

Partnerships (Motorized and Non) for Sustainable Trail Development: Maine Case Study

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Maine's Success Story

- ▣ 140+ ATV Clubs
- ▣ 1500+ active volunteers
- ▣ 3000+ landowners
(they are also volunteers!)
- ▣ 6000+ miles of maintained
ATV trails

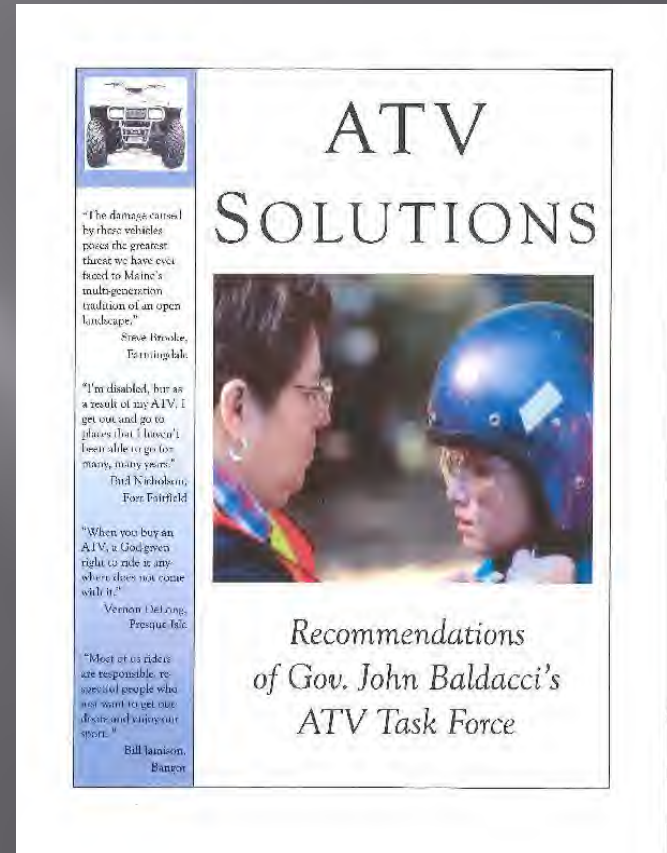


Approximately 25 % are Multi-Use



ATV Task Force Problems and Solutions Study

- ▣ Identify Problems and Needs of all players.
- ▣ Find solutions and ways to implement them.
- ▣ Result was 46 Recommendations which Included legislation.



Landowners need Protection

- ▣ Recreational Liability Law
 - 14 MRSA §159-A Limited Liability for Recreational or Harvesting Activities. (Public Law 622)
 - Considered one of the best laws in the country which the courts have upheld.
- ▣ Insurance Protection
 - State provided Insurance with Risk Management and AG help.
 - Additional 2 million dollar liability insurance through ATV Maine clubs.

Landowner rights need to be protected

- ▣ Users must have landowner permission to ride.
- ▣ Landowners need to be assured they maintain control over their land.
- ▣ Assurance they will be protected from Environmental liability.
- ▣ Local clubs provide a contact for any problem.
- ▣ Assurance that law enforcement will respond if needed.
- ▣ Recognition/ Appreciation.

Clubs need support

- ▣ Clear and concise laws.
- ▣ Organizational encouragement and help.
- ▣ Insurance Protection.
- ▣ Grant-in-aid Programs for trail construction and maintenance.
- ▣ Trail Guidelines and Bridge designs.
- ▣ BMP Guidance and Training.
- ▣ Coordinated Signing guidelines.

Volunteers need support & encouragement

- ▣ Getting different users together is a challenge
- ▣ Help them find a common goal
- ▣ What they have in common vs differences
- ▣ It takes a team to accomplish the dream
- ▣ Recognition



User Education: It is important everyone knows what to do when they meet on the trail

FOUR SEASONS ADVENTURE TRAIL MULTI-USE TRAIL SYSTEM

TRAIL SYSTEM MADE POSSIBLE BY MAINE DEPT. OF CONSERVATION,
LAND FOR MAINE'S FUTURE PROGRAM, MAINE OUTDOOR HERITAGE FUND,
U.S. PARK SERVICE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND, CENTRAL MAINE
TRAILS COALITION, NATIONAL RECREATION TRAILS ACT
(FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION), COOPERATING PRIVATE
LAND OWNERS, AND THE MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE



PERMITTED USES







SUMMER

USER ETHICS WHEN MEETING ON TRAIL
PLEASE YIELD TO THOSE
PASSING FROM BEHIND
PASS ON LEFT WITH CAUTION





WINTER

Education and Enforcement allow users to Successfully Share trails



Challenges Remain

Conflicts Between User Groups

- Some clubs work well together others still have conflicts.
- Confusion between ATV & Snowmobile Trail Signage
Usually caused because people are following arrows instead of Blazers
- Conflicts between hunters and ATVers during hunting season.
- When are trails open and to whom?

Differing landowner policies

- From No ATVs allowed to basically open land Policies.
- Prohibitions on certain types of machines like Motorcycles.
- Restrictions on certain size machines like Side by Sides.
- Requirements for Club Membership, insurance, etc.

- ▣ <http://www.maine.gov/dacf/parks/index.shtml>
- ▣ Http://www.maine.gov/dacf/parks/trail_activities/atv/index.shtml
- ▣ http://www.maine.gov/dacf/parks/grants/atv_grants/index.html
- ▣ http://www.maine.gov/ifw/atv_snowmobile_watercraft/atv.htm
- ▣ <http://www.maine.gov/ifw/grants/atv.htm>
- ▣ http://www.maine.gov/ifw/aboutus/commissioners_office/OutdoorPartnersPgrm/index.htm
- ▣ <http://www.atvmaine.org/>