

## ASPEN MOUNTAIN POWDER TOURS ACTION ALERT

The US Forest Service is currently reviewing the Road and Travel Map which regulates use in the Powder Tour permit area. It is expected that the Forest Service will recommend opening the Powder Tour permit area to completely unregulated motorized access. This means that any snowmobile or snowcat can travel anywhere within the permit area including on the slopes used for powder skiing. The ramifications of this new policy would change the permit area from a powder skiing paradise into a snowmobile play area jeopardizing the future of Powder Tours.

It is not too late to reverse the Forest Service recommendation through the public comment process. We encourage you to write or email the Forest Service District Supervisor to help preserve the Powder Tour permit area for powder skiing. Below are some talking points to consider including in your comments.

- Powder Tours is a unique recreational opportunity that greatly enhances the overall Aspen experience for locals and visitors alike.
- Powder Tours provides for recreation on the US Forest Service land to the general public at large and is not limited to a special interest group with access to snowmobiles and the where with all to travel in a backcountry environment.
- Currently, Powder Tours is confined to a relatively limited permit area while snowmobiles are allowed to operate in a much larger area of the US Forest Service land both nearby and farther away.
- Unlimited and unregulated motorized activity in the Powder Tour permit area will severely degrade or eliminate the powder skiing experience for all, be it Powder Tours or non-motorized users commercial or otherwise.
- Unlimited and unregulated motorized activity in the Powder Tour permit are will increase noise, traffic, pollution, conflict, accidents, incursion of bordering designated wilderness, etc.
- Encourage continuation of the current status of use and regulation in the Powder Tour permit area limiting motorized activity to the special use permit holder and unlimited access to non-motorized users.

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