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From Gamache, Christopher <Christopher.Gamache@nh.gov> ☆

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Subject RE: Henniker update

10/11/17, 12:46

To Dobbins, Caleb <Caleb.Dobbins@dot.nh.gov> ☆

Cc Sheehan, Victoria <Victoria.Sheehan@dot.nh.gov> ☆, Bryce, Philip <Philip.Bryce@nh.gov> ☆

Hi Caleb

I had stopped by this location on September 29th and noted the stone that had been installed. We notified the club that no other work should be done in this location until we finished determining the best course of action with your agency on the future of this trail. They should not have put the stone out and they have been informed of that.

I had previously emailed you that the snowmobile club and OHRV club were both in agreement that they could share the same footprint and they agreed that where the newly disturbed trail location was would be the best location for both groups. The bridge would be replaced with the new one the snowmobile club had built and the bridge would be potentially moved about 10' to the west of its current location. This would ensure that no part of any trail was on the abutting properties. I was waiting for your reply that this was what you want to proceed with, as this was what we agreed we would do when we last met. If that scenario works we would submit the updated connector permit for the snowmobile club to reflect this.

This would solve the snowmobile trail location, and would then ensure the OHRV use was in compliance with the law change from last year. Regardless of whether the law should or should not be in existence in not the discussion for us. When we last met we were trying to solve the issue of the trail location.

The club has been told that no work can be done at this location until we agree on what is to be done between our agencies. I will see the club again in 2 weeks at a meeting and will follow up with them again. The bill passed in June. We need to have an answer to what we are doing. Moving the snowmobile trail location to where the OHRV group put the route would make the most sense for the users and your Bureau.

Let me know how you want me to proceed. Thanks, Chris

Chris Gamache, Chief
NH Bureau of Trails
DNCR-Division of Parks & Recreation
172 Pembroke Road, Concord, NH
603-271-3254

From: Dobbins, Caleb
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 4:25 PM
To: Gamache, Christopher
Cc: Sheehan, Victoria; Bryce, Philip
Subject: RE: Henniker update

Chris-

Unfortunately apparently the club has again chosen to not listen and continue to move forward as they desire. Attached is a picture I took on 8/28/17 before we spoke, and then showed you at our meeting on 9/6/17, and then a new one on 10/4/17. As you can see the club has added considerable stone in the new,

unpermitted, trail area. At this point there exists an OHRV trail that is not permitted at its current location, a permitted snowmobile trail that exists in a different location and finally legislation that allows the OHRV's in neither of these locations.

Is there a permit application being completed that would request that the snowmobile and OHRV coexist at the new location? This would require a new application from the snowmobile club as well as an application from the OHRV club that would refer to RSA 215-A:42 and :43, which is what really should have occurred rather than the legislation that was passed, which is not even being followed currently. Given that this trail does not follow any regulations, I am unsure what would occur had the accident that happened in Henniker this weekend had been on this section of trail.

Thank you for your continued attention on this matter.

~Caleb

Caleb B. Dobbins, PE

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From: Gamache, Christopher
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 11:52 AM
To: Dobbins, Caleb
Cc: Sheehan, Victoria
Subject: Henniker update

Caleb,

I have looked through our files and talked with the Contoocook ATV Club. The Town of Henniker opened all of its Class VI roads for use between 2002 and 2006. We have several newspaper articles about it. There are no records of the permission ever being rescinded. As such Mink Hill Road is still open for use.

The two clubs are willing to have one shared trail in the same location and where the ATV club put in the new route would be preferred by the snowmobile club also. They could put the new bridge they built there to replace the old one.

The club sent me some photographs of some of the work they did and I have told them to stop any work until we figure out if the snowmobile trail is moving and they are

both on the currently used trail, or they both need to move to where the snowmobile permit was issued last year (not the ideal location for both).

Thanks, Chris

Chris Gamache, Chief
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