

Michelle Webb

From: Julie Cozzi
Sent: Thursday, March 06, 2014 11:06 AM
To: Michelle Webb
Subject: FW: DO NOT AMEND HELISKI APPROVED AREAS

sub

From: Sherrie [<mailto:riversidealaska@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 06, 2014 10:18 AM
To: Jerry Lapp; Debra Schnabel; Joanne Waterman; Dave Berry; George Campbell; Diana Lapham; Stephanie Scott
Cc: Julie Cozzi
Subject: DO NOT AMEND HELISKI APPROVED AREAS

Dear Mayor Scott and Members of the Assembly,

Please do not allow the heliski industry to operate outside the boundaries of the Haines Borough Approved Commercial Ski Tour Areas.

The areas were closed to commercial use for a reason and they should remain closed. I support keeping areas 1 and 2 out of bounds to recreational helicopters. Besides concern for denning brown bear and the non-motorized users who would be affected by this opening I would most strongly object to the noise from or sight of these operations from my home.

Having these operations so close to town will subject too many people to this disturbance. What is the sense of recommending opening some closed areas and not others. If it is appropriate to open areas 1 and 2 why is it not appropriate to open areas 8 and 9? Especially as more people will be affected by operations in areas 1 and 2.

If there isn't enough snow to "bury dangerous features and create adequate snow bridging in glaciated terrain" and to make industry operations safe this year perhaps they should just not operate rather than risk yet another accident. Certainly opening closed areas to include other unsafe areas makes no sense at all.

Most importantly although the industry claims they only want this opening for this special and "temporary" event – they also brag about how they would like to have it be an annual event. Each season we face a ploy to expand their area.

Please do not amend the heliski map without due process.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sherrie Goll

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