PUBLIC TESTIMONY
for the
PROPOSED
SEWARD-GIRDWOOD IDITAROD NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL PROJECT

Several segments of the proposed trail cross into portions of the forest closed to motorized use under the Chugach Forest Plan. If the trail is built, the Forest Service proposes to restrict or prohibit access to these trail segments (specifically trails in Portage Valley and trail segments around Girdwood such as the Crow Pass and Winner Creek Trails) for motorized use, including snowmachines. In order to prohibit the use of snowmachines for traditional activities or travel to and from villages and homesites, such use must be found to be detrimental to the resource values of the unit or area. The Forest Service is seeking comment and testimony to determine whether such use is detrimental to resource values and whether other actions may be taken to protect the natural and other values of the unit or area. Written testimony, including e-mail (bcharnon@fs.fed.us), must be received by 5:00 PM, December 15, 2003. Information about the Iditarod National Historic Trail is available on the Chugach National Forest webpage located at: **http://www.fs.fed.us/r10/chugach**. For additional information regarding this project, contact one of the following individuals: Alison Rein (907) 754-2329; Dan Golden (907) 743-9560; or Pat O'Leary (907) 224-3374.

I'll start by saying that I am completely opposed to any new motorized terrain. I am also opposed to existing motorized terrain in places like 20 mile & Placer valleys.

A new Forest Service trail up 20 mile & down Winter Creek is a good idea given that it stays non-motorized. So is a shelter built at the pass between those valleys.

I do not understand why the Forest Service interprets ANILCA to say that white people out recreational snowmachining is a traditional activity. A snowmachine is a good tool, but for recreation it is actually a loathsome activity & a slap in the face of our rapidly shrinking wild country.

Name: Tony Dugan

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