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Agriculture		Region	Delivery: 740 Simms Street
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Date: January 13, 2004

Dear State Association or Club Officer

Snowmobile use is an appropriate recreational activity on National Forest lands. Sometimes, however, it results in snowmobile trespass into Congressional designated wilderness. These areas are special places set aside for primitive adventure and solitude, where motorized use is prohibited. We have witnessed an increase in illegal snowmobile use in Rocky Mountain Region's wildernesses over the last several years.

To combat this growing problem, the US Forest Service developed Information and Education Strategy aimed at preventing snowmobile trespass in wilderness. This Strategy has been recently updated and distributed to field units for implementation.

Your copy of the 2004 Strategy is enclosed. We are asking snowmobile organizations, like yours, for assistance in implementing the Strategy. We hope this will result in increased understanding, support and respect for the wilderness resource throughout the snowmobile community. We are aware that, generally, the problem does not lie with individuals who belong to organized snowmobile clubs. More often, the violators tend to be unaffiliated riders, who may be unaware, uncooperative or irresponsible. Their actions, however, reflect poorly on all snowmobile riders and can result in an overall negative public image, adversely affecting conscientious riders.

I hope we can count on the support of your organization in dealing with this illegal action. Your assistance with this effort is greatly appreciated. For further information, please contact our local Forest Service office.

Sincerely,

/S/ STEVE SHERWOOD

STEVE SHERWOOD
Director, Recreation, Heritage
and Wilderness Resources

CC   Bill Fox, Regional Special Agent
        Terri Gates, Director of Public Affairs
        Ralph Swain, Regional Wilderness Program Manager

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