

Dear Messrs. Mayville & Klein and the Avon Town Council:

My wife and I are in receipt of the email attached below that was penned by Pam & Peter Warren, who we have known for 16 years.

We have been Avon residents since 1990 and have lived in the Wildridge community for the last 16 years.

We are in total agreement with the content and recommendations contained in the email. Which means we are **AGAINST** any snowmobile access to the backcountry from the Wildridge subdivision.

What we are **FOR** is the enhancement of the June Creek Trail so it could be used as a means of emergency egress in the event of an emergency in the Wildridge community that would prevent use of Wildridge, Metcalf or Wildwood Roads.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jim & "Sam"

Dear Mayor Fancher and the Avon City Council,

As Wildridge residents, Chuck and I are in complete agreement with Peter and Pam Warren's letter regarding snowmobile access to forest lands through Wildridge. We feel it would not be a good thing in many respects such as: increased traffic, noise pollution year round, safety issues, ignoring dictated desirable covenants, and, most greatly, affecting the wildlife environment just so special interest groups of people can ride their snowmobiles when there are other places available just for that purpose.

Wildridge is a residential community with people not wanting to live with excess, non-residential traffic creating a noisy environment and more traffic with cars, trailers and trucks. All during the summer we, unhappily, tolerate the irritating and obnoxious noise from motorcycle dirt bikes roaring the engines on the way to the trails. I would not like to have that year round.

We do not understand why the city does not have to "enforce" the Wildridge covenants. Yet, we as residents, do need to follow the covenants, and happily do so. One of the joys of living in Wildridge is the slower pace as well as seeing the wildlife roaming and napping in our yard.

Also, we are against Avon having to use our tax money to have to create and maintain parking spaces for people just to run their snowmobiles and disturb the wildlife. Why should outside special interest groups be given more honor than the residents?

Please do not allow noisy snowmobile access to the forest land through Wildridge.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sherry and Chuck Bunting  
Wildridge Residents  
Avon, CO

Members of the Town Council,

We fully support the comments below of Pam and Peter Warren in opposition to the proposed snowmobile access from the Wildridge area. It is yet another case of a vociferous special interest group attempting to cause the Avon Town Council to spend our tax dollars on a project that will unambiguously lower our property values.

Thank you for your consideration.

Judy and Peter Copes  
Avon, CO

Dear Council Members,

I'd like voice my opposition to introducing snowmobile access to the backcountry through Wildridge, or any other neighborhood in Avon, for that matter. We have to face the fact that we are an urbanized area (compared to most of the western slope), and the great majority of residents do not want this sometimes-annoying recreational activity introduced into our peaceful neighborhoods. Besides the noise issue, there are also significant safety issues. Please do not support this activity in our Town.

Sincerely,

Steve Coyer  
56 Ground Plum  
Avon, CO

Dear Mayor Fancher and Members of Town Council

We have resided at 5723 Wildridge Road in Avon since 1999. We have raised concerns about snowmobile travel on Wildridge streets and unlicensed travel via dirt bikes and ATVs with the Avon police department many times over many years — all without reduction in the dangerous violations through this unauthorized use of our streets. In fact this use has increased substantially over the last several years, even supporting use by commercial operators who haul non-residents to and through our neighborhood to reach forest service roads.

We are opposed to any increase in winter or summer access through the Wildridge community to forest service roads. We are also opposed to Town funding of any parking or road improvements that may support such access and use.

Thanks,  
Greer and Jack Gardner

Mayor Fancher and Members of the Town Council,

I am writing in advance of your discussion tomorrow evening, during which you plan to discuss permitting snowmobile access to the back country from the Wildridge subdivision via USFS Roads 717,1B and 779. While I am not able to attend the meeting in person I wanted to express my views on the subject before you take any further action.

I have been a resident in Wildridge for 35 years and have watched the community evolve in a variety of ways. You are well aware of the 'Protective Covenants' that apply to the subdivision and which every property owner acknowledges in the transaction to purchase property. The Town is a property owner in Wildridge as well. These Covenants prohibit the operation of snowmobiles in Wildridge. To take any action contrary to the Covenants would be irresponsible.

By prohibiting the operation of snowmobiles within the subdivision, those wishing to gain access to the two USFS roads would be obliged to transport their snowmobiles on trailers and attempt to park their trucks with trailers on the public streets near these roads. As you are aware, parking on the streets of Wildridge is prohibited 24/7/365. Enforcement of this standard is most critical during the winter months.

There is no benefit to the residents of Wildridge should you be tempted to permit snowmobile access. Such activities will only serve to foster the introduction of more Trucks hauling trailers, creating more traffic and resulting in an increase of trash that these folks tend to leave behind.

Please protect our community by saying "NO" to this request.

Thank you

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J Hunn', written in a cursive style.

**Jack Hunn**

I am opposed to introducing snowmobile access through Wildridge or any other Avon neighborhood to the back country. Terrible idea. Among other things the noise would be deafening.

Regards

Thomas Jasper  
84 Wildrose

I'd like voice my opposition to introducing snowmobile access to the backcountry through Wildridge, or any other neighborhood in Avon, for that matter. We have to face the fact that we are an urbanized area (compared to most of the western slope), and the great majority of residents do not want this sometimes-annoying recreational activity introduced into our peaceful neighborhoods. Besides the noise issue, there are also significant safety issues. Please do not support this activity in our Town.

Sincerely,

Mark Kogan  
295 Woodrush  
Avon, CO



Ladies and gentlemen,

Please do not allow snowmobile access in Mt.Star or anyplace in Avon. There is ample backcountry for snowmobilers without allowing them in our town. They are noisy and distracting from the peace and tranquility we enjoy in all our neighborhoods.

Ann and Alan Mintz

Mayor Fancher and Members of the Town Council –

We are opposed to any proposed snowmobile access from the Wildridge area to the back country north of the neighborhood.

Our rationale follows:

Increased noise, pollution, and traffic in a residential area.

Negative impact on wildlife habitat and increased stress on wildlife that are already suffering.

Proposal caters to a small special interest group with no obvious benefits to the town of Avon or its citizens.

Thank you,

John and Janet Perdzock

Wildridge Residents.

Dear Avon Council,

I am writing to you concerning the proposed snowmobile access and building of parking lots in Wildridge. If proposal goes through and parking exceeds lot size, our neighborhood will look more like Vail pass in the winter. My belief is for those who like to recreate out of Wildridge, buy a home here. We are a family neighborhood living here to escape the tourism below. I do not want to invite the general public into our neighborhood and against opening access up to the public. I believe with the additional traffic will bring road safety, congestion and add noise pollution to our otherwise peaceful neighborhood.

I have yet to see Avon manage traffic or parking today in Wildridge concerning mountain bike shuttles in the summer. Council promised mountain bike shuttles would be controlled by code enforcement. Shuttles happen every day and I have not seen the town ever do anything about it. Once the word gets out there is snowmobile access in Wildridge they will come in droves as they do for Lee's Way downhill today. Look at the end of Metcalf where mountain bikers park. Create a parking lot there and fix that problem. Does council imagine Wildridge will look different once the small lot you are proposing is filled. What is your plan?

Also, a concern would be elk wintering just above Wildridge. Winter back country traffic has significantly increased over the last ten years. Our herd is estimated to be 50% of what it used to be. I have been hunting here and living in Wildridge since 1998 and believe herd is closer to a third of what it used to be. I do not wish for my taxes to be paying for something that will endanger, affect wildlife and degrade our neighborhood. Please put this proposal in the trash where it belongs.

Sincerely,

David Petrowski  
2490 Old Trail

Dear Council Members,

I'd like voice my opposition to introducing snowmobile access to the backcountry through Wildridge, or any other neighborhood in Avon, for that matter. We have to face the fact that we are an urbanized area (compared to most of the western slope), and the great majority of residents do not want this sometimes-annoying recreational activity introduced into our peaceful neighborhoods. Besides the noise issue, there are also significant safety issues. Please do not support this activity in our Town.

Sincerely,

Richard and Susan Rogel  
56 Rosecrown  
Avon, CO 81620

Matthew, TOA,

The USFS "new information for snowmobile parking lot" in Wildridge off June creek trail is not acceptable in any way. We as a neighborhood oppose emphatically.

- The "effects" mentioned are completely confusing and untrue: RE:
  1. Moving parking from FSR 774 over to June creek trail (FSR 717.1B) will not **reduce impact on deer and Elk**. It just moves the impact.
  2. It is unclear that the "TOA agreement" to provide winter access north of Avon is agreed upon.
  3. Please note that the location of option 1 or option 2 (provided by USFS) for the proposed snowmobile parking lot is in extremely challenging terrain. These locations are not going to be cost effective. Dirt work is expensive.
  4. Relocation of snowmobile/ truck traffic and reducing distance for snowmobiles from FSR 774 over to June Creek Trail is just moving the traffic. This makes no sense.
  5. Providing **expanded summer parking** for the FS and west Avon preserve will create traffic that the current roads and parking cannot handle. This will not be cost effective as the TOA will have to repair roads more often.

Serious concerns:

1. Nottingham Rd, Metcalf Rd. to Old Trail Road appears to be the main road that will access the proposed snowmobile trailer parking lot @ June creek trail. (IE: USFS rd. 717.1B)
2. Old Trail road cannot handle the anticipated additional traffic especially towed trailers.
3. The noise and pollution cannot be mitigated in the neighborhood and on the trails. Diesel trucks and snowmobiles are very noisy with nasty smelling exhaust.
4. This noise and pollution will also adversely affect all the wildlife in the area, not to mention our pets and children.
5. This heavy use will inherently devalue our property value.
6. Safety for pedestrians on the existing pedestrian path will become extremely dangerous especially for families pushing baby carriages and other residence exercising, children riding and playing as well as residents walking pets.
7. Please note that some of the truck / trailers are huge and cannot safely navigating the steep winding road. IE: They will encroach on the pedestrian path and other lanes of traffic. The downhill traffic will also create a driving safety issue.
8. An issue that most people are not aware of is that constant traffic driving over the melted cindered road after a snow fall creates a toxic dust. The pulverized cinders do create a health risk, IE: eyes, lungs, etc. Additional truck and trailer traffic will create an even bigger toxic dust storm.
9. We foresee even more cinders being laid down by the TOA due to the additional traffic.
10. \*\*\* Why should the TOA have to plow and cinder the roads for truck and trailer traffic that do not reside in our neighborhood? This will obviously create an addition expense for the TOA and the residents.
11. Eventually the road ways will have to be patched and resurfaced more frequently.
12. **Will the TOA monitor the parking lot and control the traffic**, so trucks are not driving up and turning around due to a full lot? The scenario just keeps getting worse. Up and down turning around.
13. **Who will monitor illegal on road parking**. TOV again?? Will the trucks and trailers be parking at the playground at the intersection of Old trail and June creek road. Can they park and off load at the cul-de-sac?

Summary:

- We do not want our quiet neighborhood to become a destination for snowmobilers and the public. If one wishes to recreate out of Wildridge please see the MLS. Purchase a residence perhaps.

We do not wish for our taxes to be used for something that will endanger residents and wildlife or devalue and degrade our valuable property.

Please think hard and reconsider not moving forward. We suggest trashing this entire proposal. Think about your neighborhood. Do you want a truck and trailer parking lot there? We think not.

Best regards,

Greg Samson  
G E Samson Companies LLC.  
2440 Old Trail Road.

Mayor Fancher and Members of the Town Council –

It is our intent to express our objections to any proposed snowmobile access from the Wildridge residential area to the back country north of the neighborhood. This type of access being proposed by a special interest group will increase the traffic and the noise and interfere with our quite enjoyment of our neighborhood.

- The Wildridge Covenants, created in the late 1970's as part of the initial development and permitting of this residential tract, state that there shall be no snowmobiling in this development. Many of us invested in our Wildridge properties because of these covenants and the protections they provided. Now again we find that the Town feels that it does not need to 'enforce' these covenants, or protect the residents who make their homes in Wildridge. We hope that the Council will not pander to another special interest group who wishes to invade Wildridge for their own uses. We sincerely hope that the Council will make no further decisions that directly contradict those covenants. How would you feel if this "invasion" were taking place in front of your home or on the surrounding areas?
- Property owners in the vicinity of June Creek Trail and upper Wildridge Road would be most seriously and negatively impacted by increased traffic and noise pollution. Additionally, given the proximity of a park on June Creek Trail @ Old Trail young children (bicyclists, mothers walking baby carriages, etc.) would be put at risk by added truck and trailer activity.
- Allowing this increased access by trucks, snow mobiles, dirt bikes, ATVs, etc. in the June Creek Trail area or areas to the north of Singletree will have a severely negative impact on wildlife, especially the deer and elk populations. Both of which are in serious decline as proven by Colorado Parks and Wildlife studies that have been well publicized. Please recall the discussions and concerns presented in the recent past over the mountain bike trails another special interest group wanted to create in Wildridge. All of the resident's objections and concerns still stand.
- Snow mobile users, and other special interest groups pushing these invasive proposals, already have excellent access to the backcountry trail network from many existing backcountry points in the valley. Why should Avon taxpayers be asked to pay for or put with special interest groups' wish lists.

The only justification for work on the June Creek Trail area would be to provide a second possible exit route from Wildridge in the case of an emergency evacuation. Upgrading this dirt road route and providing access only through a locked gate operable by emergency personnel, would greatly increase public safety.

Regards,

*Dan and Terry Smith*  
*2660 Beartrap Road - Wildridge*

Members of the Avon Town Council,

I would like to express my opposition to the proposal to allow snowmobile access to the backcountry from the upper Wildridge neighborhood. My opposition to the bike trail proposals was based on the same reasons I object to this proposal.

Wildridge covenants were created at the time Wildridge was permitted. Those covenants were created to favor the environment over excessive development. Those covenants prohibit snowmobiles. At one point in the past the Avon Town attorney expressed the opinion that the town does not need to enforce these covenants. Why do covenants exist if there is no one that will enforce them? How is not enforcing covenants fair to those who live within them?

The "Wild" in Wildridge was one of the reasons I purchased a home here. As a wildlife photographer with many trailcams on my property, I am keenly aware of the wildlife around our homes. I would hate to see that disappear.

During the discussions about the bike trails, Bill Andree and Craig Wescoatt, both with the Colorado Parks and Wildlife, stated that the bike trails would have a detrimental impact on wildlife in and around the Wildridge neighborhood. That was a summer impact. Snowmobiles would have an even greater impact because winter conditions make it more difficult for wildlife to obtain the nourishment they need during difficult conditions. Noise, commotion, pollution, and trail damage from snow machines is significantly greater than bikes! Snowmobiles in the backcountry above Wildridge will have a significant impact on the ability of wildlife to survive in the winter.

A great deal of the area above Wildridge is a southern exposure and will often have poor conditions for snowmobiles. Having hiked many of the trails in the fall and spring I am aware of the spotty ground cover that occurs. Snowmobiles will have a significant and detrimental impact on the existing trails during that time. In addition, that time frame seems to have expanded as a late start of winter weather has had an impact on all snow based activities in the valley.

Wildridge has only one way in and out. Snowmobilers and commercial operations will make traffic in the neighborhood more difficult and may have an impact on safety.

Like the bike proposals, this proposal is probably being put before the council by a number of people who do not live in Wildridge or Avon. Has that been addressed? Funds needed to address the problems created by this proposal would be better spent on infrastructure that benefits the community as a whole.

There are already many areas within short drives where snowmobiles are allowed. Adding more trails and trailheads is not required to provide areas for snowmobiles.

Rick Spitzer



Dear Council Members,

I'm writing in opposition to the introduction of snowmobile trails in and near Wild Ridge. Years of aggressive development in and around Avon has already given the area a commercial non-residential feel. As a result, I think the Council should be seeking ways to recapture our peace and quiet; not further damage it. In terms of activities that impose upon the peace and quiet we seek, snowmobiling is perhaps the worst offender. Please vote down this proposal.

Greg Thomas  
18 Rosecrown  
Avon, CO 81620

Mayor Fancher and Members of the Town Council –

The purpose of this email is to express our objections to any proposed snowmobile access from the Wildridge area to the back country north of the neighborhood.

Our rationale is as follows:

- The Wildridge Covenants, created in the late 1970's as part of the initial development and permitting of this residential tract, state that there shall be no snowmobiling in this development. Many property owners invested in Wildridge properties in part because of the environment established in this area dictated by these covenants. While the Avon Town attorney has stated that the Town does not need to 'enforce' these covenants, we hope that the Council will make no further decisions that directly contradict those covenants. Said covenants have been embraced by a majority of residents in Wildridge who will not support/endorse council members who choose to ignore them.
- Property owners in the vicinity of USFS Roads 717.1B and 779 would be seriously and negatively impacted by increased traffic and noise pollution. Furthermore, given the activity of young children (bicyclists, mothers walking baby carriages, etc.) in each of these areas, public safety would be jeopardized by added truck and trailer activity.
- Encouraging increased motorized traffic (snow mobiles, dirt bikes, ATVs, etc.) in the June Creek Trail or areas to the north of Singletree will have a negative impact on wildlife, especially elk and deer populations, both of which are in serious decline as proven by Colorado Parks and Wildlife studies that have been well publicized.
- Snow mobile users, an example of another special interest group driving these proposals, have much better access to the backcountry trail network via existing points in Vail and on Vail Pass. The proposed Edwards and Wildridge areas are at lower altitudes and have much greater sun exposure, resulting in a much shorter season. Thus, investing monies for said proposals would yield a poor return on investment for the Avon tax payers, many of whom are looking at other areas of concern that should be addressed by the town

For example: the ONLY justification that many of us can support, for any possible upgrades to the June Creek Trail area is to enhance a second possible egress route from Wildridge in the event of an emergency that would necessitate a neighborhood evacuation. And the best path to follow would be that which leads to the Singletree neighborhood. Upgrading this dirt road route and providing access only through a locked gate operable by emergency personnel, would greatly enhance public safety.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Regards,

Pam and Peter Warren  
Wildridge  
Avon, CO

Mayor Fancher, Members of Council, Mr. Mayville and Mr. Klein,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to any snowmobile access in Wildridge where I am a property owner.

Pam and Peter Warren's email sent to you on September 7 states my sentiments. I urge you to rescind the MOU of July 21, 2014.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for the time you invest to make Avon a great place to live.

Sincerely,  
Jan Wisor