



METALLAK ATV CLUB

THE NORTHERN CONNECTION

January 11, 2023

NH Council on Resources and Development (CORD)
Department of Business and Economic Affairs
100 Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

Dear CORD Members,

Our club has been maintaining the Kelsey Notch trails with help from the NH Bureau of Trails for several years. In addition to our routine maintenance, we have also upgraded several bridges in the area so they can support heavy loads for trail maintenance equipment.

We are also happy to report that we have opened some new woods trails north of Nash Stream Forest taking ATV traffic off of local roads thus reducing the chances of these trails being closed.

The Kelsey Notch Trails are a critical connector between the Colebrook/Pittsburg riding area and the Millsfield and North Stratford riding areas and we ask that you support keeping these trails open.

As a frame of reference, the Kelsey Notch trails in Nash Stream Forest are 2.56 miles long and take up just 9.3 acres of the 40,013 acres of total forest land. That is just 2/100 of a percent of the land in the forest. These trails are also located along the northern boundary of the forest so they do not impact any other activities in the heart of the forest.

Nash Stream Forest was purchased with unrestricted public funds that came from people all over New Hampshire. There were no wheeled vehicle restrictions placed on this land by either the state or the federal government at the time of its purchase and none should be placed on it now.

One of the three goals that were explicitly stated during the Nash Stream purchase process was to "Provide continued public access for recreation" and we believe OHRV access should be part of that recreation mix to serve the over 37,076 New Hampshire residents and visitors who enjoy this sport.

Sincerely,
Craig Washburn
President