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Sent: Monday, November 23, 2020 9:49 AM
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Subject: HB 1182 committee

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Hello Committee,

I wanted to offer some quick input for your consideration as I have heard the committee has been considering class VI roads and OHRV use on these roads. While I am sure the considerations for all town's are not the same, I have had no choice but to be very involved locally here in the Kearsarge region on the issue.

For 6 long and frustrating years, until a recent reversal by the local select board, our family's land and home of three generations was subjected to being on a club "trial" along class VI roads. It is difficult to describe the disruption to our lives this change of use of the class VI road from an ROW to club trails created. Not to even mention the increased damage done to the historic roads originally intended for horse and ox use.

Working with the central NH regional planning commission we did a property owner survey here in Warner of all abutters on class VI roads throughout the area where the neighboring town's club had incrementally gained access to class VI roads on Warner land with little public input. When those abutting property owners were asked "how they feel the increase of OHRV/ATV use has impacted my enjoyment of the Mink Hills" 61% of recipients responded negatively. Later in the year a lively debate took place in town where local opposition to club use was clear and ultimately ended up with the "trail" system being significantly reduced to avoid homes, and class V roads. With this in mind I would caution the committee to not recommend or create any RSA;s that give OHRV interests increased access to Class VI roads in the state or preclude a town's ability to make these use decisions on their own. In fact, if any changes are made as a result of this committee in regards to class VI roads I would encourage the committee to create protections for land owners in towns where OHRV interests have outsized influence on selectboards, to insure the creation of trails meet the criteria outlined in RSA 215-A: 43, II(g)" for new trails on state land.

I imagine you may have heard from OHRV interests, clubs, and their industry lobbyists that class VI roads make great trails, don't bother anyone and if anything should be opened up to further OHRV use. I would imagine the Bureau Of Trails in one form or another also supports this false narrative as they have a clear conflict of interest in the debate but know that at least an equal number of the constituents you represent, and in many towns such as ours a clear majority, do not feel OHRV trails are an appropriate use of class VI roads.

Thank you for your consideration

Bret Ingold

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