

POINTS THAT NEED TO BE CLARIFIED/INCLUDED IN THIS POLICY.

Include cross-country ski trails in permit process if maintained by groomer

Speed limit within XX feet of highway or along shoulders (particularly ATV connectors along shoulders)?

Connectors along shoulders – against traffic OK? What’s to prevent riders from going straight down the traveled way?

Connector traffic allowed within traveled way?

ATV crossing/connector surface material

Specs for width and grade and surface of trail. Difference for ATV and snowmobiles. What about side by sides?

Construction of new crossings by club or DOT. Maintenance is by?

Temporary crossings – restoration by club etc

Permits required for using roads that are closed in the winter?

If excavation is required when constructing/modify a crossing, is a trench permit required or is this activity covered by OHRV crossing permit.

Sight distance measured from where (XX feet back from EOP/white line)

Sight distance – expand per AASHTO stopping distances?

<u>Design Speed</u>	<u>Stopping sight distance (ft)</u>
<u>15</u>	<u>80</u>
<u>20</u>	<u>115</u>
<u>25</u>	<u>155</u>
<u>30</u>	<u>200</u>
<u>35</u>	<u>250</u>
<u>40</u>	<u>305</u>
<u>45</u>	<u>360</u>
<u>50</u>	<u>425</u>
<u>55</u>	<u>495</u>
<u>60</u>	<u>570</u>
<u>65</u>	<u>645</u>

Limited Access Highways: crossings allowed if not divided (unusual, but brought up at ADE meeting. – is this OK under RSA?)

Controlled access – at approved access points ONLY? This original policy had it written that way – not backed by RSA?

Groomer crossing at tunnels (particularly in CAROW) – if they need to cross at grade, should be permitted crossing and/or operating club should erect fencing/signs/gates so that snowmobiles must use tunnel. Does the tunnel itself need a permit as a crossing?

State roads not maintained by the State in the winter still need snowmobile Xing permits

Permits issued to: BOT, clubs, individuals? Per RSA, DOT only deals with BOT. BOT deals with who?

Requirement of no signage in ROW - Stop signs on trail at edge of ROW not always appropriate – too far back from crossing.

Crossings at controlled intersections, ie Dells road – use crosswalk signals

Changes in crossing configuration and/or location need to be repermited.

If culverts required in highway ditch – minimum size/ spec.

Connectors crossing private driveways? Not good for resident but nothing prohibiting this?

Anything special to consider for trails that use Railroad crossings?

State of New Hampshire

Department of Public Works and Highways

Crossing of Highways by Off-Highway
Recreational Vehicles (OHRV's)

Policy Procedure NO. 8

PURPOSE:

The purpose of these instructions is to outline departmental policy relative to the crossing of public highway systems by Off-Highway Recreational Vehicles. Such vehicles include snowmobiles, motor bikes, motorcycles, trail bikes, all terrain vehicles, including four wheel drive vehicles or other motorized ~~2 or 3~~ wheeled trail type vehicles, ~~and~~ track type vehicles, ~~and~~ OHRV trail maintenance vehicles. The further purpose is to indicate the requirements for approved crossing locations, signing and construction as may be required. The fundamental objectives are:

- 1) To provide maximum protection to highway traffic through the orderly control of the movements of OHRV's on to, from and across the highway systems of the State,
- 2) To provide a uniform means whereby OHRV's may be permitted to cross the State's highway systems and
- 3) To provide a standard sign installation program to warn highway traffic that an approved OHRV crossing is ahead.

REFERENCES:

The following statutes area the basis for the policies developed herein:

- A. ~~Snow Traveling Vehicles Registration and Operation, RSA Chapter 269-B:13~~
- B. ~~Prohibition of Certain Vehicles within Highway Rights-of-Way, RSA Chapter 249:52~~
- C. ~~General, Extracts from Revised Statutes Annotated Pertaining to Highways, Bridges and other Related Statures, Revised 1972~~
- D. RSA 236:56 Prohibition of Certain Vehicles Within Highway Rights-of-Way.
- E. RSA 215-C Snowmobiles
- F. RSA 215-A Off Highway Recreational Vehicles and Trails.
- G. RSA 236:13 Driveways and Other Accesses to the Public Way

POLICY PRINCIPLES:

- II. Limited Access Highways (Interstate, Toll Roads, and Other Limited Access Sections)
 - A. Crossings of these rights of way may be made under bridge structures over streams by snowmobiles only when authorized by permit issued by ~~Division Engineer~~District Engineer. Is traveling under a bridge along a stream still OK with DES etc?
 - B. Crossings of these limited access highways may be made by all OHRV's under bridge structures carrying said limited access highways over other highway where there is sufficient room to safely accommodate such passage outside the traveled way of the other highway.
 - C. Crossings of these rights of way may be made through tunnels specifically installed as recreational trail crossings. Permit required?
 - D. We shall adhere to RSA 249:52 as inserted by Chapter 157, 1971, in the prohibition of operation of any OHRV's in the other portions of rights-of-way of these highways.

III. Controlled Access Highways

- A. Major crossing of established trail systems may be permitted on a permit basis only where authorized access point exist approximately opposite each other. In any case, the points of access shall not be greater than 250 feet apart, such distance being measured along the edge of the highway traveled way. This implies a connector, where does it go, down the traveled way?
- B. The crossings permitted under bridges and tunnels, as outlined for limited access highways, will be utilized in first priority before direct highway crossings as noted in this section are authorized.
- C. When trails cross the highway under a tunnel which is not of sufficient size to allow passage of trail maintenance vehicles, at-grade crossings may be permitted for said vehicles at the discretion of the District Engineer.

IV. Other State Highways

- A. The policy shall be as outlined in RSA 249:52 and RSA 269-B:13 Update required
- B. A separate permit will be required for each authorized major trail crossing where sight distance exceeds 400 feet and is less than 500 feet in highway speed zones less than 50 mph, and less than 600 feet in highway speed zones of 50 mph an over. No permits will be issued where sight distance (defined in RSA 249:17) Update required – RSA 236:13? is less than 400 feet.

V. Town Highways

- A. Crossings of Town Roads will be handled in accordance with the statures and as required by the Town.

VI. General

- A. Permits will be issued by this Department, upon application by the Bureau of Trails to the appropriate ~~Division Engineer~~ District Engineer, only to recognized formal organizations or groups for established trail system crossings. This will include State or local agencies and private organizations. A private organization may be any group that has designated one of its members as an officer or spokesman empowered to act for the group in all matters pertaining to OHRV Crossing permits.
- B. Roadway signing for snowmobile crossings will be limited to locations of marginal safe sight distance for vehicular approach speeds as previously defined, or as otherwise determined by this Department. Signing on the state highways may be provided by this Department for major trail crossings under permit, but only where the sight distance is considered

marginal (400 to 500 or 600 feet) by the ~~Division Engineer~~District Engineer.

- C. Signing on trails must be provided, erected and maintained by the permittee adjacent to all state highway crossings warning trail users of the highway ahead. As a minimum, such trail signing shall consist of a stop sign and at least one advance warning sign for each approach to the highway, in accordance with the “Basic Recommendations for Snowmobile Trails” promulgated by the International Snowmobile Congress. any update to this? No trail signs may be located within the highway right-of-way.
- D. Written permission from the property owners abutting highway rights-of-way, authorizing the use of their property for the trail system, will be required before any crossing permit is issued by the ~~Division Engineer~~District Engineer. Upon written request of any property owner terminating this authorization, the permit will be revoked.
- E. Width of trail shall be sufficient and properly maintained to allow OHRV’s to pass in opposite directions and thereby prevent any stopping or other avoidance maneuvers on the highway pavement.
- F. Maintenance of trail crossings within the highway right-of-way limits and parking areas on private property for the purpose of motor vehicle parking by trail users shall be the responsibility of the permittee. This Department can in no way participate in the maintenance of these facilities. What about the traveled way?
- G. The parking of motor vehicles and trailers or other equipment used to transport OHRV’s to the trails shall not be permitted within the highway right of way limits.
- H. Permits shall specify any provisions necessary to maintain the existing highway drainage and/or to provide additional visibility or other safety features deemed advisable by the ~~Division Engineer~~District Engineer.
- I. No permit shall be issued for any proposed crossing that would have a descending approach gradient greater than 12 ½ % within fifty feet, or an ascending approach gradient greater than 25% within twenty feet of the highway traveled way. compare grades to typical drwg.

OPERATIONS:

- I. Maintenance Division Bureau? – The Maintenance Division will be responsible for the following:
 - A. The Maintenance Engineer will be responsible for the development of approved crossing permit forms.
 - B. The ~~Division Engineer~~District Engineers will be responsible for the site review of crossing applications and the establishment of criteria for each individual crossing if approved.

- C. The ~~Division Engineer~~District Engineers will be responsible for the issuance of permits for approved locations to ~~the Bureau of Trails, State, local and private agencies as may be appropriate.~~
 - D. The ~~Division Engineer~~District Engineers will be responsible for the recommendations as to required highway signs. Signing recommendations are to be reviewed with the Traffic Engineer as to need, location, size and message.
- II. Traffic Division – The Traffic Engineer will be responsible for the following:
- E. Crossing site inspection as requested by the ~~Division Engineer~~District Engineer.
 - F. Recommending the need, location, size and message of signs where appropriate.
 - G. Erecting and maintaining the approved highway signing.

ENFORCEMENT:

Enforcement of this Policy Procedure will be as required under the referenced statute.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

This procedure is effective upon the date of issuance.

Submitted by: