

## CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Date: December 21, 1989

File Ref:

To: Dave Evenson

From: Paul Kooiker *PK*

Subject: Master Plan Amendments to Permit Winter ATV Use on GLG Properties

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DEC 22 1989  
CUMBERLAND  
AREA HQ.

There has been increasing demand by organized ATV clubs to allow winter ATV use on existing county snowmobile trails. In western Burnett County, Snowmobile Corridor Trail #43 runs through Fish Lake, Crex Meadows, and Danbury Wildlife Areas.

North of Highway 70, the trail is maintained by the Burnett County Forests and Parks Department. A Snowmobile Land Use Permit authorizes the county to administer and maintain the trail on Crex Meadows and Danbury. South of Highway 70 to Wolf Creek, the trail is administered and maintained by Governor Knowles State Forest. No Land Use Permit is required.

An agreement reached in 1987 allows winter only use of Trail #43 north of Highway 70, including Crex Meadows and Danbury Wildlife Areas. I have been issuing a one-year ATV Land Use Permit to Burnett County for Crex and Danbury. This gives us the opportunity to monitor the use and potential abuses of ATV's on the snowmobile trail and to shut down ATV use on state lands if warranted. In September 1989, an agreement was reached to allow winter use only of ATV's south of Highway 70 to the Polk County line, which includes the Fish Lake Wildlife Area.

Over the past two winters, ATV use on the county trail has been light, and we have detected no major abuses by ATV operators or conflicts with snowmobilers. The trail officially opens December 15 and closes March 15. ATV use during this period is restricted to snow-covered periods only. Throughout all of our meetings and negotiations, we have stated that spring, summer, and fall use of ATV's on state wildlife lands is out of the question.

Continued use of ATV's on state-owned segments of the snowmobile trail will require an amendment to the Master Plan of all three properties. The use of ATV's was not addressed in any of the Master Plans.

Attached are proposed amendments to the Conceptual Plans for Crex Meadows, Fish Lake, and Danbury Wildlife Areas. Please route through channels for approval.

PK:sv  
Attachment