

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: John Bilogan <jbilogan@co.oneida.wi.us>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2015 9:18 AM
To: Rydberg Larry
Cc: Rady Eric; Bennett, Freeman; Steffes, Jillian - DNR; Brown, Brigit E - DNR
Subject: Re: ATV construction along highway L

Categories: Print and File

Larry,

As Eric Rady mentioned, Freeman did forward a copy of your email to the Forestry Dept. I am not exactly sure when or if the Nokomis ATV Club will ever want the Oneida County Forestry Dept. to play an active role with the County Hwy L ATV/UTV Trail. However, if it is the intention of your club to have the Forestry Dept. Administer the maintenance of said trail upon the completion of its construction I would urge you to request the Forestry Departments input during the construction phase of this trail. I do not consider simply coping my office correspondence related to the development of this trail involving the Forestry Dept.. I say that because no one has ever requested the Forestry Department to comment on the design, construction phases, layout, and/or future maintenance of said trail.

I am completely comfortable with your clubs apparent decision to bypass the Forestry Department with your clubs trail construction plans. With that said, please consider this correspondence a formal notice to the Nokomis ATV/UTV Club, that by bypassing the Forestry Department during the design and construction phase of a trail, is a sure-fired way to receive a rejection letter from Forestry Department if we are asked to administer the maintenance of a trail if said trail does not meet our departments standards for safety and/or sustainability. Of coarse, if your club would like our department to become actively involved with the design and construction of your trails we would be more than happy to add your clubs request into our work schedule.

Good luck with your clubs trail endeavors!

John Bilogan – Oneida Co. Forest Director

From: Eric Rady
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2015 8:24 AM
To: Larry Rydberg
Cc: John Bilogan
Subject: Re: ATV construction along highway L

Thanks Larry.

John and I did receive this from Freeman. Thanks for the 'heads-up'.

----- Original Message -----
From: Larry Rydberg
To: erady@co.oneida.wi.us
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2015 7:58 AM
Subject: Fwd: ATV construction along highway L

Hello Eric

I'm Larry Rydberg, President of the Nokomis ATV Club.

The club has been working with the Town of Nokomis to construct an ATV trail along the highway L ROW.

I sent Freeman the attached note and he said that he was going to contact you.

I'm just following up to make sure nothing got "lost" in the hand off.

Thanks

Larry

-----Original Message-----

From: Larry Rydberg <larry54532@aol.com>

To: fbennett <fbennett@co.oneida.wi.us>

Sent: Tue, Jun 30, 2015 12:37 pm

Subject: ATV construction along highway L

Hello Freeman

I wanted to update you on the status of the ATV trail construction in the ROW of county L.

The DNR was out there and marked five areas with wetland concerns.

Most of the wetlands are set more than forty feet from the edge of the road so there is plenty of room to construct a 14 foot trail.

There are 2 areas that I want to explain

- 1) 370 feet of wetland area. About 30 feet of the area is 48 feet from the road. At this point the elevation drop from the roadway to the location of the trail is approximately 9 feet..
- 2) 200 feet of wetland. The closest it gets to the road is 40 feet. However in this area there is a lot of brush on this steep bank and the elevation drop is approximately 10 feet.

Since the elevation drop in these two areas is rather significant, would there be any concerns of placing parts of the trail here? I wouldn't think ATV headlights should be an issue. Or, would the county require other measures?

Get back to me with any questions.

Thanks

Larry Rydberg - President, Nokomis ATV Club

August 8, 2015

Jillian N. Steffes

107 Sutliff Ave.

Rhineland, WI 54501

Dear Ms. Steffes,

The Town of Nokomis has applied to the DNR for an ATV and Recreational Trail Aid Grant to create a new multipurpose trail to begin at Buckhorn Rd, (Tomahawk, WI) and run north up County Rd L to Lakewood Rd, to Branch Rd, and north up County Rd L again.

I am a landowner of property impacted by this proposed trail. I am opposed to the building of a portion of this trail due to the wetland areas that are affected. The proposed corridor of this trail is to go through a wetland area in the west right-of-way between County Rd L and my property at 3449 County Rd L (Section 2 T36N R6E, GIS 28-1). My private property has wetland attached to the right-of-way wetland section that the proposed trail is intended to pass through. I am very concerned about the environmental damage to my wetland due to this proposed trail running through the same body of wetland in the right-of-way. I am concerned about the adverse impact to all parts of this wetland due to surface runoff and erosion due to the trail itself, as well as the damage from recreational riders that will stray off the designated trail. In addition, I have personally experienced standing in 1-2 feet of water in this wetland and I cannot imagine how an ATV/recreational trail will go through it without building a bridge, not to mention how an ATV rider will navigate the steep sloping hill that is part of this wetland area. Furthermore, our driveway creates a situation where vehicles will need to stop. ATV riders taking off erratically from the stop sign are likely to kick driveway gravel into the wetland area. I am sure there are other detrimental effects to the wetland that I have not even thought of yet.

According to a document on the DNR website...

"Access points should be carefully identified and designed to prevent erosion and sedimentation problems and unauthorized off-trail operation on banks or beds of waterways and wetlands. Where any of these potential impacts are likely, the trail should be routed away from water features."

I believe that the portion of trail adjacent to my property does not need to go through the wetland as there is a trail already established directly across the road. Currently, Lakewood Rd is an established ATV route. Lakewood Rd runs into Branch Rd, which has a snowmobile trail. The ATV route does end at the end of Branch Rd but before the end of Branch Rd is Forest Lane. Forest Lane is a dead-end gravel road that is currently part of an established snowmobile trail that connects to the Bearskin Trail. A very short distance north on Forest Rd, the existing snowmobile trail has a trail perpendicular to the road that travels west and then north through the east side of County Rd L to the bridge at the Bear Skin Inn (GIS 24-3), which is the exact same place where the proposed ATV trail is to end. Making this short portion of trail off Forest Lane open to ATVs will still allow all of the trails to connect. In addition, allowing ATVs use of this

existing snowmobile trail east of County Rd L does not impact or damage the wetland area west of County Rd L. Furthermore, unlike the proposed trail west of County Rd L where many people are affected, no new landowners will be affected as the trail off Forest Ln is already established as a snowmobile route (GIS 28, 25-1, and 24-3).

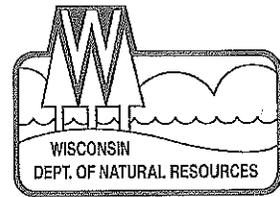
The DNR website states, "...the best wetland protection is avoidance". I strongly encourage you to reroute the Town of Nokomis trail proposal through the Forest Lane route east of County Rd L rather than west. Thank you for your consideration to this matter.

Sincerely,



Lynell K. Shumaker
N3608 State Road 110
Weyauwega, WI 54983

CC: Cami L. Peterson
Pam A. Biersach



August 18, 2015

Lynell Shumaker
N3608 State Road 110
Weyauwega WI 54983

Subject: Nokomis Hwy L Trail

Dear Ms. Shumaker:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the Town of Nokomis's application for grant funding for the recreational trail to be constructed in the County Hwy L right-of-way (west of road surface).

I will share your concerns regarding wetland impacts with our Water Management Specialist, Wendy Henniges. Wendy has been out on site this past spring/summer to walk the proposed footprint with members of the Nokomis ATV club. I believe the result of that visit was a determination that the trail could skirt around the wetlands without going through or across them while staying within the highway right-of-way. But I will share your letter with Wendy in case any additional review is necessary.

The Department has not yet made funding decisions regarding this application. However, implementation this trail proposal is ultimately in the hands of the Nokomis ATV Club, the Town of Nokomis, and the Oneida County Highway Department (holder of the ROW rights). They may choose to continue forward with this project as a locally managed trail, even without grant funds, provided they comply with appropriate laws and regulations including wetland impacts. You may wish to address your concerns to individuals with those entities to share your concerns.

Thank you for your interest in this project, your letter will be attached to the application file and reviewed along with the materials submitted by the town.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Jillian Steffes'.

Jillian Steffes
Community Grants Specialist

CC: Mike Repyak – DNR Trails Coordinator – Rhineland, WI
Brigit Brown – DNR Trails Coordinator – Madison, WI
Wendy Henniges – DNR Water Management Specialist – Rhineland, WI

August 10, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in regards to the ATV and Recreational Trail being proposed on County L in the Township of Nokomis.

At this time I am neither for or against this trail, but I am currently leaning towards the side of objection. My objection concerns the following points of discussion.

1. If this is indeed a recreational trail as stated, meaning it would be used by walkers, joggers, bicyclists, cross-country skiers, snowmobiles, ATVers, etc. then it would seem obvious that all affected users and organizations would be involved in the planning of this trail. It appears this is not the case. However, I may not have been provided enough information. On the surface, it seems like it's just the Nokomis ATV Club developing the proposed trail.
2. If the trail is to be used by all the above mentioned users, then the trail development will need to take into consideration all the factors that affect all the users of the trail. For example, can cross-country skiers use the trail at the same time that snowmobilers are using the trail? Are their modifications to the trail that would allow coexistence? And can runners, walkers, bicyclists use the trail at the same time that ATVers are using the trail without some type of modifications?
3. If this trail is the missing link that would ultimately connect the Bearskin Trail with the Hiawatha Trail then I believe many other parties should and must be involved in the planning and development of this much needed connection.
4. Other personal concerns I have regarding the trail construction right in front of our property include the following:

A. The trail will need to cross a substantial piece of wetland to the south of our driveway. This wetland sometimes contains two feet of water. Passage through this wetland cannot be avoided by constructing a lateral trail to the east or west. Some type of bridge will need to be constructed to traverse the wetland. I do not believe a puncheons structure would be the best fit for this area. It would eventually destroy the wetland.

B. The trail would traverse our driveway which is currently comprised of gravel. The repeated stopping and starting on this surface by all vehicular users will greatly affect the quality of the surface. I see this becoming a constant maintenance issue for us.

C. ATVers and snowmobilers (as I am one) are for the most part stewards of the land and the environment. However, the few individuals that ruin it for the rest of us do exist. These individuals modify their exhaust, drive off trail, and have a habit of becoming unruly. The results are loud noises, excessive speed, failures to stop, and trespassing. Since I am currently near the snowmobile trail, I am aware of the late night travel that occurs between 1:00 a.m. and 4:00 a.m.

In closing, I support the connection of the Hiawatha and Bearskin Trails. I want to see that achieved. However, I believe this current proposal needs much more study and review before it is implemented. I believe the trail should be constructed with all parties involved in the implementation.

Steve Shumaker
Lot 1 - Parcel 28-1
N3608 State Rd 110
Weyauwega, WI 54983



cc Jillian Steffes
Northwoods Riders

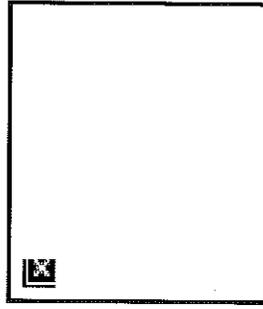
Parcel 28-1 in Nokomis



Print Close

SELECTION

- Railroads
- Parcel Lines
- Right-of-Way
- Parcel Line
- Description Line
- Water
- PLSS Boundary
- Forty-Gen't Lot
- Quarter
- Section
- Township
- Tax Parcel
- Waterbody



Oneida County GIS
Data Mapping

DISCLAIMER

All information is believed accurate but is NOT guaranteed to be without error. This map and its underlying data are intended to be used as a general index to land related information and are not intended for detailed, site-specific analysis.
Printed: 08/18/2015 08:52:22 AM



August 18, 2015

Steve Shumaker
N3608 State Road 110
Weyauwega WI 54983

Subject: Nokomis Hwy L Trail

Dear Mr. Shumaker:

Thank you for copying me on your recent letter regarding the Town of Nokomis's application for grant funding for the recreational trail to be constructed in the County Hwy L right-of-way (west of road surface).

I will share your concerns regarding wetland impacts with our Water Management Specialist, Wendy Henniges. Wendy has been out on site this past spring/summer to walk the proposed footprint with members of the Nokomis ATV club. I believe the result of that visit was a determination that the trail could skirt around the wetlands without going through or across them while staying within the highway right-of-way. But I will share your letter with Wendy in case any additional review is necessary. The current design specifications as proposed in the grant application included only an earthen surface trail, with no proposed bridges/boardwalks.

In your letter, you had also expressed concerns regarding the involvement of a variety of different user groups in the design and construction of this proposed multi-use trail. I have shared a similar inquiry with the town, asking about communication and consideration thus far on this topic, but have not yet heard a response. The Town of Nokomis would be responsible for management and maintenance of this trail, and therefore consideration to safety and design as it pertains to the different user groups would be their responsibility.

Regarding the potential connection of the Hiawatha and Bearskin Trails – the project proposal in this application was not proposed as a connector between these two state trails, but rather proposed as a local trail. This proposed trail is not currently authorized to connect to any state trail, nor was a request made for a connection. You are correct that a larger group of stakeholders would need to be consulted in order to connect to a state trail, and there is also an application process and minimum design thresholds. I will share your letter as well as a copy of the application with the appropriate State Trail staff.

The Department has not yet made funding decisions regarding this application. However, implementation this trail proposal is ultimately in the hands of the Nokomis ATV Club, the Town of Nokomis, and the Oneida County Highway Department (holder of the ROW rights). They may choose to continue forward with this project as a locally managed trail, even without grant funds, provided they comply with appropriate laws and regulations including wetland impacts. You may wish to address your concerns to individuals with those entities to share your concerns, if you haven't already.

Thank you for your interest in this project, your letter will be attached to the application file and reviewed along with the materials submitted by the town.



Compose

Navigation icons: back, forward, delete, move, more

- Inbox (1)
- Drafts (6)
- Sent
- Spam (29)
- Trash (1)
- Smart Views
- Folders
 - bio
 - tractor
 - tractor dad
 - untitled
- Recent

Proposed ATV trail

People

Pamela Kottke Today at 12:18 PM
 To fbennett@co.oneida.wius

Hi, my name is Pamela Kottke. My husband and I have purchased land on HWY L ,3387 HWY L town of Nokomis. The ATV club has applied for a grant for a trail to go along the road right of way on the west side of L. This will run the entire length of our property which has a wetland on it. The trail would go across our driveway. This concerns us because of safety, liability, if we hit a ATV, will we be sued if they ignore the stop signs. Also, driveway damage, ruts, erosion, snow buildup. Who will plow the lump of snow from snowmobiles. I DO NOT think this trail is even necessary, the purpose is to get to one bar and access swamp lake road. They can already get to swamp lake road by Lee RD, to HWY Y, to Swamp lake road. Some of our neighbors are so close to HWY L, that this trail will go threw there front yard. Also the noise 24/7, 365 days !!!
 Mixing ATV, Hikers, bikers, snow shoeing, cross country skiers, & snowmobiles on one trail , someone will get killed. And for what ? Just to go to a bar, that by the way is a sponsor of the ATV Club. What will this trail do to our property value ? We would not have purchased if we would have known that this was in the works. Thank you for your time. Pamela Kottke 715-360-4943

Reply, Reply All or Forward | More

Click to reply all

"Container Alliance"

CUSTOM SHOP

New & Used, Shipping & Storage Containers. Direct Purchase Here!

[Learn More](#)

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2015 9:33 AM
To: Pamela Kottke
Subject: RE: ATV Trail HWY L
Attachments: img071.jpg

Ms. Kottke,

Thank you for copying me on your recent email to the Oneida Co Highway Dept regarding the Town of Nokomis's application for grant funding for the recreational trail to be constructed in the County Hwy L right-of-way (west of road surface). Your email will be attached to the application file and reviewed along with the materials submitted by the town.

The Department has not yet made funding decisions regarding this application. However, implementation this trail proposal is ultimately in the hands of the Nokomis ATV Club, the Town of Nokomis, and the Oneida County Highway Department (holder of the ROW rights). They may choose to continue forward with this project as a locally managed trail, even without grant funds, provided they comply with appropriate laws and regulations including wetland impacts. You are correct address your concerns to individuals with those entities.

Sincerely,

Jillian Steffes

We are committed to service excellence.

Visit our survey at <http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> to evaluate how I did.

Jillian Steffes

Grants Specialist – Northern Region
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
107 Sutliff Ave, Rhinelander, WI 54501
Phone: (715) 365-8928
Jillian.Steffes@wisconsin.gov



From: Pamela Kottke [<mailto:kottkepamela@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Monday, August 17, 2015 12:44 PM

To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR; a.e.vanraalte@gmail.com; webmaster@co.oneida.wi.us

Subject: ATV Trail HWY L

(Email attached as JPG file)

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Pamela Kottke <kottkepamela@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2015 2:47 PM
To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR; Alan Van Raalte; Oneida County Board
Subject: Fw: HWY L ATV trail proposal

On Tuesday, August 18, 2015 2:31 PM, Pamela Kottke <kottkepamela@yahoo.com> wrote:

On Tuesday, August 18, 2015 2:28 PM, Pamela Kottke <kottkepamela@yahoo.com> wrote:

On Tuesday, August 18, 2015 2:25 PM, Pamela Kottke <kottkepamela@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hi, my name is Pamela Kottke, my husband and I own land on Hwy L fire #3387, across from Branch Rd. The Town of Nokomis and The Nokomis ATV Club are applying for a grant to build a ATV / multi use trail to go along the west side right of way along HWY L. We are against this trail for many reasons : number one (safety) if we go in and out of our property and a ATV rider, does not stop ,crossing our driveway, we hit them and (god forbid), kill them, who is liable !?,our wet land area on the property would be damaged, the cutting of trees that is our noise barrier, (noise !!! 24/7/365 days a yr, ruining my husbands hunting,trespassing, privacy,erosion of and rutting (damage) to our driveway, winter time snowmobilers leave a lump of snow across driveways that vehicles have to go over, like a speed bump. Multi use trails are an accident waiting to happen silent sports people getting hit by ATV UTV and snowmobiles is very likely. I feel the only two reasons that they want this trail is to access swamp lk rd which they can do so by going Lee rd to HWY Y to swamp lk rd. , and 2nd reason is to get to

the Bearskin Inn, by the way which is one of the ATV Clubs
sponsors, So I think this trail is not necessary !!! just to get to a bar
!!! make a of the property owners put up with this nuisance. Thanks
for your time Pamela Kottke 715-360-4943

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Shumaker <shumaker11@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 11:43 AM
To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Subject: Re: 3449 Cty L Wetland

Jillian,

Thank you for your prompt reply. I will contact Wendy if needed and I'll await your response.

Steve

From: "Steffes, Jillian - DNR" <Jillian.Steffes@wisconsin.gov>
To: Shumaker <shumaker11@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 11:07 AM
Subject: RE: 3449 Cty L Wetland

Mr. Shumaker,

I have forwarded all letters, including your wife's most recent letter, on to our wetland specialist, Wendy Henniges, so that she may review the details you have provided. I will get back to you with feedback as I hear from Wendy.

Jillian

We are committed to service excellence.

Visit our survey at <http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> to evaluate how I did.

Jillian Steffes
Grants Specialist – Northern Region
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
107 Sutliff Ave, Rhinelander, WI 54501
Phone: (715) 365-8928
Jillian.Steffes@wisconsin.gov



From: Shumaker [<mailto:shumaker11@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 10:40 AM
To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Subject: 3449 Cty L Wetland

Hi Jillian,

My wife and I have been corresponding to you via the USPS with letters regarding the proposed ATV (AKA Multiuse Trail) crossing through the wetland in the ROW on County L. Our letters have only addressed our objections to the proposal and concerns.

At this time, could you please provide me with the process and legal issues the Nokomis ATV club would need to go through in order to cross the wetland we have described earlier in our letters as nearly 7000 square feet of area with a distance of 43 feet from the pavement?

We would also appreciate being informed via email of any new information and events regarding this wetland area as it pertains to Mr. Bauman, the Nokomis ATV Club, and the Nokomis Town Board, etc.

Thank you for your time.

Steve Shumaker
N3608 State Rd 110
Weyauwega, WI 54983

3449 Cty L
Tomahawk, WI

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Pamela Kottke <kottkepamela@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 2:18 PM
To: Alan Van Raalte; Steffes, Jillian - DNR; Oneida County Board; Bennett, Freeman
Subject: ATV Trail
Attachments: img072.jpg; img074.jpg; img070.jpg; img073.jpg; img081.jpg; img075.jpg; img076.jpg; img077.jpg; img078.jpg; img079.jpg; img080.jpg

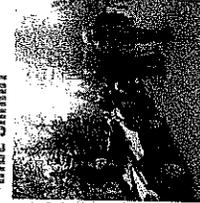
Please go to Google maps and check this out for your self or take a drive to see what I am talking about. Bring a tape measure see were the row is. Please see all the attachments. Dates for submitting grant ? Alternate route suggestion. Leave route the way it is now Lakewood to Branch then go east side row to wayside / bar. This makes trail shorter for cost and maintaining, is less work, less driveways to cross. P.s. the survey map shows the wetlands on the two properties #3387,(#3449 which has standing water in them) please see photos from ATV Clubs website for reasons why I am opposed to this Trail . Thanks Pamela Kottke 715-360-4943



They they
show Not
K Do more
Trail Rules
They are on
a Not ATV
Trail!
Look at
Back ground
sign!

WELCOME RIDERS

MISSION



The National ATV/UTV Club is an established club whose membership has grown from a small group of members to a variety of individuals from various walks of life. The club has officers and board of directors.



Our mission is to promote safe and responsible ATV/UTV use. To provide education and support for members and other users. To protect the environment and monitor usage in the club area. To maintain a trail system and monitor its use. To promote cooperation with all property owners. To promote respect to all and expect the same.



We are a ATV/UTV Club is providing safe riding. We adopted an arrow rule in improving ATV/UTV conditions and image through legislation, publicity and responsible members.

The club is involved in various fund raising activities to support the club and other worthy charities. We welcome new members so feel free to drop in on one of our meetings and join us or **download the application**. Check our **Calendar of Events** for the next meeting date and location. It is through the generosity and trust of private land owners, land trusts and corporate entities that we have been granted the permission and privilege of crossing their property. Various landowners have imposed certain restrictions on their property. This privilege may be revoked at any time. Please stay on designated trails and respect private property.

USEFUL INFORMATION & LINKS

- Wisconsin DNR
- Wisconsin ATV Association
- Tomahawk Chamber of Commerce
- Harrison Hills ATV Club
- Lakeland ATV Club
- Sumo Area ATV Club
- Meeting Minutes

This
what
Owl
what lands
will look
like

Certified Survey Date: 03-18-11
Walter D. Wynn
 Asst. Zoning Director receipt 10-851

West
 1/4
 Corner

Certified Survey Map No. 003906

Being a Part of
 Gov't. Lot 4, Section 2 And a Part of
 Gov't. Lots 2 and 3, Section 11
 T 36 N, R 6 E
 Town of Nokomis
 Oneida County, Wisconsin

Sheet 1 of 2

Survey For
Potlatch Timberlands, LLC
 P.O. Box 1348
 Lewiston, ID 83501
SCALE: 1" = 200'



DATED THIS 9th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2011.

THOMAS A. BOETTCHER, R.L.S. 1763
 Eagle Landmark Surveying, Inc.
 5035 Highway 70 West
 EAGLE RIVER, WI. 54521

Survey No.
E3536-C1

NOTE: There shall be no filling
 of any wetlands or floodplain.

Section Line
 10/11
 Section
 Corner

Tomahawk
 1/16 Line

-3-
 105,320±Sq.Ft.
 2.42±Acres

-4-
 107,450±Sq.Ft.

River

NO 25
Doc. #513815
 Floodplain
 Elev. +88.9'

Top of Pipe
 = 87.08'
 Water Elev.
 = 84.86' on
 10/13/2010

County Trunk Hwy. "L"

Oneida GPS
 Grid North

-1-
 373,560±Sq.Ft.
 8.58±Acres

-2-
 378,640±Sq.Ft.
 8.69±Acres

REGISTER OF DEEDS

REGISTER'S OFFICE }
 Oneida County, Wis.
 Received for Record the 18th day of
March A.D. 2011 at
119 o'clock P. M. and recorded in
 17

- Legend-**
- ONEIDA COUNTY ALUMINUM MONUMENT FOUND IN PLACE
 - ⊗ 3/4" IRON ROD FOUND IN PLACE
 - 1" x 18" IRON PIPE SET WEIGHING 1.13±LBS./LINEAL FT.
 - △ COMPUTED ANGLE POINT
 - () BEARING & DISTANCE OF RECORD
 - 2' CONTOUR ABOVE FLOODPLAIN OR WETLAND

S 01°54'35"W 1277.23'
 S 02°39'55"W 705.25'

1/4
 Corner

Branch Road

Gov't. Lot 4 Section 2
 Gov't. Lot 2 Section 11

(N 89°20'06"E 2663.24')
 (N 89°20'00"E 2683.11')

1341.55'

1341.56'

1/16 Line

Freeman Bennett
Highway Commissioner
fbennett@co.oneida.wi.us

Lisa Jolin
Highway Secretary/Solid Waste acc. tech
ljolin@co.oneida.wi.us

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
ONEIDA COUNTY
P.O. Box 696
Rhinelander, Wisconsin 54501-0696

Telephone (715) 369-6184
Fax (715) 369-2790
Department email: pwrycha@co.oneida.wi.us

Ben Rich
Highway Patrol Superintendent
brich@co.oneida.wi.us

Jeri Cooper
Highway Account Tech
jcooper@co.oneida.wi.us

April 7, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

ATV Trail on Right-of-way Off Highway "L"

I would like to express the feelings of myself and some of the Public Works Committee members about the proposed ATV trail in the right-of-way along Highway "L". Although some of the County roads have been opened to ATV travel, I feel the best place for ATV's to travel is in the right-of-way, far away from the blacktop and the traveling public. I feel that mixing the ATV's with cars and trucks going 55 MPH is a safety concern. As long as the ATV trail is far enough out in the right-of-way to not cause blindness of head lights, I feel this is the best place for them to travel. Highway "L" has plenty of right-of-way and I ~~feel~~ this would be good for tourism and for the public to get from point to point.

I am very much in favor of an ATV trail along the right of way, as far away from the blacktop road as possible, as long as the property owners along Highway "L" are not apposed.

Sincerely



Freeman Bennett
Oneida County Highway Commissioner





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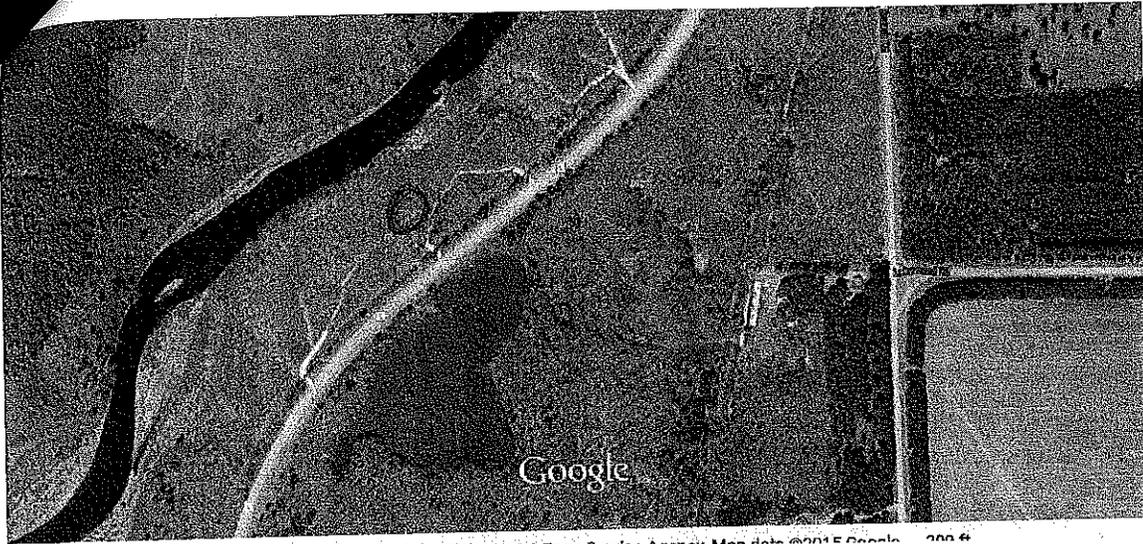
This poor resident will have a trail in there front yard fire #



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Imagery ©2015 DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency, Map data ©2015 Google 200 ft



Imagery ©2015 DigitalGlobe, USDA Farm Service Agency, Map data ©2015 Google 200 ft

Wet land
with standing

Branch
Rd

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Pamela Kottke <kottkepamela@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 2:35 PM
To: Alan Van Raalte; Steffes, Jillian - DNR; Oneida County Board; Bennett, Freeman
Subject: Fw: Fwd: Other trail proposal

On Thursday, August 20, 2015 2:29 PM, Cheryl Corbeille <cherylcormeille@hotmail.com> wrote:

Interesting article regarding another trail in our county. I believe we need to pursue going to highway meeting at the county & advance to county board. They have more power than 'not to be trusted' town board.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Joe Corbeille <joecormeille@hotmail.com>
Date: August 20, 2015 at 9:43:00 AM EDT
To: Cheryl Corbeille <cherylcormeille@hotmail.com>
Subject: RE: Other trail proposal

8/17/2015 5:26:00 PM

Lake Tomahawk board rejects ATV route

Town officials say they were 'misled' by presentation

By Michael Strasburg
Of The Lakeland Times

The Cross Country Cruisers (CCC) and Lakeland ATV Club asked Lake Tomahawk town officials last month to extend a proposed ATV route to an existing multi-use trail in town.

After investigating the proposal, town officials found a number of discrepancies between the clubs' presentation and the municipal progress of the route, resulting in a decision last Wednesday to reject the proposal.

According to the July 8 presentation, the proposed route would have linked downtown Lake Tomahawk, from the parking lot behind the Korner Drive-In, to Indian Shores Campground by allowing ATVs to operate on the railroad bed that runs along Highway 47. Currently, that strip exists as a multi-use trail that serves hikers, bicyclists, runners and walkers.

Downtown Lake Tomahawk and Brandy Park in Arbor Vitae were to act as a trailheads for the proposed route.

During the past month however, as the town board and plan commission exercised due diligence, a different picture was painted.

"I know some people on the plan commission felt kind of misled by the presentation once we started looking into it," said supervisor Catherine Parker. Parker also sits on the plan commission.

"The trailhead at Brandy Park is not a done deal, neither town has signed off on it," Parker said.

Last month, Woodruff town supervisor and Lakeland ATV Club member Corky Sheppard stated that Woodruff "has an ordinance ready to go as soon as we have a definite trail where we can get from Point A to Point B."

In speaking with the Woodruff town office, Parker found that wasn't the case.

"Corky Sheppard said they had ordinances ready to go but the town clerk said no. I talked to one of the other board members and they said the route isn't even resolved yet ... the Brandy Park commission apparently approved it but neither the town of Arbor Vitae or Woodruff has approved it. It's much more uncertain," Parker said.

Board members didn't just consult the other town offices, they also spoke with property and business owners along the proposed route.

"The Woodruff plan is way up in the air, none of the property owners or businesses have been contacted that are on the trail that they've proposed, the town has not moved on it," Parker said.

Last month it was discovered that the clubs had not consulted property owners along the Highway 47 railroad bed either. Moreover, they didn't know there were property owners adjacent to the railroad bed until town chairman George DeMet informed them during the meeting.

In order to link the railroad bed route to Woodruff, the trail would've had to have crossed Highway 47. Last month, CCC member Rocky Cafarella told town officials that the owners of Indian Shores Campground on Highway 47 in Woodruff had signed a trailhead agreement and that the route would cross Highway 47 at that point, similar to the existing snowmobile route.

After speaking with the owners of Indian Shores Campground, town officials found Cafarella's claim to be questionable.

"The Indian Shores trailhead is not actually Indian Shores - which does not allow ATVs," Parker said. "It's the relative who is running the RV portion on Highway 47 who may or may not even own the land that the parking lot is on. He's the one who signed that, so that is pretty nonexistent."

In addition to these discrepancies, town officials also found conflicting information regarding pre-approved trail funding from Oneida County that was promised during the July 8 presentation, and still had concerns about future trail expansion, public safety and liability.

The town was set to hold a public hearing later this month to gauge popular opinion on the issue, but Parker reported that the plan commission decided not to move forward in light of the recent findings.

The last formal indication of the public's opinion on ATV use was a 2009 survey in which 60 percent of the townspeople voted against allowing ATVs on town roads, according to Parker.

"Also, one of the plan commission's members mentioned that we do have a more recent indication of the town's feelings which is the April 2015 election in which both ATV candidates came in last in their respective categories," Parker added.

After the discussion, the supervisors voted 3-0 to deny the ATV trailhead on town property. The next regular meeting of the Lake Tomahawk town board will be held Sept. 9.

Michael Strasburg may be reached at mstrasburg@lakelandtimes.com.

Subject: Fwd: Other trail proposal
From: cherylcorbeille@hotmail.com
Date: Thu, 20 Aug 2015 06:43:30 -0400
To: joecorbeille@hotmail.com

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Pamela Kottke <kottkepamela@yahoo.com>
Date: August 20, 2015 at 5:30:13 AM EDT
To: Cheryl and Joe Corbeille <cherylcorbeille@hotmail.com>
Subject: Fw: Other trail proposal
Reply-To: Pamela Kottke <kottkepamela@yahoo.com>

On Thursday, August 20, 2015 4:29 AM, Pamela Kottke <kottkepamela@yahoo.com> wrote:

Did you look at the dates on the proposal, something very fishy. On the DNR website they had a cut off date to submit the paper work was April 15th. The date the town submitted was May 1st, on the front page. Then the town chairman, Mr. Bowman states Page 5, #22 says the county owns all the land when that is contradicted on page 3 with #10 about the person at fire # 3287. Page 5 #23, says it will be 12ft wide and only disturb 1.7 acres and be 1.17 miles long. This does not seem right. He certified all the info. on the application. is true on April 24th. The ATV Club is going to patrol and maintain the trail with there own equipment, what do they have to maintain our driveways ? Page 28 #12 c. what trail was completed in 2015? Page 31 the old

wayside will be taken over for ATV.etc... parking that s ok ? Page 35 does the Power CO. have a say in this ? If the Hiawatha (rock garden is bad why not let the ATV,s on it. Page 37 & 38 town gives bowman approval to submit the ap. on behalf of the township. Page 41 they list the equipment they and only think it will take 150 yards of gravel ? al the maps make it look like they will miss the swamps. Page 44, #4 & #5, has phase 1 or 2 site investigation been completed of the property ? He answered NO. Then he signed it anyway 4/24/2015 so did they apply on the 13th of April or the 1st of may or the 24th of April Has anyone from the Highway dept. looked at this and made any measurements. Pam P.S. this is all of our tax dollars at work

On Wednesday, August 19, 2015 7:17 AM, Lynell <cameron22angel@yahoo.com> wrote:

I saw a headline online that Lake Tomahawk just rejected an ATV grant for a proposed trail. I could see the article yesterday, but today it's for subscribers only. If I remember correctly, they felt there was some incomplete, possibly misleading, information in the grant. We may want to get more info on that proposal from a story that ran in the Northwoods River News Newspaper. I'll look to buy it this weekend.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Lynell <cameron22angel@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 3:59 PM
To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Subject: Re: RE: Nokomis ATV Grant Opposition Letter

Dear Ms. Steffes,

Thank you responding to my letters. I have emailed and sent similar letters of concern and trail opposition to:

Oneida County Highway, Freeman Bennett
Oneida County Board
District 20 Supervisor, Alan Van Raalte
Town of Nokomis, Chairman Bowman, both supervisors Brian Schmidt & Bette Stillman, and Clerk Wendy Smith.

The only person I have heard back from were you and Mr. Schmidt.

Two sets of my neighbors have also contacted all of these individuals either through email or phone calls. We are also attempting contact with other neighbors whom we are not acquainted with yet.

Thank you.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

From: "Steffes, Jillian - DNR" <Jillian.Steffes@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Thu, Aug 20, 2015 at 11:01 AM
Subject: RE: Nokomis ATV Grant Opposition Letter

Ms. Shumaker,

Thank you for your most recent letter regarding this project. Due to other time commitments, I may not be able to give you a detailed response until next week, but in the meantime I will forward your letter on to our wetland specialist so that she may review your concerns. I will get back to you with feedback on that and your other points as soon as I can. In the meantime, have you forwarded your concerns on to the Oneida County Highway Dept, and have you received any feedback?

Jillian

We are committed to service excellence.
Visit our survey at <http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> to evaluate how I did.

Jillian Steffes
Phone: (715) 365-8928
Jillian.Steffes@wisconsin.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Lynell [mailto:cameron22angel@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, August 17, 2015 12:30 PM

To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR

Subject: Nokomis ATV Grant Opposition Letter

Dear Ms. Steffes,

Attached you will find a letter that was mailed to you today through the U.S. Post Office. It is a follow-up letter to the one I mailed to you dated August 8. In these letters, I have expressed my concerns regarding the Town of Nokomis Recreational Trail Grant. I am opposed to this trail as are many of my neighbors. Please see attachment.

Thank you.

Lynell Shumaker
N3608 State Rd 110
Weyauwega, WI 54983

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Freeman Bennett <fbennett@co.oneida.wi.us>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 1:42 PM
To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Subject: Re: Nokomis Hwy L Trail - Authorization Inquiry

Good afternoon Jillian;

I have received a lot of complaints as well. That is why I mentioned in my letter about objections as I felt this would happen running in peoples front yards. I do have a committee meeting on Thursday the 27th and I have this on the agenda. I wished I could tell more but the committee is unpredictable. I have made mention to them on other ATV roads and they went the opposite direction. I will let you know what happens on Thursday.

Thanks
Freeman

From: Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 11:45 AM
To: Bennett, Freeman
Subject: Nokomis Hwy L Trail - Authorization Inquiry

Mr. Bennett,

I have been contacted by 3 landowners along Hwy L in the Town of Nokomis with concerns or objections to the proposed trail to be constructed in the highway right of way, as I believe have you. The Town of Nokomis submitted a grant request to me this spring, and included a letter in which you said authorization would be granted if there were no objections from adjacent landowners. Given the objections sent to me recently (and sounds like more may be forthcoming), I'm wondering if you can give me a status update as to the Co Highway Dept's stance on authorizing construction of this trail? What is the process looking forward, and what kind of easement or land use agreement might be grant to the town and/or ATV club to authorize construction and use?

We do not issue grants for construction projects on which the grantee does not hold legal right to implement the construction plan, so I'm interested in finding out the status. We have a funding meeting next week Tuesday and it would be very helpful for me to have the most up-to-date information to provide to our ORV Council as they make funding decisions.

Thank you for your time!

Jillian

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Visit our survey at <http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> to evaluate how I did.

Jillian Steffes
Grants Specialist – Northern Region
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
107 Sutliff Ave, Rhinelander, WI 54501
Phone: (715) 365-8928

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Sent: Friday, August 21, 2015 3:35 PM
To: 'Pamela Kottke'
Subject: RE: ATV Club Letter

Pam,

Thank you for sending me a copy of this letter.

It is my understanding that the proposal mentioned in that letter is for the club to run on the snowmobile trail through DNR's Willow Flowage property, to connect to the existing town road routes. In order for that to work, they would need permission from DNR and some additional property owners. I am not involved in the decision making process for this, but it is part of the Willow Flowage Master Plan. There was recently a public comment opportunity on Willow Flowage Master Plan, but that ended in mid July. I believe the draft master plan will be out on the web soon (perhaps next week). You may find more up to date info on that at this webpage...

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Lands/MasterPlanning/WillowFlow/>

Have a good weekend!

Jillian

We are committed to service excellence.

Visit our survey at <http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> to evaluate how I did.

Jillian Steffes

Phone: (715) 365-8928

Jillian.Steffes@wisconsin.gov

From: Pamela Kottke [<mailto:kottkepamela@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Friday, August 21, 2015 10:07 AM

To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR

Subject: ATV Club Letter

Attached is the letter we got for Mr. Rydberg ATV Club President. Are you going to let ATV's and etc... into the wildlife area on the West side of the Tomahawk river ?

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Shockley, Tom D - DNR
Sent: Friday, August 21, 2015 12:55 PM
To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Subject: RE: ATV Trail on Willow Flowage

Categories: Print and File

Hi Jillian,

Thanks for you note. Yes, the club has approached us with a formal request to cross Department land in section 2 of T36N, R6E. There is an existing snowmobile trail that originates off of HWY L, crosses the Tomahawk River, and continues west toward Wood Road. We added language to the draft Willow Flowage master plan document to approve the portion of trail located on Department lands for ATVs. The draft plan is not out for public review yet---it should be available in the next week or so. Basically the language says that the Department will approve ATVs on the existing snowmobile trail if at such a time the trail can become a connector to a Town road. We met w/ the landowners to the west of the Department land (Minocqua Timber LLC, locally managed by Steigerwaldt Land Services) and they indicated that presently they will not approve an ATV trail across their property. So even though the Department would approve that segment of trail, actually opening it would be contingent on the club securing access across the privately owned land.

I hope this helps. Please feel free to call or email if you have questions.

Thanks,
Tom

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Visit our survey at <http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> to evaluate how I did.

Tom Shockley
Phone: (715) 356-5211 ext. 259
Cell: (715) 614-4443
tom.shockley@wisconsin.gov

From: Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Sent: Friday, August 21, 2015 10:43 AM
To: Shockley, Tom D - DNR
Cc: Dall, Robert L - DNR; Repyak, Michael D - DNR
Subject: FW: ATV Trail on Willow Flowage

Tom,

I am working on a grant funding request for a proposed motorized use trail in the Hwy L ROW in Town of Nokomis, Oneida Co. The trail is being proposed by the Nokomis ATV club, with support from the town. The club is inquiring w/ adj landowners regarding their support or opposition. In the letter being circulated, they mention crossing DNR land in a future proposal. According to DNR Public Access GIS, this is the Willow Flowage – Dick Steffes unit. Somewhere in the neighborhood of T36N R6E Sections 2 and/or 3. I don't know the exact trail route as this is the first I've heard of it. Are you familiar with this proposal, has the club inquired for formal permission?

Thank you,

Jillian

We are committed to service excellence.

Visit our survey at <http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> to evaluate how I did.

Jillian Steffes

Phone: (715) 365-8928

Jillian.Steffes@wisconsin.gov

From: Pamela Kottke [<mailto:kottkepamela@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Friday, August 21, 2015 10:07 AM

To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR

Subject: ATV Club Letter

Attached is the letter we got for Mr. Rydberg ATV Club President. Are you going to let ATV's and etc... into the wildlife area on the West side of the Tomahawk river ?

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Pamela Kottke <kottkepamela@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2015 2:31 PM
To: Alan Van Raalte; Oneida County Board; Bennett, Freeman; Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Subject: ATV Trail proposal
Attachments: img094.jpg; img095.jpg; img096.jpg

Being submitted to Tomahawk leader in response to ATV Clubs article in the paper please see attachments. Thanks for your time.
Pam Kottke

Multi-purpose trail proposed in Nokomis

Seeking public input, name

By Larry Rydberg
President
Nokomis ATV Club

The Town of Nokomis is planning a project to construct a multi-purpose trail in Oneida County. The trail will be located in the County Road L right-of-way, starting at Buckhorn Road and terminating at the Bearskin Inn. The trail will be funded by a grant from the Town of Nokomis and funds raised by the Nokomis ATV Club. The project will be developed over two years.

The trail will be in the west right-of-way of the highway which is 100 feet wide. No personal property will be involved. The three-mile trail will be at least 40 feet from the edge of the road and 12 feet wide. The Department of Natural Resources has surveyed wetland areas along the proposed trail and determined they can be avoided.

Initially, the trail will support ATVing, snowmobiling and fat-tire bicycle traffic. In the future the trail would be surfaced so hikers, runners and anyone else can enjoy the outdoors at a safe distance from the roadway. The trail will also give people living along the corridor who own ATVs access to other town roads and trails. Currently there are over 500 miles of multi-purpose trails in Wisconsin with very few issues being reported. The trail ties into the Town motto, "Recreation Center of the North."

A survey was sent to property owners along the proposed trail. Many are in favor of the project. Some issues that have been expressed about the trail by the adjacent land owners include possible noise, concerns for children and pets, negative impact on property values, other organizations not being involved in the planning, and no alternative routes being available.

Proposed names for the trail include Gary Baier Memorial Trail, Nokomis Community Trail and Simokon (Nokomis spelled backwards) Community Trail. Other names can be submitted. The ATV club supports the Gary Baier Memorial Trail since Gary was a long-term town chairman who was supportive of ATVing and instrumental in opening town roads to ATV traffic.

The Town of Nokomis is interested in community feedback. There will be a public informational meeting held at the Nokomis Town Hall on Sept. 3 at 6 p.m. The public is invited to attend to address any concerns, suggest alternatives and give input on the name of the proposed trail.

Comments on the project can also be sent to John Bowman, 2541 Lake Nokomis Rd., Tomahawk, WI 54487 or emailed to bowmanenr@frontier.com until Sept. 10.

Once all input is gathered, the Town Board will make decisions related to the trail and its name.

To; The Public Works Committee

The Town of Nokomis and The Nokomis ATV Club have applied for a grant in 2014 from the DNR to put in a Multi use trail in the west side road right of way on HWY L. The proposed trail is going to be for ATV,UTV, snowmobiles, silent sports, hiking , biking, jogging. Hunting ,trapping ,etc.... They now ask the land owners after they started this project, (for our Input). Here it is !

WE DO NOT WANT IT ON THE WEST SIDE OF HWY L ROAD RIGHT OF WAY!!
WHY ?????

Their reasons for taking this route are to access swamp Lk. Rd. and getting to The Bearskin Inn . Because the snowmobile clubs do not want them on the Hiawatha trail making ruts. They already have a approved ATV route to swamp lk rd, take Prairie Rapids Rd , to HWY Y ,to Swamp lk rd . Or Lee rd, to Swamp lk rd.

THIS TRAIL IS NOT NESSESARY!!!!

Reason 2, to get to the Bearskin Inn. They are not yet able to go across the snowmobile bridge by the Bearskin Inn to get to the west side of the river. There may be future plans to get access to the Willow Flowage Scenic Waters area. But there is a clash between snowmobile Clubs and ATV Clubs for trial damage due to ATV tires. So it's a trail to get to a Bar and then turn around.

We own property on the west side of HWY L across from Branch Road. The (ROW trail), will run the whole length of our property and if they get this trail put in it will negatively affect me and my neighbors all along the HWY. WHY! this is a big safety concern for all that use the trail and the land owners. There are multiple reasons why the land owners object for example:

#1 SAFETY!!! all the different trail users running over each other, silent sports people verses motorized users. Driveway crossings, a potential for colliding at everyone. Who is liable if people do not stop for trail signs and are injured on my property. My Auto Insurance Co. says I could be held liable just for being there, potentially being sued, even if they are 100% at fault and or drunk. We will have to dodge them before we can access the HWY.

#2 For some of my neighbors , front yards will be crossed very close to their houses, intruding on there privacy and ability to sleep.
Fire # 3101,3160,3347 & #3287 (the trail will be in his house)

Which brings up the next point.

NOISE !!!!! 24/7/365 days a year, there goes our peace and quiet. Trespassing, littering, people doing there business 1&2 in the woods. How about fires started by careless smokers or exhaust systems. Pollution, the smell of all those machines going back and forth.

#3 Our wetlands. There are at least three wetland areas that will be turned into mud holes. They have standing water in them, some several feet high, for most of the year. How are all of the trail users going to enjoy that.

#4 Trees being cut down , they plan on a 12' wide trail being made with a bulldozer and backhoe, how many trees will be lost. It will increase the road noise? As a property owner of one of the sections of the (ROW trial), who has a wetland on it, we enjoy that area for hunting. How are we going to have a successful hunt with all that noise?

We bought the parcel for it's diversity, a place in the country to relax, were we would have privacy, peace and quiet. (What about our rights?)

#5 Property Value, no one likes ATV/ Snowmobile noise and traffic. If we want to sell what does this trail do to our property value ? 50%, would walk away from the purchase due to the trail ? If I would have known about this trail, I would not have purchased the property.

(Would you want this going through your front yard ?)

#6 Trespassers, (not everyone follows the rules of the trail).

#7 Damage to and Maintenance of the trail, the ATV Club will do this , according to the grant proposal, do they have the proper equipment for this task? Every driveway crossing will be a start and stop point for ATV tires to dig in and make ruts, or damage blacktop, and cause erosion . Will they pay for new blacktop? Snow removal, as ATV's and snowmobiles cross driveways they leave a lump of snow like a big speed bump. Can they keep my driveway clear so I can get to work , do we call a ATV Club member at 3am to come plow?

#8 Alternative routes, a ATV approved route already in use Lakewood Rd to Branch Rd, add a trail at either the east side ROW Of HWY L (trail on DNR land), or Forest Rd to The way side on the bearskin creek, Buy the Bearskin Inn and make it a trail head /visitor center/ parking lot, all in one. Why disrupt all the people and cross all the driveways on the west side of the HWY ROW. I feel the way this grant proposal is being handled , is sneaky, and fast, as to keep it from us property owner/ Tax payers , so one select group can get their way is really rotten. After opening a multi use trail silent sports people use the trail less than the motorized sports people because they fear getting run over. Motorized sports end up dominating the trail.

Also something I do not understand is why the ATV Club is not allowed on the Hiawatha snowmobile trail because the snowmobile clubs do not want them to rut the trail. But with this proposal they want all clubs (multi use trail) on the same proposed trail? I do not get it!

So why can't all trail users go on the Hiawatha Trail. Then the ATV Club can apply there funds to repair ruts before the start of the snowmobile season .

(After all they are working with all of our Tax Dollars, and those dollars should be spent wisely.)

Thank you for listening , Property # 3387 HWY L
Michael & Pamela Kottke (715)360-4943

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Henniges, Wendy K - DNR
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2015 8:45 PM
To: Shumaker
Cc: Norton, Eric M MVP; Bennett, Freeman; Patrick, Keith A - DNR; Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Subject: Hwy L ATV Trail Proposal Questions -

Hi Steve –

I'm sending this email as a follow-up to our phone conversation.

To summarize:

- I work in the DNR Waterway & Wetland Regulation Program. My role in this issue is only related to the potential for wetland impacts. Jillian Steffes, DNR Grants Program can assist you with any questions related specifically to the trail design/grant standards. The Oneida County Highway Department may also have standards and requirements for potential trails located in the County Highway ROW.
- The Nokomis ATV Club (Larry Rydberg) contacted me this spring regarding the club's interest in constructing an ATV trail along the west side Hwy L (starting at Siemering Drive and heading north; ending at or just short of the vicinity of Bearskin Creek Lane). I explained to Larry and other club members, that any impacts to wetlands would require a DNR and US Army Corps of Engineers permit. I explained that the wetland permitting process requires that wetlands must be avoided where alternatives exist that would not impact wetlands. Larry explained that the club's intent was to build the trail in a manner that would avoid any wetland impacts. The Club requested that the wetland boundaries be marked so they could be certain to avoid them. I agreed that I and the Corps of Engineers would plan on conducting a site visit during the growing season to mark the wetland boundaries for them.
- On June 18th Eric Norton from the Corps of Engineers and I marked the wetland boundaries on the west side of Highway L between Siemering Drive and Bearskin Creek Lane.
We marked the boundaries of wetlands that extended into the ROW or were within a close proximity to the ROW.

In conclusion, from the wetland regulatory perspective, if the trail can be constructed in a manner that avoids fill/discharge to wetlands, then no DNR or COE wetland fill permit is required – however, the COE and DNR Wetland Regulation program did *not* make an assessment of the trail design, or whether other DNR program standards (such as the Grants Program) or County requirements could or would be met.

I hope this background information regarding the DNR and COE involvement in relation to the wetlands is helpful and provides some clarity. We appreciate your interest and concern regarding the protection of our wetland resources. If you have any further questions please don't hesitate to call.

Thank you ~Wendy

Wendy Henniges
Water Management Specialist – Watershed Bureau, Waters Division
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
107 Sutliff Ave.
Rhineland, WI 54501
Phone: 715-365-8961

Fax: 715-365-8932
wendy.henniges@wi.gov

We are committed to service excellence.

Visit our survey at <http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> to evaluate how I did.



From: Shumaker [mailto:shumaker11@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2015 5:28 PM
To: Henniges, Wendy K - DNR; Patrick, Keith A - DNR; Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Subject: Repeated Requests for Information

Hello All,

I tried repeatedly to call and contact one of you today. Both Jillian and Wendy stated in their voice mail that they were in the office today yet no one answered a call. I left a voice mail request with Wendy to be called back and finally received an email requesting a contact phone number which I had already left on her voice mail. I did not leave a voice message with Jillian. Keith stated he was out of the office and I did manage to contact him in the field.

I'd like commend Jillian for her efforts so far in communicating with us regarding the proposed ATV trail in Nokomis Township.

The Tomahawk Leader reported today that "The Department of Natural Resources has surveyed wetlands areas along the proposed ATV trail and they have determined the wetlands can be avoided." I want to meet with the person that made this assessment this week or next week to view and discuss the wetland area in front our our property located at 3449 Cty L, Tomahawk, WI.

I am from out of the area but I can be available this Friday, August 28th and next Thursday, Sept. 3rd and Friday, Sept. 4th. If none of these dates work, please provide me with some alternatives so I can make arrangements to drive up.

If it's not an inconvenience, could someone please take a moment to respond with the name of the person that determined the wetlands were avoidable on Cty L? This way, I can address the situation with one person, if possible.

Respectfully

Steve Shumaker
Weyauwega

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Larry Rydberg <larry54532@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2015 7:13 AM
To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Subject: Notice to public of Highway L trail
Attachments: Article for paper.doc

Jillian

Attached is a copy of the article that appeared in the August 24 Tomahawk Leader. The article will be reprinted on August 31. I will also be sending a copy of this to all property owners along highway L.

Let us know if there is any other information that you need.

Larry Rydberg

The Town of Nokomis is planning a project to construct a multi-purpose trail in Oneida County. The trail will be located in the County Highway L right-of-way, starting at Buckhorn Road and terminating at the Bear Skin Inn. The trail will be funded by a grant from the Town of Nokomis and funds raised by the Nokomis ATV Club. The project will be developed over 2 years.

The trail will be in the west right-of-way of the highway which is 100 feet wide. No personal property will be involved. The 3-mile trail will be at least 40 feet from the edge of the road and 12 feet wide. The DNR has surveyed wetland areas along the proposed trail and determined they can be avoided. Initially, the trail will support ATVing, snowmobiling, and fat-tire bicycle traffic. In the future the trail would be surfaced so hikers, runners and anyone else can enjoy the outdoors at a safe distance from the roadway. The trail will also give people living along the corridor who own ATVs access to other Town roads and trails. Currently there are over 500 miles of multi-purpose trails in Wisconsin with very few issues being reported. The trail ties into the Town motto, "Recreation Center of the North".

A survey was sent to property owners along the proposed trail. Many are in favor of the project. Some issues that have been expressed about the trail by the adjacent land owners include possible noise, concerns for children and pets, negative impact on property values, other organizations not being involved in the planning, and no alternative routes being available.

Proposed names for the trail include Gary Baier Memorial Trail, Nokomis Community Trail and Simokon (Nokomis spelled backwards) Community Trail. Other names can be submitted. The ATV club supports the Gary Baier Memorial Trail since Gary was a long-term Town chairman who was supportive of ATVing and instrumental in opening Town roads to ATV traffic.

The Town of Nokomis is interested in community feedback. There will be a public informational meeting held at the Nokomis Town Hall on September 3, at 6 p.m. The public is invited to attend to address any concerns, suggest alternatives and give input on the name of the proposed trail. Comments on the project can also be sent to John Bowman, 2541 Lake Nokomis Road, Tomahawk, Wisconsin 54487 or emailed to bowmanengr@frontier.com until September 10.

Once all input is gathered, the Town board will make decisions related to the trail and its name.

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Eric Rady <erady@co.oneida.wi.us>
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2015 11:40 AM
To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Cc: Bennett, Freeman; John Bilogan
Subject: Strong opposition

Interesetingly, just got a call from:
Joe and Cheryl Corbeille
3383 Cty Hwy L
Tomahawk, WI
920-450-4954

I talked with Cheryl and their family was in strong opposition to the Multiuse-ATV Trail that may be built adjacent to Highway L in Oneida County.

Im just passing this along to you.

Eric Rady
County Forester / Recreation Coordinator
Oneida County Forestry & Parks
PO Box 400 - Courthouse
Rhinelander, WI 54501
Office: (715) 369-6140
Voice: (715) 369-6234
Cell: (715) 493-1165
Fax: (715) 369-6318

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Eric Rady <erady@co.oneida.wi.us>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 12:39 PM
To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Subject: Fw: ATV construction along highway L

FYI as you requested.

----- Original Message -----

From: John Bilogan
To: Bennett Freeman ; Rady Eric
Sent: Monday, July 06, 2015 11:59 AM
Subject: Re: ATV construction along highway L

Freeman,

Eric Rady forwarded me a copy of Larry Rydberg's email. I'm not sure if you were looking for input from the Forestry Department, or if you were simply keeping Forestry in the loop? For what it's worth, I give you my input below. Feel free to do with it as you wish, as this issue is not one which currently involves the Forestry Department.

First I would assume that the DNR will require some unknown buffer distance between the wetland and the closest edge of the trail. Depending upon this assumed buffer distance, the trail will obviously be forced to move that much closer to the road. With that said, if one would use an assumed DNR buffer distance of 6-ft., strictly a guess, which I believe will prove to be a liberal distance, and a trail width of 14-ft. as per Larry Rydberg, the closest edge of the trail would be 28-ft. from the road.

Twenty-eight feet is obviously within the 40-ft. headlight rule, so the question is, does Oneida County feel the elevation change between the trail and the road to be sufficient to serve as a headlight barrier? If my calculations and assumptions are correct, in Larry's issue # 1 described below, there would be approximately 4.5-feet of elevation change between the closest edge of the trail and the road. I believe 4.5 feet of elevation distance would be sufficient to serve as a visual screen between the headlights of recreational vehicles (ATV's, UTV's, snowmobiles, etc.) and oncoming Hwy traffic.

Keep in mind the following assumptions:

- The DNR only requires a 6-ft. buffer between the wetland and the closest edge of the trail.
- Recreational vehicles stay on the designated trail.

With that said I believe that there is a 2nd issue at play here that is arguably more concerning than that of the visual screen issue, that being the side slope of the trail. Again, if my calculations and assumptions are correct, the side slope of the trail surface would have approximately 1-foot of elevation change for every 5.33 ft. of trail width, or approximately (1 to 3.5) side slope pitch.

I believe the above described side slope is too steep for the intended use of this trail. The side slope would create multiple trail safety, maintenance, and environmental issues:

- The side slope would greatly increase the likelihood of recreational vehicle roll-over.
- The side slope would increase the likelihood that recreational vehicles would drift into the lane of oncoming recreational vehicle traffic, thus increasing the likelihood of head-on recreational vehicle collisions.
- The side slope would be impossible to drag for use as a snowmobile trail (the snowmobile drag would slide off the intended trail toward the wetland).

The side slope would be extremely prone to erosion, which would easily run into the adjacent wetland which would be an estimated 6-ft. away from the trails edge using a theoretical 6-ft. DNR buffer.

The 4 issues described above are just a few that immediately came to my mind, there are obviously others issues as well.

Keep in mind the following assumptions:

The side slope of the right of way is constant.

The Hwy. Dept. would not allow the club to cut into the side-slope of the right-of-way to level the trail, which of course would require costly stabilization of the cut side bank of the trail, to name but one issue created by doing so.

For what it is worth.

John Bilogan

From: Eric Rady
Sent: Monday, July 06, 2015 8:31 AM
To: John Bilogan
Subject: Fw: ATV construction along highway L

JB-FYI

I received this from Freeman.

Im not sure if the Nokomis ATV Club has been in touch with you or not or if we are even involved for this trail.

Let me know if you want me to do something.

Eric

----- Original Message -----

From: Freeman Bennett
To: erady@co.oneida.wi.us
Sent: Wednesday, July 01, 2015 7:30 AM
Subject: Fw: ATV construction along highway L

From: Larry Rydberg
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2015 12:37 PM
To: fbennett@co.oneida.wi.us
Subject: ATV construction along highway L

Hello Freeman

I wanted to update you on the status of the ATV trail construction in the ROW of county L.

The DNR was out there and marked five areas with wetland concerns.

Most of the wetlands are set more than forty feet from the edge of the road so there is plenty of room to construct a 14 foot trail.

There are 2 areas that I want to explain

- 1) 370 feet of wetland area. About 30 feet of the area is 48 feet from the road. At this point the elevation drop from the roadway to the location of the trail is approximately 9 feet.
- 2) 200 feet of wetland. The closest it gets to the road is 40 feet. However in this area there is a lot of brush on this steep bank and the elevation drop is approximately 10 feet.

Since the elevation drop in these two areas is rather significant, would there be any concerns of placing parts of the trail here? I wouldn't think ATV headlights should be an issue. Or, would the county require other measures?

Get back to me with any questions.

Thanks

Larry Rydberg - President, Nokomis ATV Club

To; Jillian Steffes Northern Region - Rhinelander DNR

In regard to the April 15TH ATV Grant.

The Town of Nokomis and The Nokomis ATV Club have applied for a grant in 2014 from the DNR to put in a Multi use trail in the west side road right of way on HWY L. The proposed trail is going to be for ATV,UTV, snowmobiles, silent sports, hiking, biking, jogging. Hunting ,trapping ,etc.... They now ask the land owners after they started this project, (for our Input). Here it is !

WE DO NOT WANT IT ON THE WEST SIDE OF HWY L ROAD RIGHT OF WAY!!
WHY ?????

Their reasons for taking this route are to access swamp Lk. Rd. and getting to The Bearskin Inn . Because the snowmobile clubs do not want them on the Hiawatha trail making ruts. They already have a approved ATV route to swamp lk rd, take Prairie Rapids Rd , to HWY Y ,to Swamp lk rd . Or Lee rd, to Swamp lk rd.

THIS TRAIL IS NOT NESSESARY!!!!

Reason 2, to get to the Bearskin Inn. They are not yet able to go across the snowmobile bridge by the Bearskin Inn to get to the west side of the river. There may be future plans to get access to the Willow Flowage Scenic Waters area. But there is a clash between snowmobile Clubs and ATV Clubs for trial damage due to ATV tires. So it's a trail to get to a Bar and then turn around.

We own property on the west side of HWY L across from Branch Road. The (ROW trail), will run the whole length of our property and if they get this trail put in it will negatively affect me and my neighbors all along the HWY. WHY! this is a big safety concern for all that use the trail and the land owners. There are multiple reasons why the land owners object for example:

#1 SAFETY!!! all the different trail users running over each other, silent sports people verses motorized users. Driveway crossings, a potential for colliding at everyone. Who is liable if people do not stop for trail signs and are injured on my property. My Auto Insurance Co. says I could be held liable just for being there, potentially being sued, even if they are 100% at fault and or drunk. We will have to dodge them before we can access the HWY.

#2 For some of my neighbors , front yards will be crossed very close to their houses, intruding on there privacy and ability to sleep.

Fire # 3101,3160,3347 & #3287 (the trail will be in his house)

Which brings up the next point.

NOISE !!!!! 24/7/365 days a year, there goes our peace and quiet. Trespassing, littering, people doing there business 1&2 in the woods. How about fires started by careless smokers or exhaust systems. Pollution, the smell of all those machines going back and forth.

#3 Our wetlands. There are at least three wetland areas that will be turned into mud holes. They have standing water in them, some several feet high, for most of the year. How are all of the trail users going to enjoy that.

#4 Trees being cut down , they plan on a 12' wide trail being made with a bulldozer and backhoe, how many trees will be lost. It will increase the road noise? As a property owner of one of the sections of the (ROW trial), who has a wetland on it, we enjoy that area for hunting. How are we going to have a successful hunt with all that

noise?

We bought the parcel for it's diversity, a place in the country to relax, were we would have privacy, peace and quiet. (What about our rights?)

#5 Property Value, no one likes ATV/ Snowmobile noise and traffic. If we want to sell what does this trail do to our property value ? 50%, would walk away from the purchase due to the trail ? If I would have known about this trail, I would not have purchased the property.

(Would you want this going through your front yard ?)

#6 Trespassers, (not everyone follows the rules of the trail).

#7 Damage to and Maintenance of the trail, the ATV Club will do this , according to the grant proposal, do they have the proper equipment for this task? Every driveway crossing will be a start and stop point for ATV tires to dig in and make ruts, or damage blacktop, and cause erosion . Will they pay for new blacktop? Snow removal, as ATV's and snowmobiles cross driveways they leave a lump of snow like a big speed bump. Can they keep my driveway clear so I can get to work , do we call a ATV Club member at 3am to come plow?

#8 Alternative routes, a ATV approved route already in use Lakewood Rd to Branch Rd, add a trail at either the east side ROW Of HWY L (trail on DNR land), or Forest Rd to The way side on the bearskin creek, Buy the Bearskin Inn and make it a trail head /visitor center/ parking lot, all in one. Why disrupt all the people and cross all the driveways on the west side of the HWY ROW. I feel the way this grant proposal is being handled , is sneaky, and fast, as to keep it from us property owner/ Tax payers , so one select group can get their way is really rotten. After opening a multi use trail silent sports people use the trail less than the motorized sports people because they fear getting run over. Motorized sports end up dominating the trail.

Also something I do not understand is why the ATV Club is not allowed on the Hiawatha snowmobile trail because the snowmobile clubs do not want them to rut the trail. But with this proposal they want all clubs (multi use trail) on the same proposed trail? I do not get it!

So why can't all trail users go on the Hiawatha Trail. Then the ATV Club can apply there funds to repair ruts before the start of the snowmobile season .

(After all they are working with all of our Tax Dollars, and those dollars should be spent wisely.)

Thank you for listening , Property # 3387 HWY L
Michael & Pamela Kottke (715)360-4943

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Pamela Kottke <kottkepamela@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 30, 2015 10:21 PM
To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Subject: Property owner opposed to the April 15th ATV Grant
Attachments: img104.jpg; img105.jpg

Categories: Print and File

Please put this letter in your April 15th ATV Grant proposal from the Town of Nokomis/ATV Club, my husband and I own property on the west right of way on HWY L across from Branch RD. Please consider the land owners and how we would be negatively effected. Thank You Pamela & Mike Kottke

Parcel #: 1601

Name:

Address:

The Town of Nokomis has applied for state ATV and Recreational Trail Aid grants to construct a multipurpose trail in the **west right of way of highway L** from the Buckhorn Road to the Bear Skin Inn. The Nokomis ATV Club will also be providing monetary support to help construct and maintain the trail. In addition, the county highway commissioner supports this project.

This trail will initially support safe ATV, snowmobile and bicycle traffic at a safe distance from public roads. Future enhancements would include surfacing of the trail to open it up to other uses such as hiking, cross-country skiing, and access to DNR property. Trails such as this provide users an opportunity to enjoy the outdoor experience, especially those that can't get around easily.

The 100 foot ROW is more than sufficient to support this project. **The trail would be at least 40 feet from the road.** Our intentions are to avoid all private lands so there are no conflicts with property owners in the future. The DNR has identified a few wetland areas, however the trail can be constructed to avoid any conflicts with these wetlands.

The trail will be constructed in two phases;

2015 - The first phase is from Buckhorn Road to Lakewood Road. Then travel on Lakewood Road (which is an approved ATV route) to Branch Road. At the end of Branch Road it would cross highway L and continue in the west right of way to the Bear Skin Inn. The trail itself will be 1.7 miles long.

2016 - The second phase would continue the trail from Lakewood Road and connect to the trail starting across from Branch Road, thus eliminating the need to use Lakewood Road. Again, this section of the trail will be in the west right of way. This now provides an additional 1.2 miles of multipurpose trail for a total trail length of 2.9 miles.

Future plans would be to cross the Tomahawk River, traverse a section of DNR property and connect to Swamp Lake Road, which is now an approved ATV Route.

We are soliciting input from residents along both sides of highway L for their opinion on this trail construction. Please keep in mind that there are no intentions to encroach on personal property. The trail will be regularly inspected and maintained.

_____ I have no objections to the plan

_____ I am neutral to the plan

_____ I am opposed to the plan

Please provide any comments supporting your answer. If you have alternatives to our plan provide them also.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

We are contacting you because you are listed on the Town of Nokomis tax rolls as having one or more parcels that abut Oneida County Highway L right of way from Buckhorn Road north to Bear Skin Inn.

The enclosed survey is intended to collect your input on a proposed all purpose trail in the **west right of way**. Initially the trail will support ATVing, snowmobiling and bicycle traffic. In the future we plan on surfacing the trail so it can support hikers, runners and anyone that wants to enjoy the outdoors at a safe distance from the road way.

We have previously dropped this survey off at some of the residents along the highway. We felt that providing the opportunity to mail the survey back to us would be more convenient. Sorry if there is any confusion.

A few points about the project:

- The trail will be in the west right of way.
- It will be developed over two years.
- The trail will be constructed on highway right of way, no personal property involved.
- The trail will be a minimum of 40 feet from the edge of the pavement per state law to prevent any interference with headlights.
- Some of the trail may be located under the existing power lines.
- Development costs will be supplied by the Nokomis ATV club and state grants .
- The trail will be properly signed for everyone's safety.
- The trail has the support of the Town of Nokomis and the Oneida Highway department.
- The trail will provide residents along highway the opportunity to use the trail to connect to other ATV routes/trails in the area.
- The trail would be constructed behind the fire department buildings to avoid any conflicts with emergency vehicles.

Please review the enclosed survey and return it in the enclosed envelope. We would appreciate your survey by August 15.

Thank you for your input.

If you have any questions about the project or survey, please contact:

Larry Rydberg – President, Nokomis ATV Club

715-224-3161

Larry54532@aol.com

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Shumaker <shumaker11@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 01, 2015 2:44 PM
To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Subject: Re: Grant

This was my understanding as you spoke with me last week, yet John Bowman has stated the town recently received a \$14,000 grant from the DNR to use for a trail project in 2016.

People are lying all over the place in Nokomis.

Steve

From: "Steffes, Jillian - DNR" <Jillian.Steffes@wisconsin.gov>
To: Shumaker <shumaker11@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 1, 2015 2:36 PM
Subject: RE: Grant

The ORV Council recommended funding the project. Now we begin the process of a more detailed review of the proposal. No funding is guaranteed at this point, or at any point until a grant agreement is issued and signed by both parties.

Jillian

We are committed to service excellence.

Visit our survey at <http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> to evaluate how I did.

Jillian Steffes
Phone: (715) 365-8928
Jillian.Steffes@wisconsin.gov

From: Shumaker [<mailto:shumaker11@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, September 01, 2015 2:35 PM
To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Subject: Grant

Jillian,

The Tomahawk Leader reported today that the Town of Nokomis received a \$14,000 grant from the DNR for funding an ATV trail project in 2016. Is this true? I thought you told me none of the grants had been approved yet.

Steve Shumaker

John and Rhonda Repinski
2555 Hanse Drive
Tomahawk, WI 54487
September 2, 2015

Ms. Steffes
jillian.steffes@wisconsin.gov
Rhineland DNR
107 Sutliff Avenue
Rhineland, WI 54501

Freeman Bennett
Highway Commissioner
fbennett@co.oneida.wi.us

Alan Van Raalte, Dist 20
2732 Kelly Fire Lane
Tomahawk, WI 54487
a.e.vanraalte@gmail.com

John Bowman
Town of Nokomis Board Chairman
bowmanenr@frontier.com
2541 Lake Nokomis Road
Tomahawk, WI 54487

Dear Ms. Steffes, Mr. Van Raalte, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Bowman:

We are long-time residents of Town of Nokomis, and we are writing to express our concern about recent discussion and pending decision to add in an ATV Recreational Trail in the west right of way along Hwy L.

We own a plot of land this proposed trail will be directly affecting. We bought this land with the thoughts of building our dream home and an AVT/snowmobile/hiking trail was not in the plan of our dreams. There is an existing trail very close to the proposed trail and we believe that the benefits of this new trail will NOT be serving the property owners best interest.

Ms. Steffes

[Date]

Page 2

We have significant concerns with this trail. The biggest concerns are of privacy, noise, and property value. We currently have land and our home abutting the Bearskin trail near the Nokomis Town Hall, but do not have noise or privacy issues as the Bearskin trail is at the very back of the property with a large barrier of land (hill) trees as a barrier cutting noise, giving privacy to us. We will NOT have this luxury with the proposed trail on our currently undeveloped land. We are concerned this this does go through, we will need to sell our land at a significant loss due to the limited building sites for a home on this particular property.

Our suggestion is to move the trail to a different route, not using the right of way on County Highway L abutting our property.

Sincerely,

John and Rhonda Repinski

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Repinski, Rhonda J <Rhonda.Repinski@ministryhealth.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 02, 2015 1:00 PM
To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR; Bennett, Freeman; a.e.vanraalte@gmail.com;
bowmanengr@frontier.com
Cc: Rhonda Repinski (rjr29@charter.net)
Subject: cty hwy L AVT trail
Attachments: AVT trail.docx

Please see attached letter with our concerns on this proposed trail. Thanks for your time. Rhonda

Rhonda Repinski APNP
Adult Nurse Practitioner
Ministry Medical Group-Tomahawk
715-453-7200

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Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Sent: Wednesday, September 02, 2015 9:13 AM
To: Pamela Kottke; Bennett, Freeman; Alan Van Raalte; Oneida County Board
Cc: Repyak, Michael D - DNR
Subject: RE: Is this True?

Pamela,

The Off-Road Vehicle Advisory Committee, which reviews all ATV trail applications and makes recommendations to the DNR, has *recommended* we funding this project, which is **one** step in our process. Once we have a list of projects, we begin a more thorough evaluation of those applications, which includes examining the wetland issues, easements/land-use-agreements, etc. The grant is not a done deal at this point, there are still many steps in the process, and I will be sending the town a letter to that effect later today, outlining the steps that need to be addressed. The grant is not official until they have a signed agreement in hand, which is not the case at this point in time.

One of the most crucial steps will be that they need legal permission to build in the right-of-way, from the County Highway Department. We would not issue a grant if they do not have the legal right to build on that land, and my understanding is that the Highway Department has not yet formally decided one way or the other on granting permission. So that is one aspect of this project I will be closely monitoring. I am also working with our wetland experts to better understand the issues there.

I can understand your logic in proposing that ATVs use the existing snowmobile/Hiawatha Trail instead of constructing a new trail along Hwy L, but there are a number of reasons its not feasible. ATVs are **prohibited** on the Bearskin/Hiawatha Trails. The Hiawatha is managed by the Oneida County Forestry Department, who is not currently developing trails or allowing ATV use on snowmobile trails in this area. And finally, all snowmobile trails require landowner permission, and that permission may not extend to use by ATVs.

Hope this helps.

Jillian

We are committed to service excellence.

Visit our survey at <http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> to evaluate how I did.

Jillian Steffes
Phone: (715) 365-8928
Jillian.Steffes@wisconsin.gov

From: Pamela Kottke [<mailto:kottkepamela@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 02, 2015 8:49 AM
To: Bennett, Freeman; Alan Van Raalte; Steffes, Jillian - DNR; Oneida County Board
Subject: Is this True?

Please see articles attached. Is it true the DNR has given a \$14,000.00 dollar grant ,to be used for the trail project in 2016? Will no personal property be involved? Has the DNR determined the wetlands can be avoided? Is this the DONE

DEAL that Mr. Rydberg is making it out to be ? This article was in the 9/1/2015 Tomahawk Leader. Also see, opposition letters. Ms. Steffes, can you please put this in the April 15 ATV Grant proposal documents. Why can't the ATV Club use the Hiawatha Trail and just repair any ruts before the start of the snowmobile season. The snowmobile trail that already is in place goes to the Bearskin Inn. Then they can connect the Hiawatha trail to the Bearskin trail in the future. Keep everybody on one trail that already is in place, why do they need more separate trails disrupting more property owners. Thank you Pamela Kottke

Informational meeting Thursday on Nokomis multi-purpose trail Seeking public input, name

by Kathy Tobin

Nokomis Leader Editor
kathy@tomahawkleader.com

There will be an informational meeting at the Nokomis Town Hall on Thursday, Sept. 3 at 6 p.m. to receive public input concerning a multi-purpose trail proposed in Oneida County. The planned trail would be located in the west right-of-way of County Road L, starting at Buckhorn Road and terminating at the Bearskin Inn.

The project development would be over two years. Funding would be through a combined effort — a grant obtained by the town of Nokomis, and funding assistance and volunteer work in construction and maintenance by the Nokomis ATV Club according to town chair John Bowman, the town recently received a \$14,000 grant from the Department of Natural Resources to use for the trail project in 2016.

Larry Rydberg, Nokomis ATV Club president, says the right-of-way would be 100 feet wide. "No personal property will be involved," he says. "The three-mile trail will be at least 40

See **NOKOMIS TRAIL**, Page 2

■ NOKOMIS TRAIL

(Continued from Page 1)

feet from the edge of the road and 12 feet wide. The Department of Natural Resources has surveyed wetland areas along the proposed trail and determined they can be avoided."

Initially, the trail would support ATVing, snowmobiling and fat-tire bicycle traffic, with surfacing in the future designed so hikers, runners and others can enjoy the outdoors at a safe distance from the roadway, Rydberg says.

"The trail will offer those people living along L and other roads connecting L the opportunity to get to other routes/trails in the area (all town roads are open to ATV travel)," Rydberg indicates. "In the future we hope to cross the Tomahawk River and connect to Swamp Lake Road. From there it's easy to connect to routes/trails to the west and north."

A survey was sent to property owners along the proposed trail, Rydberg says. He indicates many are in favor of the project. Some issues that have been expressed about the trail by the adjacent landowners include possible noise, concerns for children and pets, negative impact on property values, other organizations not being involved in the planning, and no alternative routes being available, he indicates. (Note: There are some letters to the Editor concerning the trail in this week's *Tomahawk Leader*.)

Proposed names for the trail include Gary Baier Memorial Trail, Nokomis Community Trail and Simokon (Nokomis spelled backwards) Community Trail.

The public is invited to address any concerns, suggest an alternative route and give input on the name either at Thursday's meeting, or by contacting John Bowman at 2541 Lake Nokomis Rd., Tomahawk, WI 54487 or emailing to b Bowman@frontier.com until Sept. 10.

Once input is gathered, the Town Board will make decisions related to the trail and its name. Approval also must come Oneida County Highway Commissioner Freeman Bennett, Rydberg says.

READER OPINION

Don't want trail on west side of L

The Town of Nokomis and the Nokomis ATV Club applied for a grant in 2014 from the DNR to put in a multi-use trail in the west side road right-of-way on Hwy. L. The proposed trail is going to be for ATV, UTV, snowmobiles, silent sports, hiking, biking, jogging, hunting, trapping, etc. They now ask the landowners after they started the project for our input. Here it is!

We do not want it on the west side of Hwy. L right-of-way!

Their reasons for faking this route are to access Swamp Lake Road and getting to the Bearskin Inn, because the snowmobile clubs do not want them on the Hiawatha Trail making ruts. They already have an approved ATV route to Swamp Lake Road, take Prairie Rapids Rd. to Hwy. Y to Swamp Lake Rd. Or Lee Rd. to Swamp Lake Rd.

This trail is not necessary!

Reason 2. They are not yet able to go across the snowmobile bridge by the Bearskin Inn to get to the west side of the river. There may be future plans to get access to the Willow Flowage scenic Waters area. But there is a clash between snowmobile clubs and ATV clubs for trail damage due to ATV tires. So it's a trail to get to the bar and then turn around.

We own property on the west side of Hwy. L. The trail will run the whole length of our property and will negatively affect me and my neighbors.

#1. Safety. Different trail users running over each other. Who is liable if people do not stop for trail signs and are injured on my property?

#2. Some of my neighbors' front yards will be crossed very close to their houses, intruding on their privacy.

Noise! 24/7/365 days a year. Trespassing, littering, people doing their business in the woods, pollution, smell.

#3. There are at least three wetland areas that will be turned into mud holes.

#4. They plan on a 12-foot-wide trail, how many trees will be lost? Will it increase road noise?

#5. Property value. Would you want this going through your front yard?

#6. Every driveway crossing will be a start and stop point for ATV tires to make ruts or damage blacktop and cause erosion. Will they pay for new blacktop? Snow removal? As ATVs and snowmobiles cross driveways they leave a hump of snow like a big speed bump.

#7. Alternative routes. Why disrupt all the people and cross all the driveways on the west side of the highway? I feel the way this grant proposal is being handled is sneaky and fast.

Many questions remain

Questions Regarding Multi-Purpose Trail Proposed in Nokomis. This article is in response to an article written by Larry Rydberg the week of August 24, 2015.

1. *No personal property will be involved.* Two properties currently lie directly in the Right of Way (ROW) on County L. Who exactly holds the deed to the ROW on Cty L? Is the land deeded to the County? Is the land deeded to the property owner? Currently, the County Highway Commissioner and staff are researching these questions further.

2. *The trail will be 40 feet from the edge of the road and 12 feet wide.* Should this trail be built, it will run roughly 50 feet from one existing fence that is in or near the ROW. Even the Grant proposal addresses this issue in the statement, "Some property owners have built in the ROW. Negotiations will have to take place to use the ROW."

3. *The Department of Natural Resources has surveyed wetland areas along the proposed trail and determined they can be avoided.* The DNR has only marked the wetlands. The DNR is neither for or against this trail. The DNR did not make a determination regarding the implementation of the trail. After contacting the DNR, their position is: *"From the wetland regulatory perspective, if the trail can be constructed in a manner that avoids fill/discharge to wetlands, then no DNR or COE wetland fill permit is required - however, the COE and DNR Wetland Regulation program did not make an assessment of the trail design, or whether other DNR program standards (such as the Grants Program) or County requirements could or would be met."*

4. *A survey was sent to property owners along the trail. Many are in favor of the project.* At the time of this writing, 8 of the 12 property owners on County L are opposed to the construction of the ATV trail along the west side of County L, and we are still waiting for information from other land owners.

5. If this is to truly be a Multi-purpose Trail, then many questions need to be addressed:

A. How do ATV's, runners, walkers, bicyclists, etc. coexist on the same trail?

B. How do snowmobiles, cross country skiers, snowshoes, etc. coexist on the same trail?

C. What type of surface would be laid that could accommodate the above activities?

D. What safety factors and liability issues are present with such a trail?

E. How can wetlands be avoided when they are clearly impacted by the planned trail?

There are many unanswered questions and obstacles involved with the current plan for the Multi-purpose trail on County L. Some of the property owners along County L support the connection of the Bearskin Trail and the Hiawatha Trail, but simply believe, much more study and work needs to be completed in order to satisfy all parties



Potlatch Wisconsin Timberlands, LLC

A WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF
POTLATCH CORPORATION

105 Arch Street
Cloquet MN 55720
Ph: (218) 879-0438
FX: (218) 879-0452
www.potlatchcorp.com

September 3, 2015

To the Town of Nokomis

Dear Sirs:

This letter is to inform you that Potlatch Wisconsin Timberlands opposes the proposed ATV Trail that would cross our lands along County Road L in the Township of Nokomis.

We feel that this would hinder the sale of our property we still own along the Tomahawk River and would not be consistent with the life style of perspective buyers of river lots.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 218-879-0429 or email me at mike.fasteland@potlatchcorp.com.

Sincerely,

Mike Fasteland
Lands and Access Specialist

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Ken Kenworthy <tvcken@charter.net>
Sent: Wednesday, September 02, 2015 11:44 AM
To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Subject: Re: ATV/UTV Grant Applications

Good Morning: Thank you for your reply to my inquiry to Mr. Holtz:

Yes, I know the funding and sources and all - I always attended the Lakes Conventions and they do a great job of informing persons of the process over the years.
I was only inquiring into the number of grant request that this Nokomis club has on record as it appears they are all over the place(quickly and quietly). Just doing some background checking as it also appears to be connected to the highway areas and roadways. I only used the comparison of how hard for lakes to get grants compared to the recent flood of \$\$ going into the UTV trails from the DNR that was given recently. It actually gives you the impression so much funding was set aside and it is rampant spending right now to get as much as you can as quick as possible.

Thanks for your reply, I know he is working on the Woodboro Lakes and the Nokomis ATV/UTV club for "only a little over a mile" so they could get off the roadway where they already have rights to travel, they also worked on the 8/51` Wayside (desecrated it) and now this one on our County Hwy L...same group. Is the "track record" of what they say is what you get for sure? I would not want to be a property owner there at all. They have a meeting coming up for informational this coming week and the information will be important for them to digest. Thanks again. Regarding the Woodboro Lakes issue?- this would be a longterm very destructive move at this time for the DNR to allow this club to run atv through this critical region of Little Rice Creek since it is functioning with all that is there. Once changed to this level of activity, you will never have it as good as it is right now and working
Anything new especially a non-compatible activity that is not compatible with anything for so many reasons, will definatly have an affect on all the environment and users and the overseeing of this part of the trail by a MoU with this group would be one of questionable content.... So sorry to hear, but it is very evident the DNR & Ms.Stepp is wanting the ATV clubs and all to be happy and giving almost ala cart decisions regardless of the % of number of persons against opening any part to ATV usage in the Woodboro Lakes region.
Thanks again for your reply, it is just that not all recreation is needed in all areas and some areas one only needs to see the common sense to make the right decisions...not political ones.
Respectfully, Lin Kenworthy Lincoln County resident.

On 9/2/2015 9:51 AM, Steffes, Jillian - DNR wrote:

Lin,

I work on with recreational grant programs at the DNR, including funding for ATV trails. The Town of Nokomis, in conjunction with the Nokomis ATV club, has submitted applications for construction and maintenance of approx. 3 miles of ATV trail in the Hwy L right-of-way. Applications were submitted to our ATV grant program, and our Recreational Trails grant program. I am not aware of any other grant applications submitted by them for trail construction or maintenance at this time.

The DNR offers a variety of grant programs, including trail construction or lake monitoring, etc. Each grant program has a different funding mechanism and a different eligible use. I can appreciate your frustration in the effort it takes to obtain lakes grants, but that source of funds is completely different than the funds used for ATV trails. The funding for ATV

trails comes directly from ATV and UTV registration fees, gas tax, etc. which is in turn put back into funding those off-road trails.

Hope this helps!

Jillian

We are committed to service excellence.
Visit our survey at <http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> to evaluate how I did.

Jillian Steffes
Phone: (715) 365-8928
Jillian.Steffes@wisconsin.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Holtz, Jeremy J - DNR
Sent: Wednesday, September 02, 2015 8:32 AM
To: Ken Kenworthy; Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Subject: RE: ATV/UTV Grant Applications

Hi, Lin. I am not sure i can answer your trail grant question, but I am referring you to someone that hopefully can. Jillian Steffes works out of my office and handles some of the snowmobile/atv trail stuff. Hopefully either she can answer the questions below, or knows who else might be of more assistance.

As far as the ATV trail at Woodboro goes, the latest word I had received from DNR leadership was that after reviewing all the public feedback received they are still comfortable with their recommendation to move forward with the ATV trail as outlined in the last master plan draft.

We are committed to service excellence.
Visit our survey at <http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> to evaluate how I did.

Jeremy J. Holtz
Phone: 715-365-8999
Jeremy.holtz@wisconsin.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Ken Kenworthy [<mailto:tvcken@charter.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, September 01, 2015 3:54 PM
To: Holtz, Jeremy J - DNR
Subject: Re: ATV/UTV Grant Applications

Mr. Holtz: I sure hope that the Woodboro Lakes area has had good input to the importance of that hunk of land under management by the DNR to make a sound proper decision on.

A few things came to light afterwards in communication with community persons about issues of this sort and there are many who feel that even that "just a little over a mile" in this particular area is a bad move if approved for this Nokomis group. Seems their truthfulness trackrecord could be in question.

The question I have: Just how many grants has the Nokomis ATV/UTV club put forth as requests to the DNR for trail funding of grants or construction of new trails?

It appears this group is out in full force to connect a whole system with many grants from the DNR.

In the lake issues and Lake Management groups we have to fight for grants for our lakes protections. Many times we can only get a grant for lake improvements etc. ever so many years.

I am just wondering why is the DNR spending all this funding for something and/or so many for one group, when there are other areas needing assistance for Health and Safety reasons?

Lin Kenworthy Terrace View Campsites, Hwy 8 Tomahawk

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Ken Kenworthy <tvcken@charter.net>
Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2015 11:57 PM
To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Cc: Dall, Robert L - DNR; Holtz, Jeremy J - DNR; Steele, Yoyi - DNR
Subject: Re: Nokomis ATV/UTV Lincoln/Oneida Cnty Grant Requests

Thank you for your reply and it was just what I need to know the right process. There are so many ATV/UTV trails being in the hopper and so many areas opened up wide for their usage on our roadways too. In the case of the Nokomis ATV Club converting the Wayside on Hwy 8 and County L into Tomahawk, I am under the assumption this area was due to some funding the Highway Dept. had and thus no township was involved? The DOT in this instance gave the funding (grant?) to the Nokomis Club to work with as the wayside was in the control of the Lincoln County Highway Department? regardless of the park being in our Township of Bradley. Evidentially a transfer had taken place there and the Club wound up with the funding from the DOT.

It appears this specific Club has 3 actions on their calendar in which they supposedly will be in charge of grooming via agreements or Memorandum of Understandings within the Woodboro Lakes Area. It also appears this specific club, while working into the Town of Nokomis and the County L right of way multi-use plan is pushing for a trail along the Right of Way which will in fringe on the personal property owners and absolutely no consideration is being taken, nor all details given even to the local Township Board on what the intentions actually are. We realize the Highway Dept. of Oneida County has the ultimate decision on this one due to the location they are requesting and the amount of checking needed before it can come about or even apply for the grant. And they are very concerned about this whole request by this club for that region. A presentation was made to that Dept. in Oneida County this morning and is being worked on.

All the actions of this specific club point to a lack of restraint or care and concerns about any other than getting their trails opened where ever they want at no concern for how it is achieved or the damage and hardships it can cause in doing so. I have been to all 4 area meetings to get general info and find almost a pattern. 1) Woodboro Lakes Region, pending and a MoU if approved for the club with the DNR to do the mtcs and upkeep and "all they want is a little over a mile" in a most pristine, very important part of this Little Rice Creek region - a region that is managed by the DNR and is working just great with just everything as it is even with the snowmobiles in there 2) the Town of Bradley (meeting at City of Tomahawk and Town of Bradley) where a Wayside was gutted out for a parking lot for ATV usage without much thinking into what this park did or the beauty it presented to this area. (The club was to take care of the restroom facilities and park in general but the toilets weren't open until after the 4th Holiday). This was a beautiful little park used by tourists and locals for enjoyment year around- especially here in the autumn, of which now it is desecrated. Now comes the push by this same club #3)- multi use trail down the right of way along County L -Oneida County-with no regard for all that that would entail plus the disruption of the roadside lawns and tranquility of those residents let alone severe health & safety issues. Seems to me Jillian, that this club is aggressive in their endeavors with no regard to what is involved. A little more review of the Woodboro Lakes area and the "Request for Usage of only a little over a mile" usage by this group could be a very bad move on the DNR's part by approvals given that the number of residents and even the Grouse Society there too are totally against disrupting the Little Rice Creek area despite the fact this club also has the use of the roadway already without disrupting anything in the area - period. Oneida County and County L is needed to get to the bar for their poker runs and other activities. Town of Bradley little wayside is to bring "the tourist ATV riders down into Tomahawk to better our community(?) and why the Woodboro Lakes Region(?) at all with already permission to run the roadway without additional disruption in a pristine area?

This whole picture is very clear and I felt it should be shared with your group who make such important decisions on good sound data presented. It appears that this club would be responsible for many areas of maintenance as a "responsible club" within the community - to me is questionable given the above actions to date. I am a property owner and pay taxes in the Town of Nokomis, not a property owner along this roadway in question and also a taxpayer in No. Lincoln County where I reside Thus my interest in this region. This is my personal opinion and overview because I care about Wisconsin and our great natural resources. Member of WI Assoc. of Lakes for a few years and attended their conferences-even the first one in St. Point and I believe Lowell Klessig was there...

Again, thank you for your informational reply previously to get me into and through finding and understanding the grant process . I also got into the NR 50 & NR 64 as well .

lin kenworthy (Mrs. Ken) W5220 Terrace View Road Tomahawk, WI 54487

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Larry Rydberg <larry54532@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2015 6:52 AM
To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR; john.bowman@frontier.com
Cc: Conklin, Diane L - DNR; Bennett, Freeman
Subject: Re: Nokomis Hwy L ATV Trail
Attachments: connecting route 1.doc; connecting route 2.doc; connecting route 3.doc

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Jillian

You had requested additional detail on existing routes that connect to the trail as well as proposed routes.

The trail will provide access to riders that are currently unable to travel to other areas in the county. Once on the trail they can head south to get to the Tomahawk area or to trails in the western and northern portion of the county.

Approved ATV routes that connect to the trail: (all town roads in Nokomis are approved ATV routes)

- Prairie Rapides Rd via Buckhorn Rd to the trail– Prairie Rapids Road is a well used route. Prairie Rapids Road is Lake Nokomis Road to the east of highway L and is also heavily used by ATV's.
- Olson Road
- Siemering Drive
- Rocky Road
- Lakewood Road
 - o Branch Road connects to Lakewood
 - o Norway Lane connects to Lakewood

Proposed routes / trails:

The updated master plan for the Willow Flowage Wildlife Area is recommending that a .66 mile segment of an existing snowmobile trail be used as an ATV trail. This is contingent on getting the proposed trail approved. The master plan will be reviewed by the NRB in October. If this trail is approved it will provide access to Swamp Lake Road, an approved route. From Swamp Lake Road you can gain access to trails in the Willow Reservoir and the Pier-Willow areas to the west. Swamp Lake Road also connects to County Y and this can get you to the southern portion of Oneida and Lincoln Counties. Swamp Lake Road connects to County K in the town of Cassian. Cassian has been opening more routes and members of the Nokomis ATV Club are in the process of petitioning to open Lakewood Road that would lead to the Hazlehurst area. County K, if approved, would also connect to existing routes/trails in the Woodboro area.

The attached maps show the mentioned routes. Existing routes are noted with blue arrows, future routes are noted with red arrows.

Please let me know if you need additional detail.

Thanks

Larry Rydberg

-----Original Message-----

From: Steffes, Jillian - DNR <Jillian.Steffes@wisconsin.gov>
To: john.bowman <john.bowman@frontier.com>
Cc: larry54532 <larry54532@aol.com>; Conklin, Diane L - DNR <Diane.Conklin@wisconsin.gov>; Bennett, Freeman <fbennett@co.oneida.wi.us>

Sent: Wed, Sep 2, 2015 9:47 am
Subject: Nokomis Hwy L ATV Trail

John,

Please find attached an electronic version of a letter regarding the Nokomis Hwy L ATV Trail grant application. A hard copy is en route to you.

Jillian

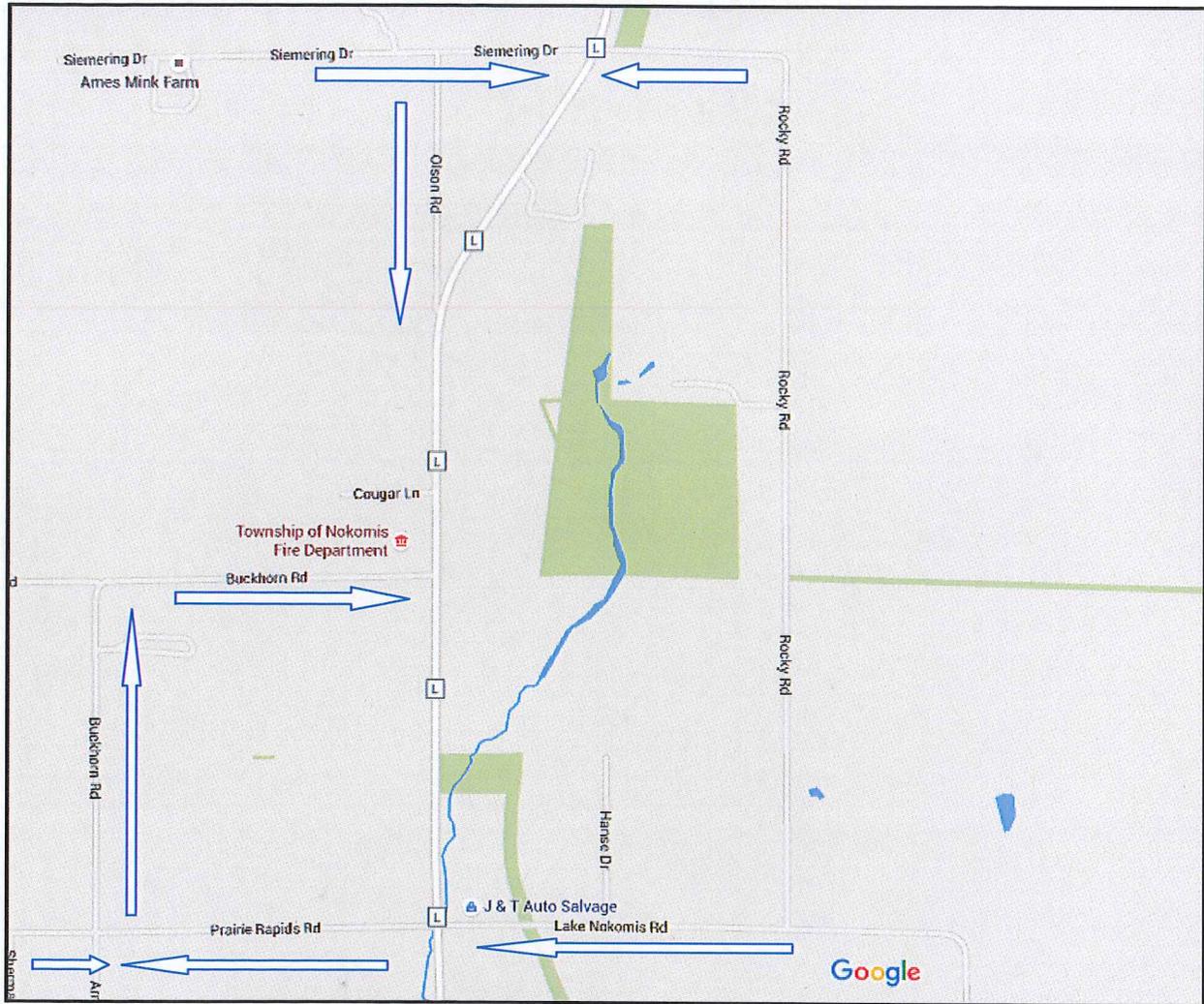
We are committed to service excellence.

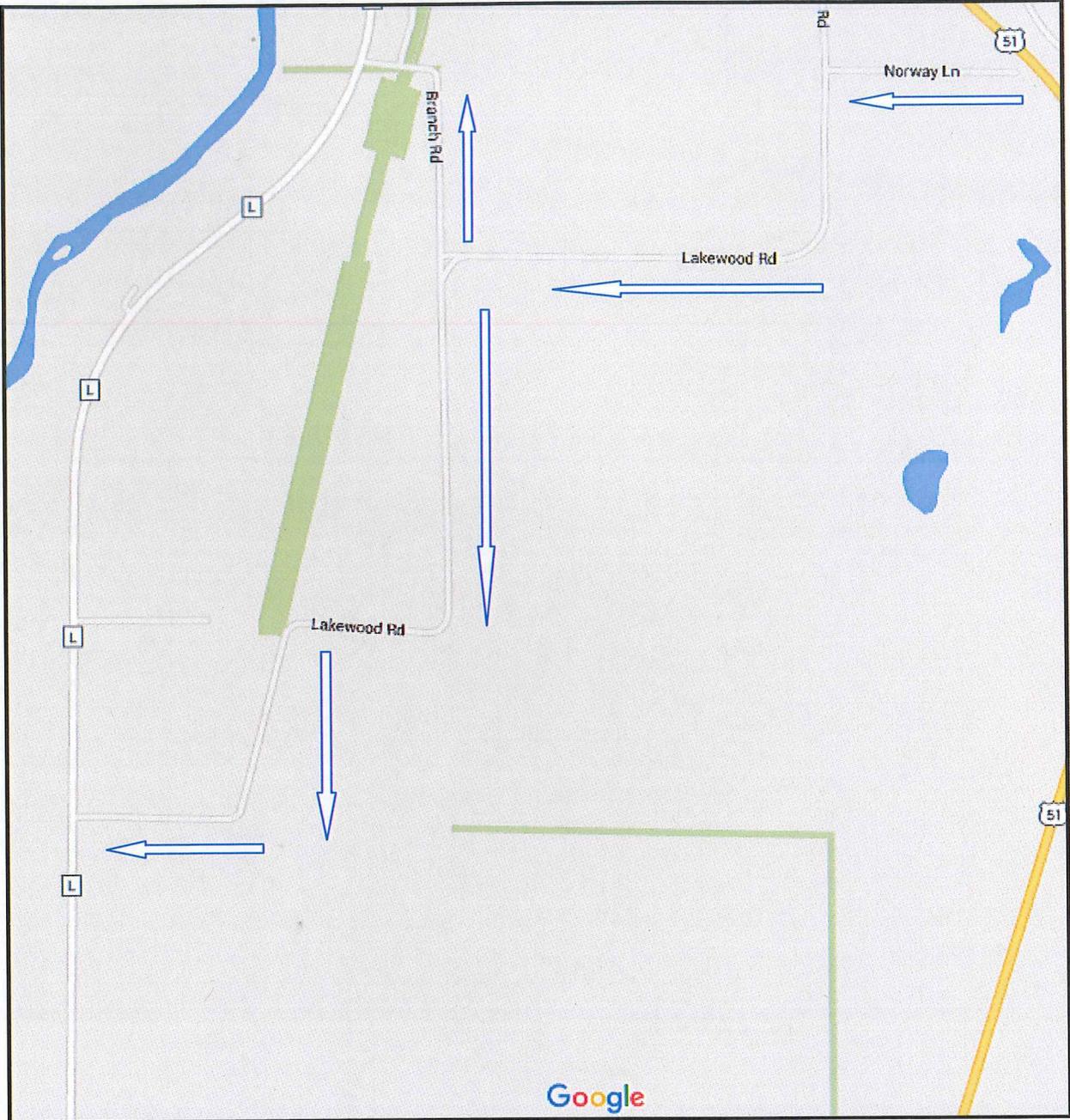
Visit our survey at <http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> to evaluate how I did.

Jillian Steffes

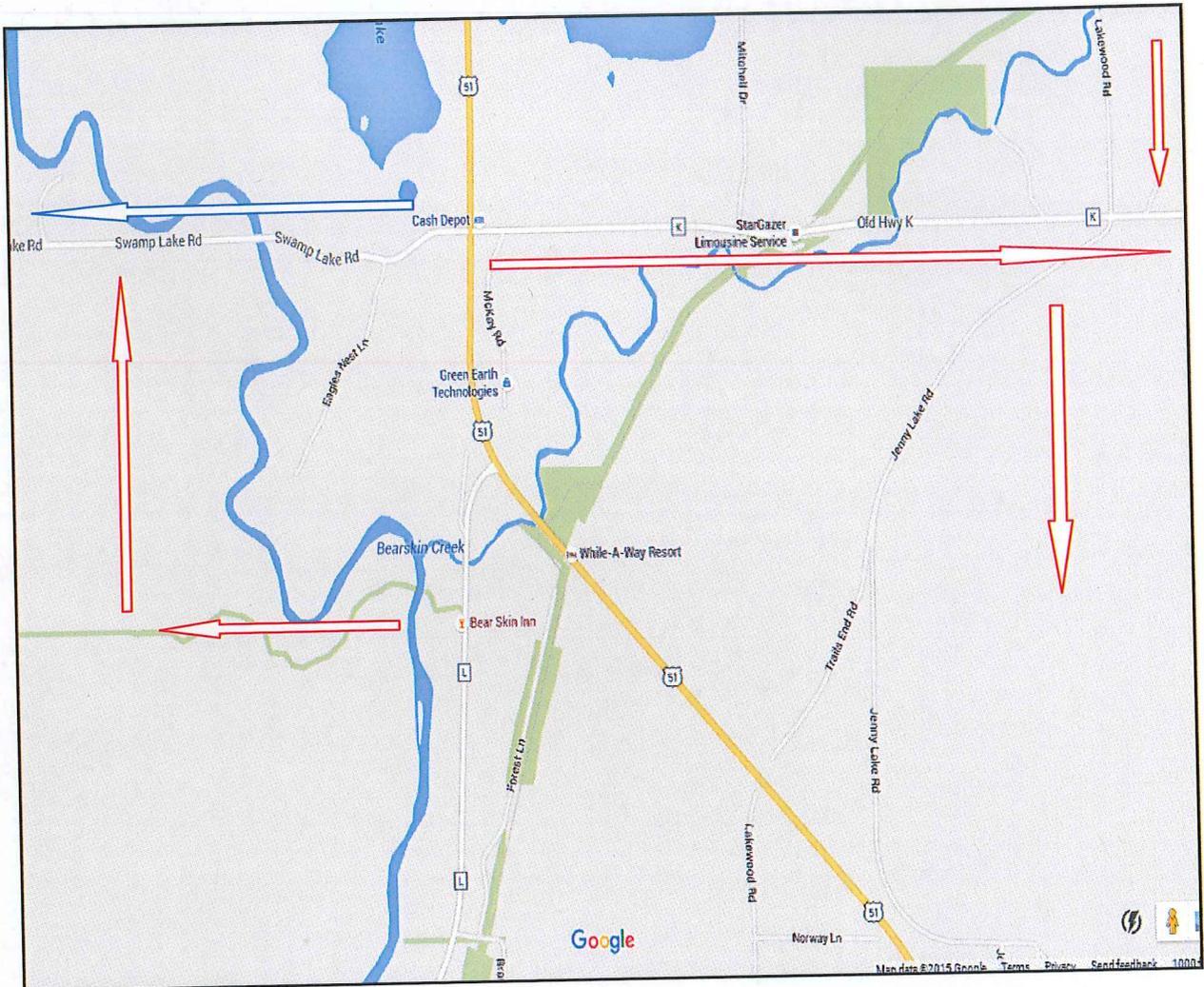
Grants Specialist – Northern Region
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
107 Sutliff Ave, Rhinelander, WI 54501
Phone: (715) 365-8928
Jillian.Steffes@wisconsin.gov







Google



DNR

OCT 12 2015

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

Laurie Ross, DNR Board Liaison

Office of the Secretary

P.O. Box 7921

Madison, WI 53707-7921

Re: Proposed ATV Trail running north along the west side of County Road L from Buckhorn Road and terminating at the Bear Skin Inn, Nokomis Township, Oneida County through **DNR Recreational Trails Grant**.

Dear Ms. Ross,

This letter is to protest against the implementation of an ATV trail with suggested use of the west right-of-way along County Road L in the Nokomis Township, Oneida County for the following reasons:

1. I have a dog that uses my yard adjacent to the proposed trail and could be chasing ATV's causing a **potential hazard** to my dog, ATV drivers/passengers, and traffic using the highway.
2. I object to the **many large trees/shrubs needed for removal** to afford said ATV trail.
3. **My property value may be affected negatively** as not everyone loves ATVs and the **noise they produce**
4. Nearby **wetlands are at risk** for erosion due to construction of said ATV trail.
5. **Birds and wildlife** will be detrimentally affected due to construction and use of said ATV trail.
6. The trail would cut across my driveway causing a **potential hazard** to ATV users, me/my passengers and **oncoming highway traffic** as my property is where two roads (CR. L and Olson Rd.) **converge on a curve**. And mostly,
7. The ATV Associated **members have come across very forcefully**, and without regard for personal property owners' attempt to work together with the town board, the Oneida Highway Commission, and the DNR on alternative solutions.
8. About 12 years ago, a group tried to put a snowmobile trail along County Road L and **many property owners came to township meetings to voice their disapproval**. At that time, the DNR agreed with the property owner's right to object. Things haven't changed, just because the vehicles are ATVs.

I thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I can be reached at 715-453-1898.

Barbara Stoddard / 10-8-2015

Barbara Stoddard

2771 CR. L.

Tomahawk, WI 54487



State of Wisconsin \ NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD

October 12, 2015

Barbara Stoddard
2771 County Road L.
Tomahawk, WI 54487

Dear Ms. Stoddard:

Your letter has been distributed to all Natural Resources Board members and to appropriate department staff for their consideration. On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank you for your input regarding a proposed ATV trail along County Road L in Nokomis Township, Oneida County.

Please feel free to contact the Natural Resources Board in the future with additional comments or concerns.

Best regards,

Preston D. Cole, CHAIR

PRESTON D. COLE, CHAIR
841 N. Broadway, Room 501
Milwaukee, WI 53202

TERRY N. HILGENBERG, VICE-CHAIR
P. O. Box 555
Shawano, WI 54166

GREG KAZMIERSKI, SECRETARY
N13 W28400 Silvermail Road
Pewaukee, WI 53072

JULIE ANDERSON
14200 Washington Avenue
Sturtevant, WI 53177-1253

WILLIAM BRUINS
N2899 State Highway 49
Waupun, WI 53963

DR. FREDERICK PREHN
413 Jefferson Street
Wausau, WI 54403

GARY ZIMMER
P. O. Box 116
Laona, WI 54541

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Pamela Kottke <kottkepamela@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2015 10:13 AM
To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR; Conklin, Diane L - DNR
Subject: Fw: Fw: Suggestions for Alternative ATV Route

On Monday, October 19, 2015 9:39 AM, Pamela Kottke <kottkepamela@yahoo.com> wrote:

It should not be up to us to give alternative routes but if we do not they will keep saying the west side is there only option. Also it makes use look better, to suggest some other way. Pam

On Monday, October 19, 2015 9:24 AM, Pamela Kottke <kottkepamela@yahoo.com> wrote:

It is a mess but at the last Nokomis Town Hall Meeting, It was made clear Bowman will not stl the trail is put in the west side row. He went to the dot and got 1932 deeds and maps and slapped the on the table saying these documents prove we can use the row. Pam

On Sunday, October 18, 2015 12:15 AM, Ken Kenworthy <tvcken@charter.net> wrote:

Pam: I have a question as usual.

How come in the materials I have read in conversations, does someone (the ATV Club?) mention that an "alternative route" needs to be presented? If someone is applying for a route to travel, and they can't get approvals, they are the ones who need to come up with alternative plans. Why is anyone else besides the "club" being requested to develop one? Especially when none of the opposition are atv riders interested in having direct access to a trail-actually a ROW in an undesirable location? I just cannot understand any other than the "club" having to come up with "alternative plans". They want the grant from the DNR of which if I understand correctly cannot even be applied for until all the paperwork is correct and presented with total diagrams and locations layed out properly with the request for the DNR GRANT. So far all they got was a ""or maybe actual \$\$(?) from the Town of

Nokomis to help pay for *the process to be completed* for approvals locally? And, once the "club" develops an alternative route, the property owners again will have to approve/disapprove before they (the Club) can submit for the actual Grant to the DNR if they (you property owners) are affected again.

Looks like the Club opened a can of worms between the DOT and the Township re: ROW survey and legal descriptions that has to be worked out before the Highway will give approvals and that is after the Township obtains the property, after which time the "atv club" will have to make a *legal descriptive plan to be presented for approvals to the Town Board* (before they submit the same to the DNR) and any property owners involved. I understand to date nothing has been submitted to the DNR for the Grant because things are not finalized and the paperwork between the County and the Township on ownership (quick claim deed?) has not been finalized legally??

Your group is well organized and all concerned know how you all feel about this plan by the Nokomis ATV Club and how they are working (not working) nicely with the property owners in mind. You have Bette at least on your side too, and she can most likely be talking with others who are concerned and too if I remember right Cheryl is a great asset as being involved in a capacity to know the process from her job.

The Nokomis ATV club wants a trail, they can come up with their own alternatives for review by all concerned, they are trying to rush as much as possible, but details will slow them down - haphazard planning they are trying to do are not good for anyone. Am I thinking right on this? lin

On 10/16/2015 10:24 PM, Pamela Kottke wrote:

On Friday, October 16, 2015 10:14 PM, Pamela Kottke <kottkepamela@yahoo.com> wrote:

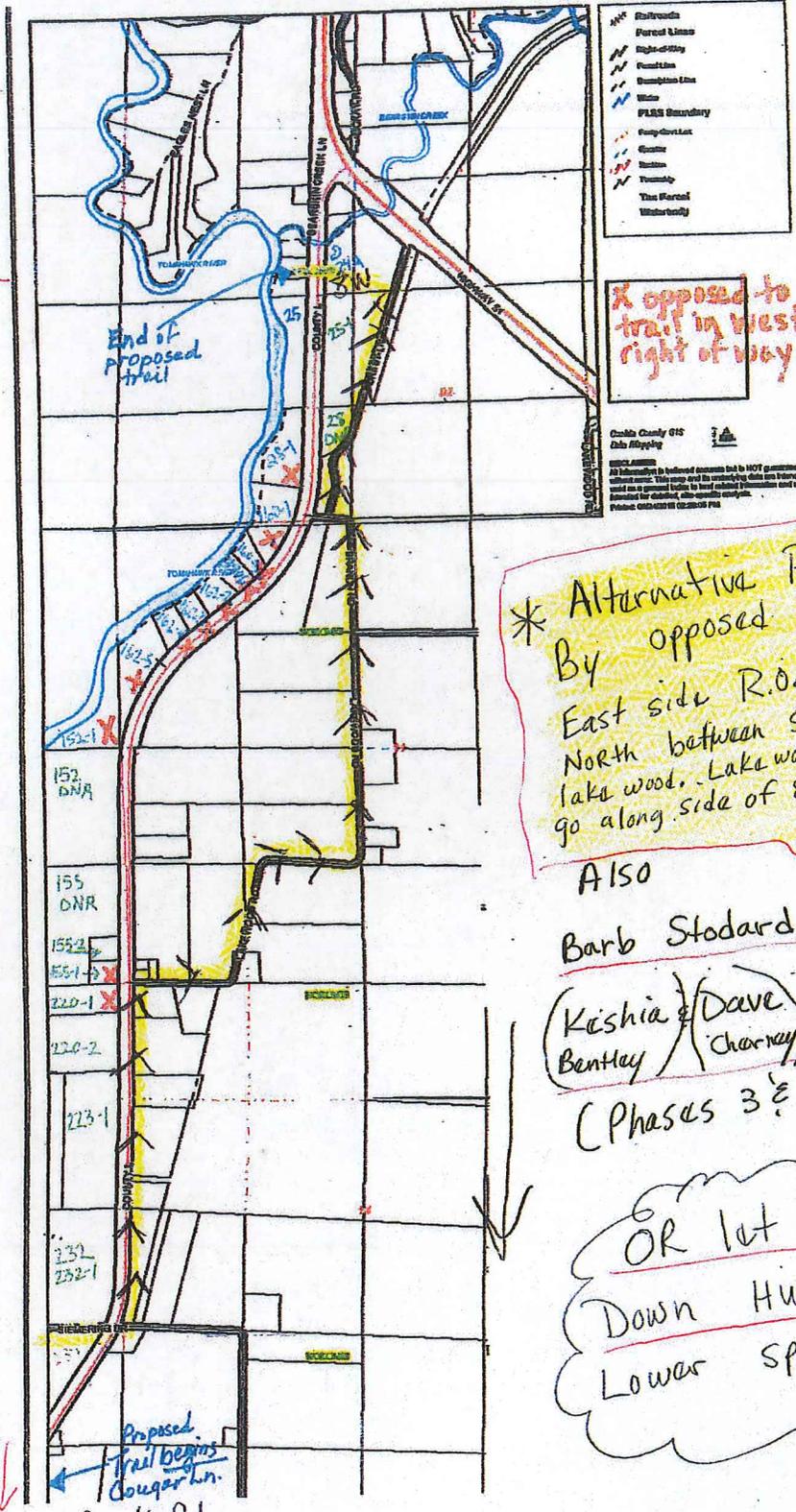
Want to try to suggest a alternative ATV Route that will impact less people and cost less to build. Please see attachment Map. Use east side Road Right of Way between Siemering Rd. to Lakewood Rd, 7/10ths of a mile with a snowmobile trail all ready there, use town ATV routes all ready used Lakewood Rd to Branch Rd, to Forest Rd, to a short snowmobile route (8W), widen it for ATVs to go along side of snowmobile trail then it gets you to Bearskin Inn. Or let ATVs go down HWY L , like they do on Hwy A. Or have ATV Club work with the State to use Bearskin Hiawatha Trail, use there funds to fix any damage to trail before the start of the snowmobile season. The Scoping Document people that are for the trail, do they own land along HWY L ? On the scoping document from the ATV Club are there any of the supporters

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Pamela Kottke <kottkepamela@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2015 9:47 AM
To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR; Conklin, Diane L - DNR
Subject: Were is the DNR Grant at ?

Were is The April 15th DNR Grant for the Town of Nokomis ATV/
Multi use trail at ? Did they get approved ? What is happening ?
We the land owners DO Not want it on the West Side R. O. W. and
are suggesting Alternative routes and are not getting anywhere with
the Club and The Town Chairman. They will not listen to us ! Pam
Kottke

mentioned that live on the East side of HWY L that want the trail on their property in the area between Siemering Rd and Lakewood Rd ? We are waiting to see how this will end. Not sure we will stay (residents / tax payers) in The Town of Nokomis. Not happy with the way this has been handled. Why does a private group have rights to Road Right of Way more so than a land owner that is directly impacted. Why should there wants for a trail be more important than my rights as a part of the (public /tax payer). The ATV Club has elevated rights to things, not a equal level to land owners. What makes there needs more important to mine. The bad part of this is if they put the trail along my property and I want to sell to get away from this "nightmare" I will loose money by not getting what I paid for my land. No one will want to buy with this trail running the whole length of it. We are totally disgusted, If We would have known about the trail plans we would have walked away from the land we purchased. Pamela and Mike Kottke



13 property owners from Buckhorn Rd to Bear Skin Inn on West Side R.O.W. opposed to Trail.

* Alternative Routes Made By opposed land owners *
 East side R.O.W. 7/10th mile North between Siemering Rd & Lake wood. Lake wood to Branch to Forest go along side of 8W snowmobile trail to Bearskin Inn

Also
 Barb Stodard Parcel 328 X
 (Kashia & Dave) Parcel 340-1 X
 (Bentley & Charney)
 (Phases 3 & 4)

OR let ATVs go
 Down HWY L
 Lower speed limit

L
 W
 E
 S

Buck Rd HORN

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2015 11:21 AM
To: 'Pamela Kottke'
Cc: Conklin, Diane L - DNR; Burrow, Catherine A - DNR
Subject: RE: Fw: Suggestions for Alternative ATV Route

Ms. Kottke,

The grant application was reviewed by the DNR's Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) Advisory Council for funding under the All-Terrain Vehicle Aids grant program over the summer. The proposal was recommended for funding by the ORV Council, provided that the township could legally acquire the rights to construct in the right of way (via easement or land-use-agreement), and meet all wetland and permit regulations along the proposed trail location. **At this point in time, the proposed grant funding is on hold pending the outcome of those necessary milestones.** The ORV Council will be reviewing the application and request again at a public meeting on October 28th in Rhinelander, the details of which are available on our website at <http://dnr.wi.gov/AID/Meetings.html>.

The Oneida County Public Works/Solid Waste Committee met on September 24th to discuss the proposed right-of-way easement or land-use-agreement. That committee voted to not approve legal rights for the township to construct the trail in the right-of-way at this time, and instead suggested that the town submit an application to open Highway L as a "route". This approval would allow ATVs to utilize the pavement for transportation as opposed to building a separate trail adjacent to the highway. That committee has requested the Highway Commissioner, Freeman Bennett, attend the town's November meeting to share details about that process, per the meeting minutes posted on the county website. If the highway is opened as a "route", this may satisfy some of your concerns by avoiding construction of a secondary surface adjacent to the highway, as the ATVs would utilize the existing blacktop instead.

Can you tell me more about the meeting at which the township deeds and maps to state they have legal rights to build the trail? What was the date of this meeting? I'm trying to reconcile that with the last I heard from the highway commissioner.

Thank you for your time,

Jillian

We are committed to service excellence.

Visit our survey at <http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> to evaluate how I did.

Jillian Steffes
Phone: (715) 365-8928
Jillian.Steffes@wisconsin.gov

From: Pamela Kottke [mailto:kottkepamela@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2015 10:13 AM
To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR; Conklin, Diane L - DNR
Subject: Fw: Fw: Suggestions for Alternative ATV Route

*prev emails
show con V. Below*

Steffes, Jillian - DNR

From: Pamela Kottke <kottkepamela@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2015 11:37 AM
To: Steffes, Jillian - DNR
Subject: Re: Fw: Suggestions for Alternative ATV Route

Last Town Hall Meeting 10-12-2015. Pam Kottke

On Monday, October 19, 2015 11:21 AM, "Steffes, Jillian - DNR" <Jillian.Steffes@wisconsin.gov> wrote:

Ms. Kottke,

The grant application was reviewed by the DNR's Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) Advisory Council for funding under the All-Terrain Vehicle Aids grant program over the summer. The proposal was recommended for funding by the ORV Council, provided that the township could legally acquire the rights to construct in the right of way (via easement or land-use-agreement), and meet all wetland and permit regulations along the proposed trail location. **At this point in time, the proposed grant funding is on hold pending the outcome of those necessary milestones.** The ORV Council will be reviewing the application and request again at a public meeting on October 28th in Rhinelander, the details of which are available on our website at <http://dnr.wi.gov/AID/Meetings.html>.

The Oneida County Public Works/Solid Waste Committee met on September 24th to discuss the proposed right-of-way easement or land-use-agreement. That committee voted to not approve legal rights for the township to construct the trail in the right-of-way at this time, and instead suggested that the town submit an application to open Highway L as a "route". This approval would allow ATVs to utilize the pavement for transportation as opposed to building a separate trail adjacent to the highway. That committee has requested the Highway Commissioner, Freeman Bennett, attend the town's November meeting to share details about that process, per the meeting minutes posted on the county website. If the highway is opened as a "route", this may satisfy some of your concerns by avoiding construction of a secondary surface adjacent to the highway, as the ATVs would utilize the existing blacktop instead.

Can you tell me more about the meeting at which the township deeds and maps to state they have legal rights to build the trail? What was the date of this meeting? I'm trying to reconcile that with the last I heard from the highway commissioner.

Thank you for your time,

Jillian

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State of Wisconsin
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
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Box 7921
Madison WI 53707-7921

Scott Walker, Governor
Cathy Stepp, Secretary
Telephone 608-266-2621
Toll Free 1-888-936-7463
TTY Access via relay - 711



October 20, 2015

Barbara Stoddard
2771 County Hwy L
Tomahawk WI 54487

RE: Proposed ATV Trail along Hwy L in Town of Nokomis

Dear Ms. Stoddard,

Your letter of concern to the Natural Resource Board regarding the proposed ATV trail running in the County Highway L right-of-way was forwarded to DNR Secretary Stepp; Sec. Stepp asked me to reply to you.

The Town of Nokomis submitted applications this spring for funding from two separate grant programs for the Highway L trail project: All-Terrain Vehicle Aids (ATV) program and the Recreational Trails (RT) Program. The DNR is still reviewing all RT applications.

The Town's ATV grant application was reviewed by the Governor's Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) Advisory Council. The ORV Council recommended that the DNR funds this project IF the township:

- Could legally acquire the rights to construct in the right of way (via easement or land-use-agreement); and
- All wetland and permit regulations are met along the proposed trail length.

At this point in time, any ATV grant for this project is on hold pending compliance with the Council's requirements. The ORV Council will be reviewing the application again at its public meeting on October 28th in Rhinelander, the details of which are available on our website at <http://dnr.wi.gov/AID/Meetings.html>.

We are told that the Oneida County Public Works/Solid Waste (PWSW) Committee met on Sept. 24 to discuss the proposed right-of-way easement or land-use-agreement. The PWSW Committee voted not to approve legal rights for the township to construct the trail in the right-of-way at this time, and instead suggested that the town submit an application to open Highway L as an ATV "route". Designation as a route would allow ATVs to utilize the pavement for transportation as opposed to building a separate ATV trail adjacent to the highway. Per the meeting minutes posted on the county website, we see that the PWSW Committee has requested the Highway Commissioner, Freeman Bennett, attend the town's November meeting to share details about the route proposal. If the highway is opened as a "route", this may satisfy some of your concerns by avoiding construction of a secondary surface adjacent to the highway, as the ATVs would utilize the existing blacktop instead.

We expect that a decision on the future of this project will be reached at a local level. Before the DNR awards any ATV grant, the township must decide if it will comply with easement, wetland, and permit

regulations and the township must obtain legal rights by way of an easement or land use agreement to construct the trail on any land they do not own.

Sincerely,



Mary Rose Teves, Director
Bureau of Community Financial Assistance
E-mail: Mary.Teves@wisconsin.gov

- C: Jillian Steffes, NOR CSS
Cathy Burrow, ATV grant manager
Diane Conklin, RT grant manager
Chris Halbur, NER-NOR Grants and Loans Supervisor
John Gozdziwski, Secretary's Director (NOR)