

RULEMAKING NOTICE FORM

Notice Number _____

Rule Number **Fis 1509.01**

<p>1. Agency Name & Address:</p> <p>NH Fish and Game Department 11 Hazen Drive Concord, NH 03301</p>	<p>2. RSA Authority: <u>215-C:47, I</u></p> <p>3. Federal Authority: _____</p> <p>4. Type of Action:</p> <p>Adoption _____</p> <p>Amendment _____</p> <p>Repeal _____</p> <p>Readoption _____</p> <p>Readoption w/amendment <u>XX</u></p>
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5. Short Title: **Fish and Game rules - reciprocity for snowmobile trails for a weekend.**

6. (a) Summary of what the rule says and the effect of the rule on those regulated:

The Department is proposing to establish the full 4th weekend in January as the period when all snowmobiles registered in Maine may ride any trail in NH. The Department's intent is to adopt this rule if Maine allows NH registered snowmobiles on all Maine snowmobile trails during the same weekend. This is the same weekend in which there is already reciprocity with Vermont.

The proposal also amends the language for the Vermont weekend by clarifying it is the 4th full weekend of January.

6. (b) Brief description of the groups affected:

The rules would affect persons with Vermont, Maine and NH registered snowmobiles.

6. (c) Specific section or sections of state statute or federal statute or regulation which the rule is intended to implement:

Rule(s)	State Statute (RSA)	Federal Statute	Federal Regulation
Fis 1509.01	215-C:47		

7. Contact person for copies and questions including requests to accommodate persons with disabilities:

Name: **Sandra Falicon** Title: **Legislative/Rules Coordinator**
 Address: **NH Fish and Game Department** Phone #: **603-271-3511**
11 Hazen Drive Fax#: **603-271-1438**
Concord, NH 03301 E-mail: **comments@wildlife.nh.gov**
Subject line: 2011 snowmobile rules

TTY/TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964 or dial 711 (in NH)

8. Deadline for submission of materials in writing or, if practicable for the agency, in the electronic format specified: **November 17, 2011**

Fax E-mail Other format (specify):

9. Public hearing scheduled for:

Date and Time: **November 7, 2011 6:30pm**

Place: **NH Fish and Game Department**
11 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03301

10. Fiscal Impact Statement (Prepared by Legislative Budget Assistant)

FIS # 11:143, dated 10/07/11

1. Comparison of the costs of the proposed rule(s) to the existing rule(s):
There is no difference in cost when comparing proposed rules to existing rules.
2. Cite the Federal mandate. Identify the impact on state funds:
No federal mandate, no impact on state funds.
3. Cost and benefits of the proposed rules(s):
 - A. To State general or State special funds:
None.
 - B. To State citizens and political subdivisions:
None.
 - C. To independently owned businesses:
None.

11. Statement Relative to Part I, Article 28-a of the N.H. Constitution:

The proposed readoption with amendment of Fis 1509.01 relating to snowmobile rules does not violate the New Hampshire Constitution, Part 1, Article 28-a. The rules do not impose any programs or responsibilities on any political subdivision of the state nor is any political subdivision involved in the process from an administrative perspective.

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Readopt with amendments Fis 1509.01, effective 10-26-10 (Doc #9804 to read as follows:

Fis 1509.01 Snowmobile Reciprocity.

(a) Only NH/VT commerce zone trails shall be open to snowmobiles registered only in Vermont, **except as specified in (c).**

(b) NH/VT commerce zone trails, identified with signs as such, shall be as follows:

(1) State corridor trail 3A located in the towns of Colebrook and Stewartstown;

(2) Lancaster commerce trail in the town of Lancaster which shall start at the route 2 highway bridge on the New Hampshire/Vermont state line, state corridor trail 5, groomed snowmobile trails maintained by the Lancaster Snow Drifters and class IV, V or VI roads open to snowmobiles as prescribed in RSA 215-A:6;

(3) Northumberland commerce trail from the New Hampshire/Vermont state line at the Guidhal, Vermont highway bridge to the groomed trail between the western side of route 3 and the eastern side of the active railroad grade. The trail shall end at the crossing of state highway route 3;

(4) NH/VT commerce loop trail shall be state corridor trail 18 and 21 in the town of Colebrook, state corridor trail 5/21 in the town of Stewartstown, and state corridor trail 20 in the town of Pittsburg;

(5) From the junction of corridor trail 5 and Horan Road in Lancaster north on corridor trail 5 to the junction of corridor trail 5 and 7 in Stratford, north on corridor trail 7 to the junction of corridor trails 7 and 3 in Stratford, north on corridor trail 3 to the junction of corridor trail 3 and NH/VT corridor trail 3, the corridor trail to the Stratford, NH/Bloomfield, VT highway bridge;

(6) NH/VT commerce loop trail shall be from the Stratford, NH/Bloomfield, VT highway bridge on the NH/VT corridor trail 3 to the junction of corridor trail 3, north on corridor trail 3 to the junction of corridor trails 3 and 7 in Stratford, north on corridor trail 7 to the junction of corridor trails 7 and 7A in Columbia, north on corridor trail 7A to the junction of corridor trails 7A and 18 in Columbia and west on corridor trail 18 to the junction of 3A and 18 in Colebrook;

(7) From the intersection of corridor trails 7A, 18 and 21 in Columbia north on corridor trail 21 to the junction of corridor trails 21A and 21 in Columbia, north on corridor trail 21A in Columbia to the bridge crossing in Colebrook, NH and Canaan, VT;

(8) The feeder trail from corridor trail 7 in Columbia to state highway 3; and

(9) Corridor trail 21A from the junction of the commerce trail in Stewartstown to West Stewartstown.

(c) All New Hampshire snowmobile trails shall be open to all legally registered Vermont snowmobiles on the 4th **full** weekend in January, to include the preceding Friday. This reciprocity weekend with Vermont shall be valid only if all Vermont snowmobile trails are open to all legally registered New Hampshire snowmobiles.

(d) Only NH/ME border trails shall be open to snowmobiles registered only in Maine, **except as specified in (h).**

- (e) NH/ME border trails shall be identified with signs as such and shall be as follows:
 - (1) State corridor trail 19 located in the towns of Chatham and Shelburne; and
 - (2) State corridor trail ITS 82 and 82A coming into the town of Success.
- (f) All trails in NH shall be open to snow traveling maintenance vehicles registered in Maine.
- (g) All snowmobile trails shall be open to vehicles registered to agencies of the state of Maine, provided that the vehicles are used for official purposes.
- (h) All New Hampshire snowmobile trails shall be open to all legally registered Maine snowmobiles on the 4th full weekend in January, to include the preceding Friday. This reciprocity weekend with Maine shall be valid only if all Maine snowmobile trails are open to all legally registered New Hampshire snowmobiles.**

APPENDIX

Rule(s)	State Statute (RSA)	Federal Statute	Federal Regulation
Fis 1509.01	215-C:47		