:48 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Beth Weigel

Email

akabetha@yahoo.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I am writing in support of the closure of Montana Creek Road to motorized use (except for grooming) from Nov-April so Nordic skiers and walkers can continue to use the area safely. Currently the Juneau Nordic Ski Club (JNSC) does an outstanding job managing the area. I personally ski there regularly throughout these winter months. It is my understanding the shared management of this recreation area is a long established practice and that the elevation and review of this longstanding arrangement to the level of the Assembly has been initiated by the Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation as a review of fairness for other possible motorized uses. While I commend Ms. Elfers' intention of addressing fairness, I must admit confusion as to why it is only this area that has been identified for review. Not only has the JNSC invested thousands of community members' donations into the grooming and management of this area, they have done an impeccable job of increasing users and promoting safety and care for the area. I also believe that this longstanding arrangement demonstrates best practices for partnerships between CBJ and non-profits. If a CBJ Parks and Recreation review of fairness for alternate users is to be conducted then it should be conducted for all recreation areas. Have other types of users been asked whether they want to see some type of mixed use on the new pump track at Cope Park or at the various ball fields or the ice rink? Have other trails been identified as places where alternate use could be invited? Clearly established recreation areas are managed for specific use and the only difference I see here is that a partnership provides for the management of Montana Creek rather than CBJ. This should not work to the disadvantage of the established users, it should be noted as a template to working with partners who want to bring resources to the table to improve the area and increase access and use. I will also end with noting the success of the JNSC and the users at the Hank Harmon Rifle range in working together to improve parking and safety in this area as well. Introducing more impact on the parking area with larger vehicles that tow sled trailers does not seem viable. Also the impact of snow machine traffic on groomed ski trails would leave the grooming damaged and unusable. And finally, and perhaps most importantly, having snow machines and skiers on the trail at the same time will surely result in an injury or death. Please maintain the closure of Montana Creek to motorized users in winter. Thank you. Sincerely, Beth Weigel, Auke Bay.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 5:28 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Dan Fabrello

Email

dfabrello@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I am writing in support of keeping the Montana Creek Road open for motorized vehicles. This access just like many other areas around Juneau that have historically been roads or construction areas have been systematically taken over by user groups like the Nordic Ski club to exclude others. These recreation areas are under attack. This systemic takeover of all areas of recreation to exclude a segment of the Juneau population is regressive, punitive and frankly a form of bigotry. Juneau is and has been in dire need for access to recreation locations for motorized vehicles and this take over is just another example of the intolerance of one group towards another. CBJ should not stand with or for intolerance. Intolerance needs to be abolished and user groups brought together to find ways of cohabitation in recreation areas. This are of current discussion is a Road. Just because it has a small bridge now instead of a bridge that can handle a passenger vehicle does not diminish the fact that it is an access road that historically had vehicle traffic on it and has properties that can be access from it. Groups like the Nordic Ski club have shut down access to dredge lake, which was a construction dredging area. They have shut down a large area of the Spaulding Meadows to snowmobile access, which I access the area from the University parking area for 20+ years enjoying snowmobiling and have never once seen a cross-country skier over in the "protected" ski area? There are hundreds of acres on Spaulding Meadows that they have already set aside for cross-country skiing and now want more? We have set aside Dredge Lake, Eaglecrest and many other areas and now they want more?

I urge you to not limit or remove access to yet another access point for motorized vehicle recreation activities in Juneau.

Respectfully,
Dan Fabrello

Lauren Verrelli

From: Michele Elfers
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 5:28 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: FW: Montana Creek Road Seasonal Closure

From: Grateful Dogs of Juneau <norwaypt@gci.net>
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 4:56 PM
To: Michele Elfers <Michele.Elfers@juneau.org>
Subject: Montana Creek Road Seasonal Closure

EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS



TO:
Michele Elfers
Deputy Director
CBJ Parks & Recreation Department

FROM: Grateful Dogs of Juneau

RE: Montana Creek Road Seasonal Closure

The Grateful Dogs of Juneau supports the proposed seasonal closure of that portion of Montana Creek Road beyond the rifle range to motor vehicles.

The Grateful Dogs of Juneau supports multiple use of Juneau's parks, trails, and open spaces. Different recreational user groups should be permitted to concurrently use public areas to the extent that it is safe and feasible to do so.

Based on the community's experience and success with the seasonal closure of Basin Road to motorized vehicles, we would support a similar closure of the Montana Creek Road. Dog walkers, hikers, and pedestrians take advantage of the Basin Road closure in large numbers each winter because the virtual absence of motorized vehicles on the road provides for a safer winter experience. A closure on Montana Creek Road would have similar benefits, but would also benefit the large cross country ski user group that takes advantage of the skiing opportunities unique to the area.

As to the motorized vehicle user groups that would be displaced by the seasonal closure, some accommodation needs to be found that would allow them to cross CBJ lands to access the US Forest Service lands beyond the

end of the Montana Creek Road in a safe and environmentally friendly manner.

Future use of the Montana Creek Valley by any user group should respect the salmon spawning streams and delicate muskeg meadows in the area. Safety of the users of the area and protection of the environmental and aesthetics values of the area should guide future decisions regarding recreational uses of the Montana Creek Valley.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about Montana Creek usage for Juneau area residents.

Victoria McLaughlin
George Utermohle
Board Members

GRATEFUL DOGS OF JUNEAU

www.gratefuldogsofjuneau.org
gd-info@gratefuldogsofjuneau.org

Juneau, AK

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Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 5:12 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Vero Beattie
Email
zarnell@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not support closing down this portion of the road to motorized vehicles.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 4:54 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Laura Hosey

Email

laurajeanhosey@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Downtown

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Hello Parks and Recreation Department,

Thank you for your work and taking time to read the public comments. I have written previously on this topic but my strong feelings compel me to comment again and include other details I did not include in my first letter.

I strongly support closing the portion of Montana Creek road to motorized vehicles from November 1 to April 1. Motorized access alongside non-motorized access of this area is unsafe and incompatible. Many people use this trail for walking and skiing. I frequent the area as a skier and have been here alone, with friends & family, and as a volunteer for 4-H nordic ski club. It is an important (and free!) location for people to recreate. There are not an abundance of areas that are similar.

Please consider the right-of-way of walkers and skiers moving along the trail under their own power before letting a few people dominate the space by using ATVs. This trail is a unique winter wonderland for hiking and skiing - there's other places for cruising with motors.

Thank you again for your work and attention to this matter.
Best,
Laura Hosey

Lauren Verrelli

From: CindaFred StanekHiltner <svsongline@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 3:56 PM
To: Parks Rec; Lauren Verrelli
Subject: Montana Creek

EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

Dear Members Of The PRAC,

Thank you for taking time to consider the future use of the Montana Creek road/trail. For the record, I am in favor of non-motorized use during the six "winter" months (November 1 - May 1) for cross country skiing and snowshoeing, and am in favor of having the road/trail open to motorized use during the six "summer" months (May 1 - November 1).

I believe this compromise is not only the most equitable, it is the type of fair, safe compromise that already exists in several recreational and public areas throughout Juneau.

I recognize that it is not uncommon for different types of recreational uses to be discordant. I believe this is not a bad thing, it is simply the reality of putting two or more activities together that don't blend or harmonize well. These "apple and orange" situations exist throughout our community's public areas. In Juneau, we have recognized potential disharmony and have either made concessions for different user groups, or have deemed a facility/area to be for only one type of use. For the latter, I understand it is due to safety issues or the nature of the facility (swimming pool, skate park, ice rink, etc). However, I see that in some instances we have found an equitable, safe compromise for a broad spectrum of different user groups. In those areas, it feels like a win-win for many people in our community.

One example of a win-win seasonal compromise between user groups is Eaglecrest. During the winter/snow months, ORVs, mountain bikers, and hikers are not allowed within the ski area while it is open. This is absolutely reasonable. It creates a safer area for skiers and boarders, and it preserves the extensive grooming that is essential to the area's designated winter purpose. During the summer/non-snow months, Eaglecrest welcomes hikers, hunters, mountain bikers, etc. and is extensively used by these groups. The year is naturally split to accommodate safe, reasonable, and best-use practices. This seasonal compromise feels equitable and fair for diverse user groups, while preserving optimal conditions and experiences for each season's users.

The Montana Creek area can be another highly successful and safe seasonal compromise. November 1 - May 1 the road/trail can be designated as a non-motorized area that is a ski-track groomed, safe place for cross-country skiers and snowshoers (much like Eaglecrest). May 1 - November 1 the same road/trail can be open for motorized vehicles/ORVs. It is a win-win seasonal compromise that can ultimately be a treasure for many diverse users, prioritizing optimal conditions and experiences for non-motorized and motorized user groups.

Thank you for your time. Kind Regards,
Cinda Stanek

Juneau, AK

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 3:56 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Charlette Chastain

Email

cecjnu@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I am in favor of winter closure of Montana Creek Rd to motorized vehicles.

Regarding a suggested alternative:

"...25 days a month skiers get the trail and 5 days are dedicated to motorized users with the caveat that the motorized users have to re-groom the trail and take out the ruts when their 5 days is up."

This is an interesting idea but perhaps impractical. Daily snow grooming for x-c skiing requires specialized (& spendy) equipment, plus trained & experienced (& dedicated!) volunteer operators. The proposed 25/5-day arrangement would also require compliance monitoring, enforcement, plus necessary funding. We need to think creatively of other ways ORVs can get their rush. I thought there was a route up to Spaulding Meadows for snow machines - ?? Do we need to improve that?

Has anyone noted the tremendous winter recreational resource JNSC volunteer grooming has created? Just check the winter parking problems in the Valley created by a growing population of x-c skiers! In an earlier comment I mentioned x-c skiing the Mendenhall campground before track-setting - but just once! There was one set of 6-8" deep ruts for skis and we went around lock-step, single-file. Terrible experience! Didn't ski the Valley again until I heard several years later that JNSC was setting track & only requesting nominal annual dues. Such a deal! (Up-front: I am not a principal of JNSC & only occasionally remember to pay my dues.)

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 3:53 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Matt Callahan

Email

mattwcallahan@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I support closing Montana Creek Road to motorized vehicles (except groomers) during winter. It seems like it's not a particularly popular area for winter ATV but tons of people use it for skiing, often when no other areas are viable for skiing, the area is too narrow for both user groups to not overlap, and churned up trails make skiing really difficult.

Thanks for taking my opinion into consideration.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 3:40 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Travis Koski
Email
travis@seasidediesel.com
Phone
Residence Location
Lemon Creek
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
This needs to be open to motorized vehicles, there are plenty of options for skiers, their are no options for motorized vehicles.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 3:33 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Beth Potter
Email
alexandericey@yahoo.com
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I ski at Montana creek often. Please keep the gate closed during ski season.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 3:02 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Joe Sorenson
Email
chauncey455@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I my opinion summer at traffic on Montana Creek is fine. In the snow months when a volunteer crew maintains the trail it should be closed to OHV use. If the OHV community really needs to use it they should come together and purchase a grooming machine that can remove the ruts they put in .

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 2:53 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Kathryn Callahan
Email
kacallahan85@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>Good Afternoon, I would like to strongly support the Montana Creek trail to be CLOSED to ATV's during the winter months. Often in low snow years Montana Creek is the only trail to consistently have snow for cross country skiing. I am a frequent user of this trail for classic and skate skiing and value the ability to ski late into the spring when the snow has melted in the Mendenhall campground. I enjoy seeing families, ski race training and my friends and neighbors from all over the community sharing this area. I do not think that sharing with motorized vehicles is reasonable for this activity. I live near the Dan Moller trail that us heavily used for motorized vehicles and it is unusable for other activities all winter. I think that the Nordic Ski Club has a stellar volunteer force and commitment from members that should be an example of a how Juneau comes together for the enhance our quality of life. Thank you for your consideration. Kathy Callahan</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 2:11 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Brandon Ridle
Email
ridlebrandon@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I am against closing the area To motorized vehicles

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 2:08 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Catherine Pohl

Email

cpohl@hotmail.com

Residence Location

Downtown

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I support closing to motorized use the Montana Creek Trail from the rifle range gate to the end of the former road. First, please note that this is currently a trail, not a road, and should be described as such, since calling it a road both assumes and inappropriately encourages motorized use. The bridge has been narrowed and the trail is no longer maintained as a road.

While the proposed interval of closure is reasonable, to meet its full purpose, I would extend it to the end of the ski season, which in this shadey valley can be May 1 (or later) rather than April 1. The trail is unique in that of our most accessible and ski-worthy trails, it best holds snow. But I would much prefer that the trail be closed to motorized use entirely, except for that needed for stream restoration or trail maintenance. The trails' primary current and long-term value to the community is support of health-providing recreation in a unique and restorative setting. Motorized use is health-promoting or community-building in the same way since the machines do the work, and their noise and speed prevent communication. Machine use seriously detracts from other uses and their safety.

Currently and looking ahead, the area has particular value as a wide and flat trail where family, friends, and sports teams can exercise together and companions can converse while distanced. As the past year has shown, the current and future value of this use to community and public health cannot be underestimated. Unlike other wider trails, it is unpaved, yet relatively smooth, so it is both child- and age-friendly (ie easy on joints) and among wider trails provides a uniquely refreshing setting, quiet and remote-feeling, beside a rushing stream with mountain views.

-- During the ski season, motorized use detracts from the use of walkers and skiers as others have noted through rutting, oil deposition, and safety issues. But throughout the year, motorized vehicles also trail a cloud of exhaust that typically persists in the confined, calm, and inversion-prone gorge, adding harmful and choking fumes to the noise they create, detracting from the experience, health, and safety of ALL OTHER trail users.

-- Use by motorized vehicles of this and other trails has caused and will exacerbate, damage to wetlands and streams. The vehicles on this trail across the seasons are mostly there to access points beyond, primarily the extensive open peatlands of Spaulding Meadows, but also other wetland and forest routes traveled by crossing high-value fish habitat to access traplines and mining routes along McGinnis Creek. It should be noted here that motorized stream crossings can cause damage to important fish habitat are prohibited by state law without permit and appropriate conditions.

The city must be aware that even one pass across a peatland by an ATV causes ruts that damage vegetation and may persist for decades. The city has allowed, or failed to prevent, excessive and very visible damage to wetlands along the road by the rifle range, signaling that this is somehow acceptable and likely encouraging similar damage elsewhere. Significant long-term damage to wetland resources accumulates with continued use, disrupting drainage, fanning out and turning flower and berry-filled fens and bogs into broad mires of decaying peat. One only needs to look at wetlands near the rifle range and Juneau trails open to motorized vehicles to see this result. This kind of damage is currently being imported past the end of the former road.

Persistent, and potentially permanent, resource damage affects human use, but also the wetland's function and value as, and in support of, fish and wildlife habitat. Increased vehicle use and associated damage will degrade habitat for disturbance-sensitive and large home-range species that find refuge in these high elevation wetlands and open woodlands, including one of our region's few nesting shorebirds, the Greater Yellowlegs, wolves, and wolverines.

Damage to city, state, and federal wetland resources is already occurring and should be stopped before its footprint expands.

By allowing, and in effect encouraging, motorized access to sensitive wetland and stream habitat, the city will cause ongoing, and clearly foreseeable, damage to vulnerable public lands, including areas in theory protected by federal regulations regarding resource damage. Along with this damage comes significant impact to community, and visitor, use of popular hiking, birding, and berry-picking areas.

As it is, motorized vehicles regularly fail to comply with existing mapped and marked boundaries at Spaulding Meadows and elsewhere and have already caused wetland damage in areas accessed by the Montana Creek Trail. If motorized access is allowed other than for trail maintenance, current trends and previous experience indicate that the city would not be capable of stopping motorized vehicles from increasingly using this trail to damage wetlands and stream and would be responsible for foreseeable impacts. The effect will be to degrade or destroy the world class recreational and habitat values of Spaulding Meadows and adjacent sensitive state and federal land.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 1:35 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Christie Hendrich

Email

christiehendrich@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Greetings to everyone,

I have already submitted a comment on this subject, but am commenting again for emphasis, and to be certain my views are considered in the most current and relevant forum.

I most enthusiastically support the proposed annual closure of Montana Creek Road to motorized use from November 1 through April 1.

To those community members who do not regularly use the Montana Creek trail to ski and recreate on, it may seem like a small compromise to "share" the trail. But to the large number of users who do – particularly those located farthest from the Eaglecrest area (the other location with somewhat reliable snowpack), it represents a huge potential loss. I am one of the many who regularly rely on this trail for daily exercise and quite literally mental sanity during the winter. If there is one thing many of us can probably agree on, it is that feeling sane and positive is challenging enough during the circumstances we are currently living in. I also have kids who ski in the nordic youth programs. Without Montana Creek trail for skiing, I would be driving them many more days to Eaglecrest to ski the nordic trails there; during stretches with poor snow cover, I could be driving them there 5 to 6 days per week. During the time of Covid and limited car pooling, this will have a big impact on our daily lives.

The fact there are currently few places to enjoy motorized recreational vehicles is because they are high impact – they are loud, they disturb terrain, they disturb wildlife, and they are potentially dangerous to non-participating people in their proximity. If there is a large enough demand for motorized recreational terrain, then there should be a separate conversation about how to create opportunities for people to pursue these activities in a manner and location that does not disturb the peace and well being of others who do not enjoy them, and in a way that does not eliminate opportunities already being enjoyed by a large number of people.

Quite simply, I believe restricting winter use of the Montana Creek trail to non-motorized activity will benefit the health and well being of the largest group of regular users – users who have already been pursuing these activities there for some time.

Thank you very much for considering my comments.

-Christie Hendrich

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 1:26 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Robin MacDonald
Email
kingfisher_ram@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please keep the road closed to motorized traffic on the winter!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 12:55 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
John Hales
Email
normhales@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not support the winter closure of the Montana Cr trail

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 12:43 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Alexandra Reich
Email
alexreich00@gmail.com
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Close the road for winter! Non motorized travel is a more sustainable form or recreation than motorized travel. There is plenty of land in Alaska open to motorized travel enthusiasts elsewhere. Or- alternatively- close the road to motorized travel for a few days of the week, Sunday, Wednesday and Thursday for example. Then motorized and non-motorized folks would both have their time to recreate on Montana Creek Road.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 12:28 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Paul Disdier
Email
pauldisdier@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I support the proposal to close a portion of Montana Creek Road to motorized vehicles from November 1 through April 1.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 12:15 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Kristen LaPlante
Email
klaplante87@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Our family loves to ski out Montana creek road during the winter. Opening it up to motorized vehicles would make us very concerned for our safety and the safety of other skiers. Please leave it as a safe environment for families to be able to ski together.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 12:05 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Clint Mitchell
Email
clintonbmitche@gmail.com
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
No motorized please

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 11:51 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Laura Hervey
Email
laurahervey89@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
As someone who hikes Montana Creek year round with my dog and small children, I would not feel safe alongside motorized vehicles. There are plenty of areas, out the road, that are far less populated, and have longer worthwhile routes for motorized vehicles.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 11:50 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Jaime Kissner

Email

jpkissner@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I do not support the "unfair" exclusion of motorized vehicles from utilizing the Montana Creek Road/trail during the winter.

I was born and raised in Juneau and am now raising two boys of my own. As a family, we enjoy many outdoor activities; including but not limited to: cross-country and downhill skiing, hiking, mountain biking, fishing, riding dirtbikes and ATV's. This area should be open to all interested parties regardless of their preferred activity.

Please consider all user groups when making your final informed decision.

Sincerely,
Jaime Kissner
Proud Juneau resident and concerned citizen

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 11:38 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

isaac benson

Email

benson.isaac@gmail.com

Residence Location

Douglas

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

hello! I urge you to make montana creek rd closed to motorized traffic. the nordic ski club spends a lot of time and energy to groom this pristine track of land. it is the training ground for kids and adults alike. lets keep Montana creek a haven for silent sport enthusiasts to enjoy the stillness of the wild. thank you.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 11:28 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Terence Schwarz
Email
terry.schwarz@gmail.com
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please keep Montana cr open to xc ski which would include an exemption for grooming equipment. Please do not allow other motorized use.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 11:24 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Brady Fink
Email
bradyfink75@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Let me first start by saying I do not own a ATV or dirtbike. I feel that entitlement of trails by Nordic ski or hikers and other means is starting to dwindle away at the areas that ATV's can use. This is Alaska and ATVs, dirt bikes and snowmachines are part of the life of Alaskans. There are plenty of other areas that don't allow this type of access. We can all share this area and we don't have to make it exclusive.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 11:17 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Jase Tweedy
Email
jasetweedy@gmail.com
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Because this is in the valley where I live I use it a bunch for cross country skiing, hiking, and some biking. The people who already use Montana Creek with their four wheelers for the mining claim make a mess as it is. I do not like to use trails that also have fast ATVs and dirt bikes using them as well.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 11:09 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Ray Dwyer
Email
dwyerinak@yahoo.com
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I am in support of closing Montana Creek Road to motorized traffic during the winter months. Allowing only non-motorized for 6 months seems like a fair and equitable compromise.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 11:03 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Julie Scheurer
Email
hybognathus@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I support the proposal to close a portion of Montana Creek Rd to motorized vehicles for 6 months each year. Motorized vehicles ruin the trail that volunteers spend countless hours maintaining. Montana Creek provides consistent and safe winter recreation for hundreds of non-motorized users, including the Juneau Nordic Ski Team and many others. I recommend an alternate winter trail be developed and maintained for motorized use. Thank you for your consideration.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:54 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Matthew Kulm
Email
matthewkulm81@gmail.com
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Juneau has quite literally hundreds of trails and areas to hike, ski and bike. Off-road vehicles have no where. It's unfair and extremely selfish to take away the only area.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:42 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Lacey Sanders
Email
lacymae12@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please do not implement this closure. We need to work as a community to share the outdoor spaces we have available. Limiting access to any areas in not in the best interest of encouraging residents to get outside.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:37 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
robert marshall
Email
marshall.bob2@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I fully support keeping Montana Creek Road closed to motorized vehicles from November 1 through April 1. Doing so would maintain the intense use of this area by skiers and other foot-powered recreation which is so important to Juneau during the winter. Motorized access, except to clear and groom the nordic trails, is incompatible with current non-motorized use.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:36 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Jonah Brown
Email
907navigator@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Montana creek should NOT be closed to motorized vehicle access. As there is many different places in town to hike, and cross country ski, this is the only legal place in town to ride atvs and orvs.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:21 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Fred Hiltner

Email

svsongline@me.com

Phone

Residence Location

Douglas

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Dear PRAC Committee,

Thank you for your time and energy on the matter of continuing the closure on Montana Creek for the winter months. We have all thought about sharing the road during the winter.

While on the surface sharing the road seems hopeful to some people, I feel there is a fundamental misunderstanding about the incompatibility of ATV's being on the road at the same time as cross-country skiers and the groomers that make use of the road possible in the winter. I will do my best to explain this below:

1. Space issues: Montana Creek, past the bridge, is essentially a one-lane road, in some areas even quite a bit narrower. The grooming tiller that JNSC uses is approximately eleven feet wide and sets the trail for traditional "diagonal glide" skiers, as well as for skate skiers. Grooming for both types of skiers uses the entire width of the narrow on lane road which allows both types of skiers to go up and down the road without having to lane get off the track to let others pass.

If the road were split down the middle to include ATV's or other motorized off-road vehicles, there would not be enough of the road to groom for safe passing for either group. Imagine on one of the several sharp turns an ATV passing another ATV as a skier comes around from the opposite direction. There will be no speed limit enforcement and a quick look on Google shows that the latest high-speed ATV's can go over 80 miles per hour. Even at slower speeds, the potential for a serious accident should not be ignored.

2. Damage Issues: The damage from even one ATV basically shuts down the ski trail for many skiers because of the deep and irregular ruts caused by the deep treads used by ATV's designed for mud and stream crossings. Even just riding up and down the road will leave deep ruts in the snow. When an ATV gets stuck in the snow, the tires sometimes dig down through the hardened snow below the surface, and sometimes all the way through to the gravel. These deep ruts are especially difficult for young and beginning skiers, and have caused multiple falls from hitting the ruts. The ruts sometimes take hours to repair, especially if they go the length of the road and back. If you haven't seen these types of ruts in the snow, imagine ATV's spinning their wheels on your lawn and what it would take to repair the ruts.

The most practical way to share the Montana Creek road with motorized vehicles is to allow motorized vehicles to use it during the summer months, and skiers to use it during the winter skiing months. We have raised the question to snow machine enthusiasts of sharing the popular winter snow machine trails such as Dan Moller with skiers and they have not shown any interest in that. Because, apparently, they see these two groups as incompatible on their favorite trails.

Let's keep everyone safe, winter recreation at its finest, and acrimony between user groups low until a dedicated ATV park can be built for off-road enthusiasts. ATV enthusiasts' expanding numbers should not negatively affect this two mile road used decades by skiers, snowshoers, dog-walkers, birders, and other non-motorized users. Non-motorized use from November first to May first is the best way to share this area between user groups.

Thank you for considering this recommendation. Fred Hiltner

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:18 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Jaime Zellhuber
Email
aldon.jaime@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please do not close Montana Creek Road to vehicles in the winter. Our family doesn't regularly cross country ski or snow machine. There are already areas available and groomed to cross country skiing. As an avid hiker with my kids and dog I do not want another area we can't use without damaging the groomed ski areas. Our community needs an area available for snow machines, we don't need another area closed to all but one user group.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:16 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
David Ham
Email
juneaurolfing@acsalaska.net
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I'm not a member of the cross country ski group but I probably should be. I usually ski there at Montana creek next to the shooting range once a week if there is decent snow. Because this trail has a slight elevation above the valley, skiing conditions are better because it is colder there by a couple of degrees usually. Please limit this great cross country ski area to skiing only. Let the motorized drive vehicles have it when the snow melts. Although I dont like how the motorized vehicles tear up the earth and scar the land. But, live and let live, I guess.....</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:14 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

John Harley

Email

john.r.harley@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Douglas

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

In a perfect world public land would be multi-use and open to everyone. People enjoy outdoor spaces in different ways, and I think it's great to allow people to recreate in their preferred way as long as it doesn't pose a risk to others.

But sadly what often happens is land intended for multi-use is not actually able to be used as such. The problem with Montana Creek trail is that there is only one main "trail" in the winter time, which is the same trail that skiers, snowshoers, and fatbikers use as well. Unfortunately skiing and motorized use (at least in the manner that people have used it in the past) are not compatible - to ski at Montana creek necessitates a groomed track, which is destroyed by many motorized users in winter.

So I understand the motorized communities frustration that they might lose a place to recreate - really I do. But if the trail is allowed to have motorized access in the winter the ski community loses a place to recreate, it's unfortunately that simple. And since I'm a skier, I do not want motorized vehicles on this trail in the winter.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:13 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Christy Howard
Email
whaleshark77@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
My husband and I often use Montana Creek road during the winter months for cross country skiing. I am not inherently against motorized use on all trails but I think this is a good trail to close motorized access in the winter time.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:11 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Erin Fagel
Email
omalleyem@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
My whole family uses Montana Creek in the winter for skiing. Sharing with motorized vehicles is dangerous. Can we work towards establishing land and a club for ATV users to develop and maintain. Skiers and mountain bikers have worked hard to established clubs and zones to maintain through volunteers, for the purpose of recreating. Thank you for considering helping the ATV users to have a safe and fun space to recreate.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:07 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Becca Marx
Email
rebeccamarx@gmail.com
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
No thanks, do not open to motorized vehicles

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:02 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Britt Tonnessen
Email
betonnessen@gmail.com
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Our household uses Montana creek and the road from the gun field to the bridge as a safe, beautiful, fun dog friendly ski zone in the winter. It is a treat and pleasure to have the road closure and track laid down. Many people and dogs recreate in this area at all hours. Please keep this road closed to vehicle traffic for foot and ski users only.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:01 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Hannah Wilson

Email

hwilson@wileng.net

Phone

Residence Location

Downtown

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Dear Parks and Rec,

I'm writing to voice my strong support for a wintertime closure of Montana Creek Road to motorized use. Motorized use in the winter means no skiing because it ruins grooming. I think there is a fair compromise to be made by opening Montana creek to motorized use for half the year, but winter time doesn't make sense and disregards use of the area as a long-time, heavily used ski, snowshoe and winter walker recreation area. It is one of the few areas that has reliably skiable snow at sea level in Juneau and is often the only place users like the youth Juneau Nordic Ski Team can ski. Please don't ruin this valuable winter recreation area for hundreds of users.

Thank you,

Hannah Wilson

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 9:57 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Kate Slotnick
Email
KateSlotnick@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I strongly support the closure of the Montana Creek trail to motorized vehicles during the winter months. This trail is heavily used by cross-country skiers 7 days a week from sun up to sundown. The Montana Creek trail seems to have its own weather system that keeps skiable snow when other local trails have been rained out. The tracks of one ATV or snow machine destroy the trail for use by hundreds of skiers. Please close this trail to motorized vehicles.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 9:51 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Don Habeger
Email
dhabeger@acsalaska.net
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I support leaving the road open to motorized vehicles. Juneau has a growing senior population, and motorized roadway access wherever possible is vital to life quality.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 9:37 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Odin Brudie

Email

odin@gci.net

Phone

Residence Location

Downtown

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

My experience with the Montana Creek Trail extends back 25 years. I remember when the garbage dumping and the off-road damage by ORV's and 4-wheel drives was out of hand and we stopped recreating there because of this. Once local residents, CBJ, and the State and Federal agencies involved got together and established a gate at the rifle range, I watched the area come back as an attractive place to recreate. When the JNSC began regularly grooming in the winter, I started cross country skiing there, and coaching young skiers there. Recently, as a nordic ski club member, and more importantly a skier, I began organizing an annual work party to do some trail maintenance (brushing, digging drainage, removing rocks, etc.) before the snow fell. In 2016 I worked with CBJ, Trail Mix, and the JNSC to replace the decking on the Montana Creek Bridge to make it safer for pedestrians and for the JNSC grooming equipment. The grooming and trail got even better, and today, thousands of Juneau Residents enjoy a wilderness recreational experience right in their back yard. Many people I encounter use Montana Creek Trail every day, calling it "their Salvation".

For two decades, snowmachines and ATV's have largely stayed off the trail, because they don't seek conflict, given the high number of pedestrians, skiers, dogs, and other non-motorized users on the trail. Also, since the trail is only 3 km (1.8 miles) long, it is not widely seen as a significant snowmobile destination. The current push to open Montana Creek for increased snowmachine and ATV use is largely based on the desire to open up new access for Spaulding Meadows. While it does exist at nearby Lake Creek, motorized access to Spaulding through Montana Creek does not currently exist. Expanding recreational access to Spaulding, motorized and non-motorized, should be part of a long term development plan for the Mendenhall area.

I feel the short term plan of opening up the trail to increased motorized use this winter is not a good one. It will only distract from the critical long-range plan of working towards accommodating more users in the area. The proposals for opening up Montana Creek Trail this winter (i.e. for 5 days out of 30) will simply create a new use along the road and the trail and introduce conflicts that do not currently exist to any significant degree.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Odin Brudie
Juneau

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 9:35 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Tracey Miller
Email
millsund@alaska.net
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I am in agreement with closing Montana Creek to motorized vehicles from November 1 through April 1. These seems to make the most sense and we can all share "The Road".</p> <p>Warm regards, Tracey Miller</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: Deborah Craig <deborahlc11@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 8:39 AM
To: Parks Rec; Lauren Verrelli; info@jnski.org
Subject: Re: Support Montana Creek Trail Winter Closure to Motorized Traffic

EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

Dear Parks and Rec Board,

Why would the city allow a small group to damage and destroy our pristine wilderness and quality of life? I am writing again to urge the board to please close the Montana Creek trail beyond the gate at the Rifle Range during winter months to motorized vehicles.

The Montana Creek trail is treasured for hiking and cross country winter skiing. Motorized vehicles damage the environment on many levels, destroying fragile trails, and creating noise and air pollution.

Multiple use criteria are based on the concept that multiple users can occupy a space *without detriment to any of the users*. This is not the case with motorized vehicles, as it creates a safety hazard for foot or ski traffic and is destructive to the environment being utilized. Thank you for continuing to protect these precious places in Juneau.

Sincerely, Deborah Craig

On Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 4:02 PM Deborah Craig <deborahlc11@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Parks and Rec Board,

Please close the Montana Creek trail beyond the gate at the Rifle Range during winter months to motorized vehicles. Juneau is renowned for its pristine wilderness and quality of life – the Montana Creek trail is treasured for cross country winter skiing. It is well known that motorized vehicles are damaging to the environment on many levels. Not only does it destroy fragile trails, but it creates noise and air pollution. Multiple use criteria are based on the concept that multiple users can occupy a space without detriment to any of the users. This is not the case with motorized vehicles, as it creates a safety hazard for foot or ski traffic and is destructive to the environment being utilized. Thank you for continuing to protect these precious places in Juneau.

Sincerely, Deborah Craig

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 7:08 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Douglas Wahto
Email
skiracers@alaska.net
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Motorized vehicle use of Montana Creek during Winter months is not compatible with personal use by thousands of residents of this community. There are other trail systems used by Winter sports motorized vehicles such as Spaulding and Dan Moller. Montana Creek Valley holds snow when Mendenhall Lake is unsafe and the camp ground is unusable. Many residents who utilize this trail do not have easy or timely access to Eaglecrest trails and may not be able to afford them. Montana Creek does not give one access to Spaulding Meadows y motorized vehicles.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 6:52 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Andrew Eller

Email

andrewseller@yahoo.com

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

TO: Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

Date: September 28, 2020

Greetings,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the winter closure of Montana Creek Road by Motorized Vehicles. I have lived in Juneau since 2003 and have watched changes of Montana Creek as best described by - and which you are very familiar with:

FROM: George Schaaf, Parks & Recreation Director DATE: July 31, 2020 RE: Use of Montana Creek Road by Motorized Vehicles

"The section of road between the Hank Harmon Rifle Range and the timber bridge has a history of problems, including illegal dumping, abandoned vehicles, illegal camping, arson, drug activity, illegal shooting, theft of resources (including of peat moss), and illegal use of motorized vehicles. These problems resulted in significant damage to natural resources, and became an increasingly expensive burden for the Parks & Recreation Department. In 2012, the Department installed several cameras along the road to deter and prosecute illegal dumping. These efforts successfully reduced the frequency of illegal dumping along the road, but illegal motorized use continued to damage the adjacent muskeg.

The existing gate was installed by CBJ in 2014 after extensive consultations with stakeholders, including the U.S. Forest Service, Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources, Juneau Archery Club, off-road vehicle users, and the owners of mining claims in the area. These stakeholders agreed that the gate should be closed nightly during the summer and 24 hours per day in winter. The gate was approved by the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee and the Assembly Public Works & Facilities Committee. Illegal dumping and other problems decreased significantly after the gate was installed, and the road quickly became popular with Nordic skiers. The Juneau Nordic Ski Club (JNSC) began setting tracks the following winter, and today Montana Creek Road is one of the most popular Nordic skiing destinations in Juneau."

I would prefer that Municipal Code (CBJ 67.01.090(e)): prohibiting motor -driven vehicle use - remains in effect in this area. I would prefer winter closure of the road to off road motorized vehicles. I feel parking issues between the Hank Harmon Rifle Range users and cross-country skiers can be remedied to reduce conflicts between the range users and skiers.

If the committee recommends opening this area to off road use with motorized vehicles – please provide clear guidelines for all users to follow. Confrontations on the trail between skiers and off-road vehicles must be avoided in this space limited corridor.

Andrew Eller

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 6:51 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

John Kearney

Email

johkear@yahoo.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Montana Creek Road should be open to all. Not just a specific group.
When I was a boy we drove up Montana Creek to go fishing. But you can't even do that anymore. Please keep it open to all users.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 6:36 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Kirby Day
Email
skirby3@aol.com
Phone
Residence Location
Lemon Creek
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not support this proposal. There should be a way to fairly share the resource between both user groups. Motorized vehicles should have the option to use the area responsibly as well.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 6:12 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Debbie White
Email
debbie@isellalaska.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not believe this area should be closed to motorized vehicles. ATV and snowmachines should continue to have access to this area.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 1:33 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Bruce Baker

Email

bhbaker@gci.net

Residence Location

Douglas

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Thank you for assuring me that my earlier comments will be considered. My purpose here is to add to those comments by saying that the idea apparently floated by CBJ staff that winter use of that portion of the Montana Creek road beyond the rifle range alternate between snowmachiners and Nordic skiers is totally unacceptable. The reasons have been well articulated by the Juneau Nordic Ski Club. Again, I support closing that portion of the road to mechanized off-road vehicles (including snowmachines and four-wheelers), other than those needed to groom the snow for skiers, be prohibited throughout the winter.

Sincerely,
Bruce Baker

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 10:58 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Carter Walker
Email
Ca27397@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
No because it's like one of the only trails that's open

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 10:35 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Ann Liebergesell
Email
ann.liebergesell@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I am in favor of closing the road from the Hank Harmon Rifle Range to the bridge at the end of the road. There are far more users who are in harmony with the quiet and serene environment of Montana Creek trail than there are motorized users. Noisy ATVs are completely out of harmony with the environment and they damage the trail.</p> <p>I would like to see a solution to the limited parking so the rifle range parking isn't taken up by other users.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 9:52 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
John Kajdan
Email
john_kajdan@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Motorized use is completely incompatible with maintaining safe cross country ski trails on montana creek. Reserving the summer months for mortorized use and winter months for skiing represents the highest and best use of this public trail. Montana creek has a microclimate and conditions making it a go to location for cross country skiing, and is often the only trail with skiable conditions.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 9:49 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Travis Eckhoff

Email

travis.eckhoff@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I do not use recreational motorized vehicles (ATVs, snowmachines, etc.). I occasionally cross country ski in the winter. I enjoy skiing on the groomed trail at Montana Creek, and appreciate the effort that goes into grooming it.

My concern with this proposal is that there is already a limited number of areas where off-road vehicles, ATVs, and snowmachines may be used in Juneau and Douglas. Closing this portion of Montana Creek Road to motorized vehicle use in the winter would further reduce recreational opportunities for this user group. If the road is closed to motorized vehicles in the winter CBJ should consider providing alternative access to areas north of the timber bridge, or consider opening other areas to motorized vehicle use.

There does not appear to be sufficient data to determine what impact this proposal would actually have, or the data may not have been provided to the public. Closing this "portion" of the road essentially closes all of Montana Creek Trail and the surrounding areas. While this is a significant reduction in recreational access, if there are only a few people using motorized vehicles in the area versus hundreds of skiers using the trail, closing the road may be appropriate. Parks and Rec should perform a "traffic" count to determine how many skiers and recreational motorized vehicles use the road in the winter. Public comment may not be representative of actual use.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 9:09 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Donny Sims
Email
dfs@gci.net
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not support closing Montana Creek I've rode up there my whole life since I was a little kid and I'm about to have a kid of my own and I would love to take him up there riding but that won't be possible if you guys close it And think it is totally wrong that you guys are out casting one user group in this whole town The Nordic ski club has like five other places to go that the ATVs and snow machines are not allowed

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 8:13 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Katisha Blackwell
Email
blackwell.katisha@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I would like to politely say that I do NOT support the unfair exclusion of motorized vehicles utilizing the Montana Creek Trail in the winter.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 7:50 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Lisa Lindeman
Email
llindeman.ak@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I support the position of the Juneau Nordic Ski Club that use of the Montana Creek Road should be split between non-motorized and motorized users on a six-months basis to keep all users safe. From November-April, the road would be available for non-motorized use by skiers, dog walkers, etc. The remaining six months would be available for motorized use.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 7:47 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Willie Perry
Email
alaskanwilly@gmail.com
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please allow the motor clubs to utilize this area, the cross country skiers have a massive amount of land to utilize. They do not need to try and shut another group of users out of an area.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 6:59 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Ulrike Meyer
Email
tommeyer@gci.net
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I support closing the Montana Creek access road to motorized use during the winter. I started nordic skiing several years ago and have used the Montana Creek trail several times. It is beautiful and fun to ski. I have two daughters who enjoy nordic skiing with me and its important to keep this trail available for youth skiers who wish to join the Nordic Ski Team and train on the trail. As you know, the trail gets and keeps snow over longer periods of time. My family has a Nordic Ski Club membership.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 6:54 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Ida Meyer
Email
tommeyer@gci.net
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I am a youth cross country skier and may be joining the high school nordic ski team which uses that trail in the winter. I support closing the trail to motorized use in the winter.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 6:50 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Thomas Meyer
Email
tommeyer@gci.net
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I submitted a comment earlier in this process but to be sure, am submitting another. I am a long-time member of the Juneau Nordic Ski club. I have skied on the Montana Creek trail many times, along with my family. I would like the Montana Creek trail to remain available exclusively to XC skiers during the winter months, November through April 1, or so. In addition to using it for several years now, nordic skiers have been good stewards of the access road and creek trail. It would not be fair to change course and allow motorized use of the trail during winter.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 6:44 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Eva Meyer
Email
tommeyer@gci.net
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Hi, I'm eleven years old, and I'm a youth skier, and last year when schools closed due to COVID-19, all my family and I did for over 2 months was Cross Country ski. I have skied Montana Creek Trail many times since I was 5 or six, and I support the Montana creek trail opening in winter!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 6:28 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Justine Bishop
Email
jb45jnu@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Hello. I am not in favor of shared usage of the Montana Creek Road Area: motorized vehicles and non-motorized use. Deep ruts in the snow created by ATVs cannot be "fixed". There are far more skiers than ATV users in the winter. A better solution is six months per user group. This will enable the avid skiers and mountain bikers not to have their routes destroyed by motorized users and maintain more harmony. Clear demarcation and rules are important.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 6:24 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Joyanne Bloom
Email
joyanneb@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>As a member of the community whose well over 55, I'm imploring you to keep the winter Montana Creek Trail use for senior skiers, classic (me) and skate (those more fit than me).</p> <p>I would wager that it's the most go-to place for us Juneau seniors in winter to get exercise. It keeps us fit and healthy and feeling vital. It also gives us the opportunity to socialize with other seniors, who I believe make up at least 50% of the users. Please keep us active and fun in the wilderness in the long winter months. We want to keep skiing those winter blues away!</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 4:24 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Jeffrey Grant
Email
jeffgrantak@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not support the unfair exclusion of motorized vehicles utilizing the Montana Creek Trail in the winter.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 2:42 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Amanda Arra
Email
arrabish@gci.net
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I thought that this gate was already closed to off road vehicles during the winter months. Off road vehicles are not compatible with skiing, dog walking and snow shoeing. There are many, many more non-motorized users of this trail than ORVs. The ruts made by ORVs make the snow unusable for the rest of the winter for "quiet" sports. This is not fair to our children who participate in the cross country ski program and the adults who have very limited options on places to cross country ski. I would think that P&R would be interested in promoting healthy activities of community members. ORV recreating is not an aerobic sport and by allowing ORVs to use this trail in the winter, you are closing off access for all of the other types of recreation because they are NOT compatible with motorized vehicles!</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 2:38 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Jim and Susi Fowler
Email
fowler.susig@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>We are writing to urge a policy of non-motorized winter use of the Montana Creek trail. The area receives substantial use by the school cross-country teams and offers an important and healthy outdoor exercise opportunity for local cross-country skiers of all ages. It's often the first good snow of the year and sometimes the last, it's a safe place for night skiing, and really, there's nowhere else in the borough quite comparable. The local Nordic club grooms the area for the benefit of all community skiers, but this use, which benefits a wide range of residents, is not actually compatible with ATV use. The work and volunteer time that goes into grooming the trails for cross country ski use is destroyed by ATV use, makes the proposal to alternate uses unworkable. Non-motorized use seems like a good answer to protect public safety and enhance the recreational and exercise opportunities for a sizable group of users. Thank you.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 2:25 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Cynthia Pring-Ham
Email
ckaivalya@acsalaska.net
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I support the closure of Montana Creek Road to motorized vehicles from November 1 through April 1. This is nearby our house and provides winter recreational opportunities to my family and other cross country skiers throughout town. I frequently ski This specific road as the ski condition are the best in town. The Nordic Club brings children and parents out to this Road for cross country ski training and easy access also. There are no other areas with this distance or With this specific topography in Mendenhall Valley. We have been enjoying this road since it was made available by the CBJ. Please consider my comments for the final decision on this proposal. Sincerely yours, Cynthia Pring-Ham

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 2:15 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Neil MacKinnon
Email
neil@alaskalaundry.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I am opposed to closing Montana creek road to motorized use. It is RS2477 road built to foster trade and commerce and as such cannot be dedicated to the exclusive use of any single group.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 1:39 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Marty McKeown
Email
martymckeown@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I absolutely do not support the banning of motorized vehicles on Montana Creek Road. We have more than enough areas that ban snow machines and atvs and do not need any more. In fact, the CBJ should open more areas to ride during both the winter months and the summer months.</p> <p>Marty McKeown</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 1:34 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Andrew Dyke
Email
speedskatingturtle@gmail.com
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I support closing the Montana Creek Road to motorized use during winter months and do not support any combination of use during the winter months as motorized use can cause permanent trail damage.</p> <p>Nonmotorized use of the trail is very important to me as I use the trail for skiing multiple times per week in the winter. Any motorized use could severely limit and cause a significant reduction in quality of skate skiing days.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 12:32 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Chloe Papier
Email
chloepapier@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Montana creek is one of my favorite places to cross country ski in the winter, I would probably not spend any time there in the winter if motorized vehicles like ATVs and snow machines were also using the trail.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 12:32 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Neil Slotnick

Email

neilslotnick@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Downtown

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Please close Montana Creek Road in winter to motorized use other than a designated grooming vehicle.

This option allows access for all—anyone wishing to go to the end of the trail in winter can easily do so by foot, snowshoe, or skis.

Please remember that if you allow motorized vehicles on the trail in winter you will destroy access for hundreds of skiers, walkers, and snowshoers, while benefiting only a handful of individuals.

Thank you for your consideration. I urge you to do the right thing,

Neil Slotnick

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 12:30 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Betsy Fischer

Email

scottbetsy@gci.net

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I strongly oppose any winter recreational motorized use on the Montana Creek road, including allowing recreational motorized vehicles on the road for 6 days out of the month. There will be no way to enforce this type of use and based on past experience with the motorized user group, I don't believe we can rely on the honor system to make it work. The damage they would cause would negatively impact the good work that the JNSC groomers do. Effective grooming can only occur with consistent daily work that builds a good base. Once that base is compromised the groomers have to start again from scratch. If the weather is warm or wet and recreational machines have torn up the base, that means the ski trail cannot be groomed and skiing is lost. That is simply not an acceptable option.

I hiked the Montana Creek road just a few days ago and continued up into the woods where ATV's have blazed several illegal trails. The destruction to streams that feed into Montana Creek and the muskeg forest is significant and will not heal for years, if ever. The PRAC should not encourage or enable this sort of use of local trails and destruction of the environment. Please do the right thing and close Montana Creek to all recreational motorized use. Thank you.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 12:21 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Megan Gahl
Email
mkgahl@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>Please DO NOT allow motorized use of Montana Creek trail Nov 1 through April 1. We use this trail extensively during that time to cross country ski, especially late season when other sites have lost snow. ANY motorized use is a danger to non-motorized users and ruins the groomed trail. I have two kids on the Juneau nordic ski club and myself and my husband all ski on this trail regularly (once a week or more).</p> <p>Many thanks, Megan Gahl</p> <p>Juneau, AK</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 11:56 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Jay Johnson
Email
troutsmoke@hotmail.com
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I do not support the closure. Juneau needs to open more motorized recreation areas not close them. How would the trail be groomed if it is closed to motorized use?</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 11:50 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Thomas Deely
Email
connie-mitch@gci.net
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Montana Creek Road should continue to be closed to motorized vehicles from November 1 through April 1. I have skied in Juneau for over 20 years and during the winter months this road is the best location in terms of consistent snow coverage and easy access for cross country skiing in Juneau. The snow coverage also lasts the longest, providing an option when the Mendenhall campground no longer has snow. In addition, due to the colder temperatures along the road the periodic rain effects are less severe than other areas in Juneau. Motorized traffic will jeopardize the snow pack thru heavier weight and higher speed usage. My understanding is that motorized vehicles already have access to Spalding Meadows (via the University trail) and Dan Moller basin areas in the winter ... with no impacts to skiers.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 11:04 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Keith Levy
Email
keithblevy@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>I am writing to urge you not to open Montana Creek Road to motorized vehicles during the 6 month period when the road can be used for Nordic skiing. I do not oppose motorized use generally in certain locations, but in this case motor vehicles are incompatible with walking, snow shoeing, and skiing. The vehicles destroy the groomed track, which is essential to these non-motorized activities. Allowing motorized vehicles on the road destroys the groomed track and cannot simply be fixed after each use. Thank you.</p> <p>Keith Levy</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 11:03 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Tina Pasteris
Email
tinap@gci.net
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I feel strongly that any trail that is featured in our local hiking guides and is used regularly by people on foot, ski's, or snowshoes should not be opened to ATV's. It just isn't safe--any time of the year! The potential for people/vehicle collisions is too great. I also do not want to see Spaulding Meadows get ripped to shreds just so a few people can get their kicks. Please do not open Montana Creek Road trail to motorized traffic November through April or any other time of the year. It would create unsafe conditions and destroy the health and beauty of our woods and meadows.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 9:56 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Bonnie Chaney
Email
saginawchannel@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I support the JNSC proposal for a 6/6 month sharing of Montana Creek road/trail with the JNSC having the Nov-April time. This is prime cross-country skiing for those that aren't skilled enough for Eaglecrest. ATVs and snowmachines would ruin the trail. The ruts create by these machines would be impossible to groom out particularly in low snow conditions.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 9:48 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Jack FREYSINGER
Email
Jif155@hotmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I would like it to stay open to motorized use we have very limited area already do not need to take more areas from the motorized vehicle community in juneau

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 9:42 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
bing carrillo
Email
carrb@acsalaska.net
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
please do not propose use of motorized vehicles during the time indicated at the end of Montana Creek Road. The ATV and snowmobile now have access to the Douglas Meadows and the Spaulding meadows which encompasses miles for riding. Why would they want to use this single stretch of roadway unless it is a means to access the Peterson Lake area.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 9:35 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Carter Walker
Email
Carterjdhs907@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
No. There's plenty of other trails and we can't close one out of the only spots for snow-machining in Juneau. Keep them open

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 9:28 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Kym Mauseth

Email

kmauseth@acsalaska.net

Phone

Residence Location

Mendenhall Valley

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Dear Members of the Parks and Recreation Committee:

As a member of the Juneau Nordic Ski Club (JNSC), I support closure of the road beyond the rifle range to motorized users from Nov. 1 to May 1, the time during which volunteers of the JNSC groom the road for skiing. Closure of the road to snow machiners and ATVs is critical for maintaining this area as a nordic ski area, an area that has been regularly groomed and maintained by the all-volunteer JNSC for the last 15 years.

One pass by a snow machiner or an ATV user ruins the trail for all skiers--young and old--who use this area. In addition, it's dangerous to have motorized vehicles and skiers on the same trail. Skiers have historically put a lot of effort in developing this area for the enjoyment of skiers of all levels. Also, this area is one of the few areas at sea level that reliably receives snow in the winter.

Please support closure of the road beyond the rifle range to motorized users (other than JNSC grooming equipment) from Nov. 1 to May 1. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Kym Mauseth

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 9:21 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Bill Glude
Email
snowcom01@me.com
Phone
Residence Location
Downtown
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please stick with the arrangement the Nordic Ski Club has; the grooming gives a cross country ski spot in the Valley when Mendenhall Lake is not solidly frozen, with a little more critical elevation and snowcover. Groomer use should be allowed, but public snowmachine and ATV use will tear up the ski trail and make it unusable for all but the tiny minority of motorized users. Thank you!

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 9:18 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Kathryn Miller

Email

kathryn.flett.miller@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Downtown

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Good morning,

Sharing 6 months on, 6 months off seems a fair and equitable solution for both user groups to use the Montana Creek road/trail area.

There are approximately 10,000 non-motorized user days (skiers, dog walkers, bikers, etc per day) over that 6 month snowy period and less than 10-20 motorized user days (mostly 4 wheelers) that are destroying the trails. It just doesn't make sense to have any motorized users during the ski season.

Thank you,
Katie Miller

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 8:11 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Tia Benboe
Email
tiarae41387@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not agree with it being closed. Has many perks for being open to motorized vehicles. Closer to town for if something happens there is still cell service, less chance of an accident. Do not take away a fun place for people.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 7:24 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Craig Brown
Email
cbrown907ak@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I do not support an unfair exclusion of motorized vehicles utilizing Montana creek in the winter.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 6:03 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
John armstrong
Email
johnstrong@yahoo.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
This is a bad idea

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 4:59 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
David miller
Email
millerdavem@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Mendenhall Valley
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
please do not close Montana Creek road to snowmachines or any other ATV. There are very limited places that people can go to enjoy this activity. Yet cross country skiers have an abundance of places they can go.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2020 4:48 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Anilisa Kimlinger
Email
akim@acsalaska.net
Residence Location
Douglas
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please don't close montana Creek road to motorized vehicles, we need access for recreation.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2020 2:33 PM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

Frances Pillifant

Email

Frankiepillifant@gmail.com

Phone

Residence Location

Downtown

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

I write in support of the JNSC request for the CBJ to formalize the practice of closing the gates at Montana Creek trailhead, from November to May each winter, for the purpose of safe Nordic skiing. JNSC has been winter grooming this 3 kilometer trail for approximately 20 years, mostly unchallenged for its use. After the gates were installed, for purposes of protecting sensitive lands from garbage dumping and motorized habitat destruction and improving the safety, the gates were consistently closed during the winter. Until 2019, when many more instances of destruction to groomed Nordic trails occurred.

Physically, the MC road is a short 2 miles, with multiple narrow places along its length, at times barely 8 feet wide, with winding, short view lines and tight corners revealing other users when almost nose to nose.

By allowing winter motorized use CBJ will effectively create a single use motorized trail. Sharing this narrow trail space between slow moving pedestrians and skiers and motorized users requires a serious understanding of safety risks.

There are many adopted land management plans with sections discussing the intent of use for the upper reaches of Montana Creek (Parks and Recreation Master Plan, Juneau Non-Motorized Transportation Plan, State of Alaska ADNR Area Plan, Juneau Comprehensive Plan) for reference. And others that are incorporated, such as the Trout Unlimited, 2006 study. All speak to the upper Montana Creek area as a natural area that should be managed for passive use. Motorized use is not a passive use and is inconsistent with previously publicly reviewed and adopted plans governing this area.

The current list of dedicated trails inventory open for use by motorized sports enthusiasts includes Blueberry Hills, Lake Creek, Westside Mendenhall Lake and Echo Cove. Perhaps its the time for land managers to provide more equity to the Nordic skiing community who are organized, following land management rules for use, obtaining use agreements and putting their own money into creating an activity for thousands in the community?

A decision to allow motorized in winter will displace the hundreds of people in the community who enjoy outdoor activities such as walking, running, snowshoeing, dog walking, sledding and cross country skiing. All of these are relatively inexpensive, unstructured activities. Nordic trail grooming provides easy access to recreation for many in the community during the difficult winter months, and it costs next to nothing to the CBJ bottom line. The groomed Nordic trails remain open to human powered users, whether or not they are dues paying members. Trails are primarily groomed for Nordic skiing yet hundreds of others enjoy the compressed snow including families walking and sledding with small kids, JSD school P.E. groups, home school groups and local after school youth ski programs.

MC is a key trail for the independent youth programs to train and recreate, often in the dark after school hours, using headlamps. Youth ski programs operating in the CBJ have taught 100's, if not 1000's, of kids and parents and guardians to ski through the 4H Recreational ski program (founded in 1998), the Nordic Club Team (founded in 2010) as well as JSD and.

Closing Montana Creek to winter time motorized use, except for JNSC grooming equipment, will ensure the health and safety of all the many 'passive' users.

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2020 11:08 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name

MARK KELLEY

Email

photos@markkelley.com

Phone

Residence Location

Out the Road

Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure

Dear Parks and Recreation,
I totally support the Juneau Nordic Ski Club (JNSC) proposal to close Montana Creek Road to motorized users from Nov1 to May 1. I use the groomed Montana Creek Road past the gun range regularly all winter and early spring. The JNSC meticulously grooms this closed section of road at great expenditure in volunteer time and money for hundreds of cross-country skiers. It just takes one snow machine to wreck the groomed trails that hundreds of us depend on for easily accessible winter exercise. This area is an escape for a quick ski at lunch or after work where as the Eaglecrest Trails and Spaulding Meadows upper meadows are just too far to access at lunch or after work. Besides wrecking the grooming, the motorized traffic is dangerous for not just the cross country skiers but the snowshoers, walkers, and dog walkers that compatibly share the grooming. Thank you. Mark Kelley (9-28-2020)

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2020 8:37 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Harold Moeser
Email
haroldm@gci.net
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
<p>Closing a right of way for the skiers exclusive use is not an appropriate action and not in the public interest. Previous failed action to provide a place for motorized makes the proposed action an insult to a large group of snowmobile, motor bike and four wheeler enthusiasts. CBJ inaction toward motorized access opportunities precipitated my patient son's move from Juneau. He waited more than 20 years for a place to ride and finally moved out of Juneau to play. Now he commutes from Wasilla to work at Greens Creek.</p> <p>Over these many years of phony study and significant acreage to choose from define the Boroughs anti motorized bias. Winter use of the right of way ought to be open all residents for whatever purpose. It is a right of way for all. All of Juneau trails are available to skiers in winter; they don't warrant a set aside area other than Eagle Crest. Begin a serious response to other winter rec needs now.</p>

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2020 7:55 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
John Gitkov
Email
seal@alaska.net
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
I strongly oppose closing Montana Creek Road to motorized vehicles I was fortunate to use that location to learn to ride snow machines I believe skiers and snow machines can coexist there are many limited areas do you use motorized vehicles in the CBJ

Lauren Verrelli

From: domadmin@juneau.org
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2020 7:10 AM
To: Lauren Verrelli
Subject: New submission from Montana Creek Road Closure

Name
Bonnie Webster
Email
forevermissed06@gmail.com
Phone
Residence Location
Out the Road
Your comments on Montana Creek Road Closure
Please keep this road open to motorized vehicles! With so many other things closed due to Covid and travel somewhat restricted, we need outlets for playing.