

NSOHV – DEDICATED TO ENSURING THE OHV MOVEMENT IN NS REMAINS SUSTAINABLE, PRODUCTIVE AND SAFE FOR ALL RIDERS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

WHERE DO YOU RIDE?

GPS TRACKS AND WAYPOINT DATA
WAIVER

NSOHV DOES NOT MAKE ANY CLAIM REGARDING THE ACCURACY OF THE GPS TRACKS AND OR WAYPOINT DATA AVAILABLE. CERTAIN TRAILS MAY NO LONGER BE USEABLE DUE TO LANDOWNER PERMISSIONS, BRIDGES OUT, URBAN DEVELOPMENT ETC. ANY USE OF THE GPS DATA CONTAINED ON THE NSOHV WEBSITE FOR THE PURPOSE OF PRODUCING MAPS, ROUTES, ETC. IS DONE SO AT THE RISK OF THE INDIVIDUAL.

THE OPERATOR OF AN OHV ASSUMES ALL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE USE OF THE GPS DATA. AT ALL TIMES IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE OHV OPERATOR TO FOLLOW THE RULES AND REGULATIONS SET FORTH IN THE PROVINCIAL OHV ACT, BILL 275.

NSOHV DOES NOT ACCEPT ANY LIABILITIES RESULTING FROM THE UPLOAD OR DOWNLOAD OF THE GPS DATA CONTAINED ON THIS WEBSITE.

WHO WE ARE

The Nova Scotia Off Highway Vehicle Operators Coalition (NSOHV) is a not for profit organization representing the interests of all Off Highway Vehicles (OHV) operators including but not limited to All Terrain Vehicles, Snowmobiles, Dual Sport motorcycles, and Jeep type vehicles. NSOHV functions as a group to bring forward initiatives on behalf of operators, businesses and groups and present those ideas to government. NSOHV is independent, does not seek primary funding from government agencies or manufacturers, and functions solely on behalf of its members.

The mission of the Nova Scotia Off-Highway Vehicle Coalition (NSOHV) is to represent, assist, educate, and empower OHV recreationists in the protection and promotion of off-highway motorized recreation throughout Nova Scotia. Dedicated to promoting the responsible use and conservation of our public lands and natural resources to preserve their aesthetic and recreational qualities for future generations.

NSOHV hopes to gain support from representatives of ATVANS, SANS, NSORRA, NS Trails, NS Jeep Club, OHV dealers etc. for it's board of directors.

NSOHV coalition shall provide a mechanism for OHV groups to work more closely together and align values and goals. The final level of structure to unite all OHV operators brings all users together in a common forum.

NOVA SCOTIA OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLE OPERATORS COALITION

A UNITED SPORT

Nova Scotia Off Highway
Vehicle Coalition



NEWSLETTER 001

August 2009

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Aug 18, 2009

Fellow OHV enthusiasts;

Welcome to the NSOHV quarterly newsletter. We hope to facilitate open communication between all OHV enthusiasts. ***It is apparent to us that trails link us all together and that currently in the Province an effective trail strategy is lacking. Our concern is that a trail policy may be formulated and undertaken without proper consultation of the persons most affected, you the users. We want to maintain existing trails and connectivity before a policy is created that will shut down your local trail in favour of a provincial "super highway".***

NSOHV supports membership into the existing provincial user groups whether that be NSORRA, SANS or ATVANS. We ourselves pay our dues to those organizations and are members. The reality is that only 16% of all OHV users in the province belong to those three respective

organizations. The majority is not being heard.

Coalitions similar in purpose to NSOHV have been formed in some US states when it was apparent that strength in numbers and a strong unified voice was preferred in dealing with state legislators and land managers.

The path government has taken in NS to address OHV issues mirrors those same US states. The OHV Task Force, which became the OHV Ministerial Advisory Committee, the OHV Infrastructure Fund, increased regulations and enforcement all are carbon copies of responses US states put in place after the dramatic increase in OHV ownership which peaked nearly five years ago.

NSOHV was formed to represent OHV users and lobby government to protect riding areas and enhance our sport. We are Pro OHV to counter the many other groups forming whose purpose is to see our sport and way of recreation eradicated. NSOHV is independent of the agendas of government or industry. We receive no monies from either and are simply volunteers passionate about OHV. In order to help you we need to know what are your issues? Do you have a solution? How do you want us to help?

NSOHV will continue to review developments in OHV policy as discussed in the MAC committee and then recommended to government. We are seeking your opinion and voice to be added to the collective. Only a unified and strong voice will be recognized. In the past when OHV users have sat on the sidelines we

have suffered the consequences of our own complacency.

Please let your strong voice be heard either by joining an existing OHV club, forming your own or joining with us. Visit www.nsohv.ca and post your comments to our bulletin board or share your GPS data.

United our sport can be strong. See you on the trails.

Regards,

Scott D. Patterson

President NSOHV

A LETTER TO DNR ON THE MAC



August 4, 2009

Hon. John MacDonell

Minister of Natural Resources

Dear Minister MacDonell,

I am writing on behalf of the Nova Scotia Off Highway Vehicle Operators Coalition (NSOHV). NSOHV came into existence a year ago for the purposes of advancing a pro OHV agenda. NSOHV is modeled after various coalitions in the US states such as Nevada and Arizona with several key objectives:

- 1) Represent all OHV users including but not limited to ATVs, snowmobiles, dual sport motorcycles and Jeep type vehicles.
- 2) Facilitate dialogue and synergies between all the existing OHV users groups such as ATVANS, SANS, NSORRA, NS Jeep Club as well as NS Trails.
- 3) Bring together OHV “experts” that are independent of government and industry. NSOHV is a non-profit society and unlike the present user groups accepts no funding from any government departments, the OHV Infrastructure Fund or industry sources.

- 4) Expand membership into the existing OHV users groups. Currently membership into the organized groups is a small sample of the total users in the province. As such this impacts on the monies contributed into the OHV Infrastructure fund for trails as currently many users have chosen to opt out of the fee. In addition lack of membership negates the strides the organized groups have made towards responsible riding.

NSOHV founders have been associated with the Ministerial Advisory Committee in the past. David Fraser served on the MAC as the ATVANS representative when the committee was formed. Scott Patterson also served dual roles as both the NS Trails and ATVANS representative on the sub committee for enforcement.

Although NSOHV is clearly interested in a pro OHV agenda we support intelligent decision-making and can work within the current consensus framework of the MAC. We believe our group can convey important information to the majority of those users not currently part of the organized groups. The mandate of the Ministerial Advisory Committee is to advise government, specifically your department and yourself as Minister. We believe that we could make an unbiased contribution towards achieving the committee’s objectives.

To that end NSOHV would like to be considered for inclusion on the committee, when the two current members at large terms are completed. Typically the terms run for a two year period however members are eligible for reappointment up to a

maximum of three consecutive terms. In our opinion, considering the mandated representation of the committee the addition of NSOHV would not unfairly bias the committee in any way. A change to the committee for the future presents an excellent opportunity for the new NDP government to promote a truly balanced approach to Off Highway Vehicle issues.

Kindest Regards,

Scott D. Patterson

President

Nova Scotia Off Highway Vehicle Coalition
(NSOHV)