

ATVs in backcountry help disabled hunters gain access

This is the second time I have read remarks in the Sentinel by David Lien or one of his cohorts from the Colorado Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, based in Colorado Springs, espousing their selfish philosophy: "If you can't walk there, don't go."

I can only assume Lien is relatively

young and in good condition.

Some of us are old and are not in good

health. When I was a young man 60 years ago, I climbed, hunted and fished some of the highest, roughest country in this great nation, for which I fought.

Now that I am an old man, I am unable to do that. So I book very expensive guided hunts and let younger men do the work for me. Not all old people can afford to do that; ergo, ATVs are the answer when used properly.

I understand Lien's desire to be alone in the backcountry without the attendant noise of ATVs etc. However, he appears selfish and egotistical, with no thought given to the aged, infirm and handicapped. Nor for the wounded warriors of today who are not able to do the things Lien is able to do because they are missing one or more limbs.

(I have sponsored or attended several wounded-warrior hunts for warriors with both legs amputated above the knees, as well as arms gone and traumatic brain injuries, etc.)

As for dirt roads, power lines, clear cuts, etc. being a detriment to elk, deer and especially turkey, I've got big news for his outfit. The gas well pads, clear cuts, old roads and trails provide areas for grasses and shrubs that would otherwise not have open sunlight to germinate and grow. And they provide forage and insects for the above-mentioned species.

Before Lien makes the statement about how if a hunter can't "get an elk or deer out of the woods" without motorized game retrieval he has no business hunting for one, I suggest he walk 100 yards in our shoes. Then, he should think before he castigates others

for his own selfishness.

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