



Off-highway Vehicle Ministerial Advisory Committee

April 22-23, 2008
Halifax, NS

-
- Attendees:** Laurie Cranton (Chair), Glenn Joudrey (Vice Chair), Corey Robar (ATVANS), Raymond Plourde (Environment), Paul D'Eon (Safety/Training), Robert Connell (Enforcement/Police), Charles Atkinson (OHV Industry), Roger King (Member at Large), Judith Cabrita (Tourism), James Vance (NSTF), Laura Barkhouse (Member at Large), Jamie Wolverton (SANS), Carmen D'Intino (NSORRA)
Ex-officio: Peter Labor (NS Environment), Michael Coady (DTIR), Hugh Gillis (for Patricia MacNeil, DNR), Patricia MacNeil (DNR), Derick Stoddard (OHV Enforcement/Conservation Officer), Ted Scrutton (DHPP), Jennifer Annett (Secretariat)
- Guests:** Stan Slack (SANS), Honourable David Morse (Minister of Natural Resources) and staff, Honourable Mark Parent (Minister of Nova Scotia Environment) and staff
- Regrets:** Pat Hicks (OHV Manufacturers), Floyd Cock (Landowner), Vacant (Municipal), Vacant (Municipal), Vacant (Health)

----- Agenda Topics -----

Tuesday April 22 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

8:30 AM Arrival, Coffee, Muffins

9:00 AM	Welcome, Review of Action Items, Approval of Minutes, Reports, New Correspondence (Chair, Other)	Laurie Cranton, Jennifer Annett	45 min
9:45 AM	OHV IF Report	Hugh Gillis	30 min
10:15 AM	Established Trails Policy	Hugh Gillis	30 min
10:45 AM	Action Plan Discussion	Jim Vance	30 min
11:15 AM	Trails Program Recommendations	Laura Barkhouse Stan Slack	2 hrs

12:00 PM LUNCH

1:00 PM	Trails Program Recommendations (continued)		
2:15 PM	Subcommittee Updates: Enforcement, Education, Trails	Robert Connell, Paul D'Eon, Laura Barkhouse	45 min
3:00 PM	OHV Network Vision	Laura Barkhouse, Glenn Joudrey	1 hr
4:00 PM	Adjournment for the day	Laurie Cranton	

----- **Minutes** -----

Tuesday April 22 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Welcome, Review of Action Items, Approval of Minutes, Reports (Chair, Other), New Correspondence
 Laurie Cranton,
 Jennifer Annett

Discussion: Chair welcomed members and guests. Mr. Carmen D’Intino was introduced as the new representative for the Nova Scotia Off Road Riders Association.

Chair report -

The OHV Conference May 3 is nearly sold out.

The Chair, SANS and ATVANS met with the Minister of Transportation to discuss highway crossings and other road issues. More dialogue to follow.

The Chair and ATVANS met with Wagoner Forestry to discuss use of the bushy hill trail.

The Chair met with ATVANS, SANS, NSORRA and NS Trails presidents to discuss current concerns.

Action items were reviewed. Minutes were approved as amended.

Reports – An OHV offence report was circulated for the period April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008. This reflects DNR issued offences only. Questions were addressed.

A summary of OHV registrations to date April 10, 2008 was circulated. An approximate drop in registration of 30% was noted from 2006. More registrations are expected as summer nears.

New correspondence - A reply was received from the Ministers regarding Paradise Trail.

Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Some additional statistics to be shared regarding environmental offences.	Derick	July 22/08
Try to collect OHV offense statistics from RCMP and Municipal police.	Bob	July 22/08

OHV IF Report
 Hugh Gillis
 Discussion: A summary of the OHV Infrastructure Fund Report was circulated for the period April 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008. The current balance of the Fund is \$1,403,576.26.

Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:
NONE		

Established Trails Policy
 Hugh Gillis
 Discussion: The established trails policy is still being drafted. The OHV conference trail development session will encourage riders and trail developers to move away from established trails and focus development and use on managed trail systems.

MINUTES – April 22 -23 2008

<p>Action items:</p> <p>NONE</p>			<p>Person responsible:</p>	<p>Deadline:</p>
<p>Action Plan Discussion</p> <p>Discussion: A summary report was circulated for review. The report includes some background, Committee mandate respecting the Action Plan, findings and observations on enforcement, infrastructure, safety, protection and standards, and a final recommendation. The Committee will submit a recommendation regarding next steps for the action plan.</p>			<p>Jim Vance</p>	
<p>Action items:</p> <p>NONE</p>			<p>Person responsible:</p>	<p>Deadline:</p>
<p>Trails Program Recommendations</p> <p>Discussion: A summary of 2008 trail program applications was reviewed. It was requested for the 2009 application to include checkboxes to determine allowable OHV uses on the trails. Committee members involved with applicant clubs are reminded to abstain from providing comments when the club's application is being considered.</p> <p>There is a full consensus to recommend the list of projects as amended for a total of \$743,200.</p>			<p>Laura Barkhouse, Stan Slack</p>	
<p>Action items:</p> <p>List of non-approved projects to the secretariat.</p>			<p>Person responsible:</p> <p>Laura</p>	<p>Deadline:</p> <p>April 25/08</p>
<p>Subcommittee Updates: Enforcement, Education, Trails</p> <p>Discussion: Enforcement – The Subcommittee has discussed license plates and permits. More to be discussed at the May meeting with the Registrar of Motor Vehicles.</p> <p>Education – No recent meetings. Efforts have been focused on providing input to the OHV Riders Handbook.</p> <p>Trails – Department of Health Promotion & Protection representative mentioned a new initiative in partnership with EMO to sign the Trans-Canada Trail with civic addresses. Pipelines and rail lines are also being considered for signage.</p>			<p>Robert Connell, Paul D'Eon, Laura Barkhouse</p>	
<p>Action items:</p> <p>NONE</p>			<p>Person responsible:</p>	<p>Deadline:</p>
<p>OHV Network Vision</p> <p>Discussion: Deferred to May 2008.</p>			<p>Laura Barkhouse, Glenn Joudrey</p>	

MINUTES – April 22 -23 2008

<hr/>		
Action items: NONE	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Other Items Laurie Cranton		
Discussion: The Chair reviewed a letter of concern from SANS, ATVANS, NSORRA, and NS Trails regarding a number of topics. One key topic was around having more opportunity for input from the Presidents to Committee recommendations. The Committee would like to have better two way communication with the Presidents.		
Action items: Respond to letter from SANS, ATVANS, NSORRA and NS Trails.	Person responsible: Laurie	Deadline: May 27/08

Meeting Adjourned: 3:45 PM

----- Agenda Topics -----

Wednesday April 23 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

8:30 AM Arrival, Coffee, Muffins

9:00 AM	Summary of New Recommendation(s) to Ministers, Next Meeting/Agenda Items, Communications	Laurie Cranton	1 hr 45 min
---------	--	----------------	----------------

10:45 AM	Wilderness Areas Protection Act	Honourable Mark Parent, Minister of NS Environment, Peter Labor	1 hr 15 min
----------	---------------------------------	--	----------------

12:00 PM Adjournment & LUNCH

----- **Minutes** -----

Wednesday April 23 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Other Items

Jamie Wolverton

Discussion: Summary offence ticket. There was some discussion on the lack of a summary offence ticket for the OHV designated trails and trail permit regulations. A new recommendation will be prepared for the Ministers.

Action items:

NONE

Person responsible:

Deadline:

Wilderness Areas Protection Act

Honourable Mark Parent,
Minister of Nova Scotia
Environment, Peter Labor

Discussion: The Ministers and guests in attendance were introduced. A slide deck was reviewed. There are currently 33 wilderness areas in Nova Scotia. The presentation reviewed:

- Why amendments are needed
- Vehicle use in wilderness areas
- The Wilderness Areas Protection Act (designated routes, licensed use)
- Outstanding issues
- Trails meeting criteria including access to campsite leases
- Access for the Pollets Cove Aspey Fault moose hunt
- Bicycle use

The Committee was asked to provide feedback to government on the topics presented. More discussion to follow in May.

Action items:

NONE

Person responsible:

Deadline:

MINUTES – April 22 -23 2008

Summary of New Recommendation(s) to the Ministers, Next Meeting/Agenda Items, Communications

Laurie Cranton

Discussion: Three new recommendations will be sent to the Ministers for consideration:

- Trails Program 2008 recommendations
- Report to Ministers respecting the Action Plan
- Summary Offence Ticket for OHV designated trails and trail permit regulations.

No new communications items.

Action items:

Send new recommendations to the Ministers.

Person responsible:

Laurie

Deadline:

May 27/08

Other Information

Meeting Adjourned: 1:00 PM

Next Meeting: May 27 in Halifax/Bedford (9:00 am – 4:00 pm)