

Nash Stream Citizen's Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
January 25, 2007

Attendees:

Committee Members Present - Representative Fred King, Ted Burns, Mary Sloat, John Lanier, Wendell Lees, Brendan Prusik, Carolyn Livingston, David Dumais, and David Goulet.

DRED Staff Present - Director Philip Bryce, Bill Carpenter, David Falkenham, Maggie Machinist, Chris Gamache, Bill Gegas, Clint Savage and Ken Desmarais,

Others Present - Carol Foss, Edith Tucker, Richard McLeod and Barbara Tetreault.

Agenda

1. Meeting Opening

6:00 p.m. Representative Fred King calls the meeting to order; committee members introduce themselves. The minutes from the March meeting were approved. Rep. King explains that the main purpose of this particular meeting is to discuss the ATV trail and make a decision on the status.

2. Nash Stream Forest Activities

Regional Forester David Falkenham discussed timber sales that have been completed since the last meeting on Nash Stream Forest. Forester Maggie Machinist gives a quick presentation on the upcoming timber sale in Compartment 10 for the winter of 2007/2008.

3. ATV Trail

History of Trail – Rep. King starts the discussion of the ATV trail, saying that it has been in operation since November 2002 with a 3 year test period.

Presentations on Use and Impacts of Trail - Phil Bryce reviews the summary of findings about the ATV trail (handout).

Five studies were conducted within the pilot period to monitor conditions and aid in decision making.

Carol Foss gives a presentation on the bird study that was conducted. According to this study ATV's seemed to have little or no detectable effect on birds. This study provided good baseline information for future surveys for monitoring or if conditions change or usage change.

Ken Desmarais gives a summary of the mammal study. The results seem to be inconclusive; there were many problems with the study.

Phil Bryce stressed that the state can't permit a trail in perpetuity, especially a property like Nash Stream.

- The Forest Service has an easement
- There is an advisory team
- Overall, more scrutiny associated with the property.

Rep. King points out wording within the easement language that prohibits agreements longer than 5 years.

Bill Carpenter adds that contracts longer than 3 years have to have G&C approval, and go through a process, which they would like to avoid.

Wink Lees stresses the importance of monitoring wildlife in the future. Mary Sloat wants the word "thresholds" in part 1B to be defined. John Lanier agrees that needs to be addressed in the future, after appropriate research has been conducted.



Dave Goulet motions to move forward with the 3 year agreement. Ted Burns seconds the motion. The motion passes.

Public Comment - Edith Tucker wants to work into the agreement numbers of ATV's on the property. She feels that the public has been waiting to find the results of this study to see how often the trail is used. She would like to see usage monitored, to get a better idea on the number of recreators on the trail. There will be a 30 day public comment period.

4. Other Business – No other business is brought up.

Rep. Fred King adjourns the meeting at 8:10 p.m.