

Guinn, William

From: Cam Bradshaw [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021 7:09 PM
To: Guinn, William
Subject: Nash Stream West Side OHRV trail extension

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It is clear to me that it is premature to move forward with an extension of the West Side OHRV trail. At the least, more data needs to be collected on the current West Side Trail and Kelsey Notch Trails as per the recommendations of the Tech Team. OHRV clubs and the BOT should bear the costs of these studies. They should also contribute to the funding of additional Fish and Game officers to patrol these trails.

But ideally all OHRV trails in Nash Stream Forest would be permanently closed. The original management plan forbids them and the clubs and BOT have not followed through on the promised monitoring and data collection. Instead they continue to clamor for more access, requiring resources to be spent to examine their demands. Ban OHRVs in Nash Stream and resolve at a stroke one of its biggest management headaches.

Connector OHRV trails are not a solution, they are a problem. This proposed route connects a trail that never should have been approved with a 25 mile road ride. There is significant opposition to OHRV traffic along this road. One half of Ride the Wilds is on public roads and residents along these routes have been blindsided by having their quiet rural routes turned into a "trail".

Furthermore, funding for OHRV trails is flawed. Since half of their trail system is on public roads they should not get funding from the GIA program, and in fact they should be required to support the maintenance of these roads. And they should not get funding for multiuse trails because no one else wants to share their trails. I have personally been driven out of Jericho State Park and off the rail trail between Berlin and Gorham by OHRVs. These are places I used to recreate but the noise, dust and speed of OHRVs are not compatible with any experience I want to have.

Thanks for listening. Please forward my comments to the Nash Stream Citizens Committee.

Cam Bradshaw
Berlin, NH

Katherine Hartnett ([REDACTED])
[REDACTED], Lancaster NH 03584
15 November 2021 (via email)

TO: William Guinn, NH Division of Forest and Lands (william.t.guinn@dncr.nh.gov)
FOR: Nash Stream Citizens Advisory Committee
FROM: Katherine Hartnett, resident, Lancaster NH
RE: Proposed Nash Stream Southern Connector Request

Please forward my comments to the committee. Thank you.

I write as a 16 year resident of Coos County, having lived in Berlin from 2005-2019, and in Lancaster since 2019. I to urge the Committee, at a minimum, to follow the findings of the *Nash Stream Forest OHRV Briefing Paper on the Revised Southern Connector Trail Proposal 2021*, distributed in advance of your 16 Nov 2021 meeting in Lancaster. My reasoning is based on the following considerations:

1995 NASH STREAM FOREST (NSF) VISION: As described in that Briefing Paper page 1, History, based on early planning work with extensive diverse stakeholder and public input, "...a balance was struck to maintain Nash Stream Forest as a working forest, utilizing ecologically based, sustainable forestry, and to continue to provide traditional, low impact, dispersed recreation."

RECENT TRACK RECORD: The track record of the previous "pilot" in Kelsey Notch demonstrates that the required management, law enforcement, maintenance, and monitoring has not happened.

THE QUESTION: Why further trail expansion would be allowed, given:

- a) the initial excellent 1995 vision for NSF,
- b) the failure to perform the required work for the Kelsey Notch Trail,
- c) the documented negative impacts of erosion, sedimentation, and invasives,
- d) the potential but unstudied impacts on wetlands habitats and associated fish, reptiles, amphibians, and wildlife in summer,
- e) the continued absence of any credible study that shows substantial benefit of OHRV's over traditional, low impact, dispersed recreation,
- f) an assessment of potential impacts, including noise, dust, increased traffic volume and speed, and wildlife disruption to other types of outdoor recreation including hunting, fishing, hiking, and wildlife watching that also contribute significant dollars to local and state economies,
- g) the shrinking area left unfragmented by motorized use,
- h) the absence of a coherent OHRV plan for the North Country.

It is very clear that keeping a diversity of quality outdoor experiences is the key to New Hampshire's economic future.

Thank you for your consideration.

Guinn, William

From: David Evankow <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, November 16, 2021 6:02 AM
To: Guinn, William
Subject: Proposed ATV trail in Nash Stream Forest

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To whom it may concern;

It is altogether preposterous to be even considering another ATV trail in Nash stream Forest given the fact that the existing Kelsey Notch OHRV Trail has failed to meet the basic requirements of the pilot program, not to mention being illegal.

Further with the issues of looming climate change we (NH) have no business promoting this wasteful carbon intensive pastime in the state let alone in Nash Stream Forest. It is disruptive, damaging and a violation of the NSF management plan.

Please honor the Management plan and support fighting climate change and deny this new request for a southern ATV trail. And vote immediately to close Kelsey notch trail to ATVs due to the well documented multiple violations.

Thank You for your time and consideration of this matter.
David Evankow
Gorham, NH