



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF SNOWMOBILE ASSOCIATIONS



National News

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ACSA is the 501(C)3 Charitable Organization Protecting your Rights to Access Federal Lands



Daines submits

legislation to remove 449,500 acres from Montana's Wilderness Study Areas

Public lands and protections remain a hot topic in Washington D.C. Sen. Steve Daines, R-Mont., introduced legislation to remove 449,500 acres in Montana's Wilderness Study Areas. Daines describes the "Protect Public Use of Public Lands Act" as an effort to follow bottom-up requests from the state legislature and local communities. "40 years of D.C. paralysis has frozen our access and use of public lands. It's time to keep public lands in public hands."

The WSAs included in Daines' proposed legislation are the same areas included in Rep. Kerry White (R) of Bozeman's House Joint Resolution 9 that passed 60-40 in the House and 33-17 in the Senate in 2017. HJ 9 asked the U.S. Congress to address Montana's seven WSAs on National Forest System Lands. Daines has received support from the Montana Mining Association, Citizens for Balanced Use, Big Game Forever, Montana Snowmobile Association, Treasure State Resource Association, the Beaverhead County Commissioners, Ravalli County Commissioners, Judith Basin County Commissioners, Montana Farm Bureau Federation, Montana Snowmobile Association and The Capital Trail Vehicle Association, among others.

How can you help? Write your legislators expressing support for these initiatives!

New York State Wins 2 Key Decisions for Snowmobiling in the Adirondacks!



View of Gothic Peaks at Boreas Ponds in the Adirondacks (Photo Credit: Phil Brown/Adirondack Explorer)

An Albany judge has upheld the state's construction of new snowmobile trails in the Adirondacks, which had been opposed by an environmental group.

Acting state Supreme Court Justice Gerald W. Connolly issued a recent ruling that cutting the new trails would not violate the Forever Wild clause of the state Constitution that protects the Adirondack forest preserve from development, including timber cutting. Cutting the trees needed for snowmobile trails does "not constitute an improper use of the preserve which impairs the wild forest lands to an unconstitutional extent," Connolly wrote.

The approximately 36 miles of trails in question are known as "community connectors" that link the towns of Newcomb, Minerva and North Hudson. The entire system is slated for completion in 2020. Much of the trails are complete but construction on parts of the project were halted due to the lawsuit.

In another contentious issue, the Adirondack Park Agency voted to approve a compromise in the Unit Management Plan for the Boreas Ponds Tract. The plan allows for parts to be classified as wilderness and parts as wild forest, which allows continued motorized use to connect communities via trail!

ACSA Media Center

In case you're not aware, ACSA has established a Media Center where articles, videos, and posters can be found for a wide variety of topics. These tools and resources for your use..at no cost..and many can be personalized by adding the State Association or Club. There is still lots of winter left...which means there is time to get positive messages out. Many of these messages address issues and challenges that we are dealing with, from drinking and riding to trespassing to safe riding. If there are challenges and issues that are not addressed, please contact the ACSA office. We will do our best to continue to add to these tools and resources. Media Center: <http://snowmobilers.org/acsa-media.aspx>

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