

Maine Department of Conservation
Bureau of Parks and Lands
Meeting to Discuss Proposal for Developing a Snowmobile Plan
For the Katahdin Region

Northern Timber Cruisers Club House – Millinocket

Rick Hill – Bowlin Matagamon SC
Lisa Hayes – Katahdin Press
Peter Pray – Millinocket
Bryan Wentzell – Appalachian Mountain Club
Jensen Bissell – Baxter State Park
Dirk Dewley – The Nature Conservancy
Howard Weymouth – Katahdin Timberlands, Katahdin Forest Management
Matt Polstein - New England Outdoor Center
Shelley Farrington – Katahdin Press
Ken Delano – Benedicta Snowgang
Phil Knowles – Benedicta Snowgang
Jim Splan – Benedicta Snowgang
John Neff – Friends of Baxter State Park
Doug Smith – Dover-Foxcroft
Peter Pray – Millinocket
David Moore – Northern Timber Cruisers
Bob Meyers – Maine Snowmobile Assoc.
Ken Perkins – Rockabema Snow Rangers, Patten
Steve Crouse - Rockabema Snow Rangers, Patten
Dan Anderson – Millinocket
Pete McPheters – Millinocket
Cathy Johnson – Natural Resources Council of Maine
Maurice Marden – Piscataquis Valley SC, Dover
Bruce - Millinocket
Rep. Herbert Clark
Rep. Henry Joy
Sharon Libby Jones – Jones Snowplowing and Sanding, Greenville
Wayne Campbell – Millinocket, Snowmobile Museum

From the Bureau of Parks and Lands:

Scott Ramsay – Bureau of Parks and Lands
John Titus – Bureau of Parks and Lands

Opening Comments from Scott, where we are in the process

John gave a summary presentation of findings from VT and NH

General Comments

- There is interest as to how this Plan will impact snowmobiling statewide
- There are important, critical connections to Greenville and to Northern Maine at stake
- Bob Meyers and Steve Reiling can put together some economic data, perhaps by the next meeting, for eventual inclusion in the Comprehensive Plan

- Should be able to get some economic information done by the Millinocket Area Economic Development Committee (1997 - 1998); Frank Clukey was on the Recreation Committee for the town, and may have some information
- Despite the lack of snow throughout the region last winter, there was snowmobiling on Baxter State Park's Perimeter Road
- There is no established trail from Medway to Benedicta; if we could get it, it would add immense value to the snowmobiling industry in the Millinocket region
- It takes so long for the State to react to acquiring land; the process needs to be changed
- If there is going to be positive payback to the region, we need to think carefully on where we locate the trails, so they become high value
- The State needs to stay involved, so we don't wear out the volunteerism
- John Titus indicated he could get some additional trail protection information from Michigan's UP, the Adirondacks, and possibly the Canadian provinces; will try to get trail lease language from NH
- Landowners need to recover costs resulting from allowing trails, lease fees to recover administrative costs might be worth looking into
- Bruce: \$500,000 has been made available through Congressman Michaud's office – needs to be used for bicycle/pedestrian trails in the Millinocket area, but should not be a problem accommodating snowmobile use if it can
- BP&L/ORV could provide some data on expenditures at the ORV Division, money that goes to clubs, etc.

Landowner Map

- The Katahdin Forestlands easement overlay is no longer on the map, as it is not germane to this discussion
- Some corrections were made to the Haynes ownership near Whetstone Bridge
- Need to identify key points on the map to focus on in the Plan

Lunch was provided by the NTC Club members

Wayne Campbell provided a tour of the Snowmobile Museum