Upper Canada Snowmobile Region

Year End Report 2022–2023

1 June 2023

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About Us

The Upper Canada Snowmobile Region (UCSR) is a volunteer led not-for-profit corporation that promotes and enables effective local delivery of organized snowmobiling with and through its assigned OFSC member organizations consistent with the agreed Mission, Vision, and Programs of the provincial federation.

The Upper Canada Snowmobile Region (UCSR) is an Incorporated Not-for-profit organization and a member in good standing of the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC).

The UCSR is District 1 within the OFSC and is comprised of 16 OFSC snowmobile clubs. The UCSR covers the area west to Napanee, north to Arnprior and east to the Ontario/Quebec border and has over 3345 km of marked, groomed trails. 1000 dedicated volunteers make up 16 clubs within the UCSR and sell over 12800 trail permits annually to riders and families in Eastern Ontario.

Objectives. *The objectives of the UCSR are: To promote the sport of snowmobiling; to co-operate with Ontario law enforcement agencies; and to maintain a good public image of the sport of snowmobiling.*

The UCSR has a small office which is in Carleton Place and responds to administrative issues and fieldwork inquiries from the snowmobile clubs in Eastern Ontario.

The UCSR and clubs are run by dedicated snowmobile volunteers. Volunteers range from 8 to 80! Volunteers lead and organize all the local efforts to establish trails with landowners, brush trails, maintain equipment, train volunteers, and manage local budgets. During winter operations, grooming is conducted by both volunteer and paid grooming operators.

The UCSR is governed by a Board of Directors composed of President, 1st Vice President - Grooming, 2nd Vice President – Trails, Secretary, Treasurer and 16 Board Members (represented normally by the Presidents of the clubs). The Executive Committee of the UCSR is comprised of five members including: President, 1st Vice President - Grooming, 2nd Vice President – Trails, Secretary, Treasurer.

The UCSR President is also the District Governor and sits on the OFSC Board as a member. The UCSR has several committees including trails, grooming and finance. Membership of these committees are comprised of members from the clubs. The UCSR also has volunteers appointed to lead district wide initiatives including VIA (volunteers-in-action), Trail Patrol, and Driver Training. The District Manager is a non-voting member of the Board, Executive Committee and Committees.

Purpose. The purpose of this report is to highlight the district's and clubs' achievements, activities and financials while thanking volunteers, landowners, sponsors and award winners. This report will also serve as an official historical record.

Messages from the Executive Committee

President/Governor's Message

As I complete my term as Governor/President it is satisfying to look back at the progress the District has made this year. I would like to thank the District Staff and the Board of Directors for their support and hard work.

This past season saw the clubs, along with the District and the OFSC, seize an opportunity to purchase a new Prinoth Husky which was over and above our planned fleet renewal program. The purchase allowed us to move an existing groomer into the Elizabethtown Snowmobile Club to significantly improve our grooming capacity in that sector.

For our volunteers, 2022-2023 saw the presentation of our inaugural presentation of the Trail Blazer Long Service Awards. The program was designed go recognize those volunteers with 25 years continuous service at the Club/District/Provincial level. In total we presented over 100 distinctive blue jackets to our volunteers. That represents over 2500 years of volunteering to organized snowmobiling. On behalf of all snowmobilers, we extend our sincerest thanks for all your hard work and dedication.

From an operations perspective, the 2022-2023 season presented many challenges as Mother Nature threw us several curve balls. It started a year ago when the derecho hit our area and caused sever tree damage. It was a herculean effort on the part of volunteers to clear the hundreds of trees from the trails. If that was not enough, we had two ice storms that caused extensive damage to the trail network and taxed the capacity and capabilities of our volunteers to the limit. While we were able to clear most of the damage there a few spots that we unable to open. And finally, the February 2023 meltdown caused a 10-day suspension of operations which interrupted, which was shaping up to be, a great season.

And finally, I would like to say Thank You to the +2100 landowners who graciously allow us access to their properties for our trail network. Without their generosity our sport would not exist. That is why it is critically important hat every user of the trail network respect the rules of the road and stay on trail and ride safely.

- Peter Asquini, President/ Governor

District Grooming Coordinator Message (for 1st VP – Grooming)

This season was very challenging in terms of trail work and grooming given all the storms, downed trees and poor ice conditions. Regardless, groomer operators and mechanics were out in full force which allowed the district to achieve and surpass our grooming target this year. Many thanks to all the grooming coordinators, grooming operators and mechanics who worked tirelessly to keep our fleet of groomers operating throughout the season. The establishment of a BR180 as our spare was well received by those who were in need. The unit was in high demand and added over 250 hours of grooming that might have otherwise been lost. Many thanks to all the clubs who unanimously supported the purchase of and financial contribution to a Husky, which eventually went to Rideau Snowmobile Club – this is a great show of teamwork. We continue to work with OFSC to modernize our fleet to meet the high demand of our riders in eastern Ontario.

- Darin R. McRae, District Grooming Coordinator
For - Vacant, 1st VP – Grooming

2nd VP – Trail's Message

UCSR has nearly 3300 kms of snowmobile trails serving the over 13,000 riders in eastern Ontario. With the tornado like winds of May 2022 and the many trail destroying events through the season it was a testament to the determination of our clubs' volunteers. These trails are only made possible by volunteers, clubs, landowners, and those who buy permits. I am consistently amazed how all those groups work together to connect trails to each other's clubs. Our Clubs and their volunteers are centre to our collective success in building and maintaining this amazing trail network. Volunteers cannot be thanked enough for the smooth running of all aspects of our trails. From every rider, your time and dedication are instrumental to the success of our trails. Thanks again for everyone's efforts in making this year one to remember.

- Ian Edwards, 2nd VP - Trails

Secretary's Message

We sell over 12,000 permits in UCSR which means there are at least 12,000 riders using the trail network but sadly there are only approximately 1000 volunteers that form the 16 clubs. Hopefully more volunteers will step-up for critical positions in the near future – the success of the club based system is at stake. The 16 clubs of the UCSR do amazing work all around including the dreaded 'paperwork' but one critical area for improvement is corporate reporting. Each club has a slightly different operating environment given their trail size, geographics, and landowners but what is for sure that more volunteers would make the required work lighter. Thank-you to our great volunteers for keeping the clubs organized and running.

- Julie-Ann Bedard, Secretary

Treasurer's Message

Many thanks to the over 12,800 Full Season, Classic and Multi-Day permit buyers that bought an Ontario Trail Permit and choose an UCSR club as your club. Funding of organized snowmobiling in Ontario is based on a user-pay system with the District and Clubs receiving a portion of available funding based on kms of trail, grooming hours and a small budget for administration and programs.

The funding from permit revenue was $1.3M (up nearly $232K over last year). Fundraising revenue, mainly from the District lottery, continues to be popular and brought in an additional $117K (up $4k from last year). Marketing revenue has increased due to increasing the map size which has allowed more sponsors. Clubs have been very successful securing grants. Trail and grooming expenses have increased with increased allowances, more trail projects, increased preventative groomer maintenance, and a few major groomer repairs. With the continued challenge of enlisting and engaging volunteers, clubs and the district will continue to see increased costs to replace this volunteer effort. For the year ending 31 March 2023 the district generated a small surplus of $37K which will be moved into the trails, grooming and bridge funds for clubs use next year.

An important highlight from this past season, the clubs and the District partnered with the OFSC to purchase a 2021 Prinoth Husky which was over and above OFSC's planned fleet renewal program. The District contributed $50K from the district groomer fund and a further $47K from previous year's surplus and the clubs each contributed $2700 for a total of $43K with the gaining club contributing an additional $10K. All together, the clubs and District contributed $150K which was matched by OFSC for $100K to purchase this groomer. This is an excellent example of the clubs and the district working together with the OFSC to replace old equipment and increase grooming capacity.

We continue to investigate ways to reduce costs and be more efficient to maximize the limited funding available.

- Arianne Bown, Treasurer

District Manager's Message

I am continually inspired by our district and club executives/boards, volunteers and groomer operators who have risen to the challenges of this past winter. They have demonstrated a steadfast dedication to the sport and to the clubs and communities we serve in Eastern Ontario. The story of our collective success was seen in the delivery of 3345 kms of OFSC Prescribed Trails with over 7878 hours of grooming – all accomplished by volunteers representing less then 8% of our permit base. Many clubs continue to face major problems with volunteer membership and if not dealt with effectively, this core problem will eventually lead to dissolution of clubs. The next big step was for us to take a hard look at what we do and how we do it with a focus on our traditional activities of trail work and grooming. We need to focus on the volunteer and the landowner! We must ask ourselves how we can better serve a wider audience of snowmobile enthusiasts. We need to connect people with nature, who can benefit from spending time outdoors and be inspired to become a lifelong lover of snowmobiling. Again, many thanks to the clubs, volunteers and landowners who make it all happen.

- Darin R. M^{c}Rae, District Manager

UCSR Executive, Board of Directors, and Staff 2022-2023

UCSR Executive Committee

Peter Asquini | President / Governor
Riverside Snowmobile Club

Vacant | 1st VP – Grooming
TBD

Ian Edwards | 2nd VP – Trails
Beautiful Eastern Association of Snowmobile Trails (BEAST)

Julie-Ann Bedard | Secretary
Beautiful Eastern Association of Snowmobile Trails (BEAST)

Arianne Bown | Treasurer
Kemptville Snowmobile Klub

UCSR Board of Directors

Darin Williamson | Director
President, Athens & District Snowmobile Club

Ian Edwards | Director
President, Beautiful Eastern Association of Snowmobile Trails (BEAST)

Tim Krause | Director
President, Carleton Regional Snowmobile Club

Chuck Boyer | Director
President, Eastern Ontario Snowmobile Club

Ray Avery | Director
President, Elizabethtown Snowmobile Club

Jack Theoret |Director
President, Glengarry Snowmobile Club

Bernie Davy | Director
President, Grenville Snowmobile Club

Carol Lavigne| Director
Representative, Kemptville Snowmobile Klub

Sarah Craig | Director
Representative, Lennox & Addington Ridge Runners

Andrew Byvelds |Director
President, Nation Valley Snowmobile Association

Grant Smith | Director
President, Osgoode Carleton Snowmobile Trail Club

Allan Kinch | Director
President, Rideau Ridge Riders Snowmobile Club

Wayne Avery | Director
President, Rideau Snowmobile Club

Les Johnston | Director
President, Riverside Snowmobile Club

Gregg Villeneuve | Director
President / Secretary Seaway Valley Snowmobile Association

Steve Burgess | Director
President, West Carleton Snowmobile Trails Assoc.

District Staff

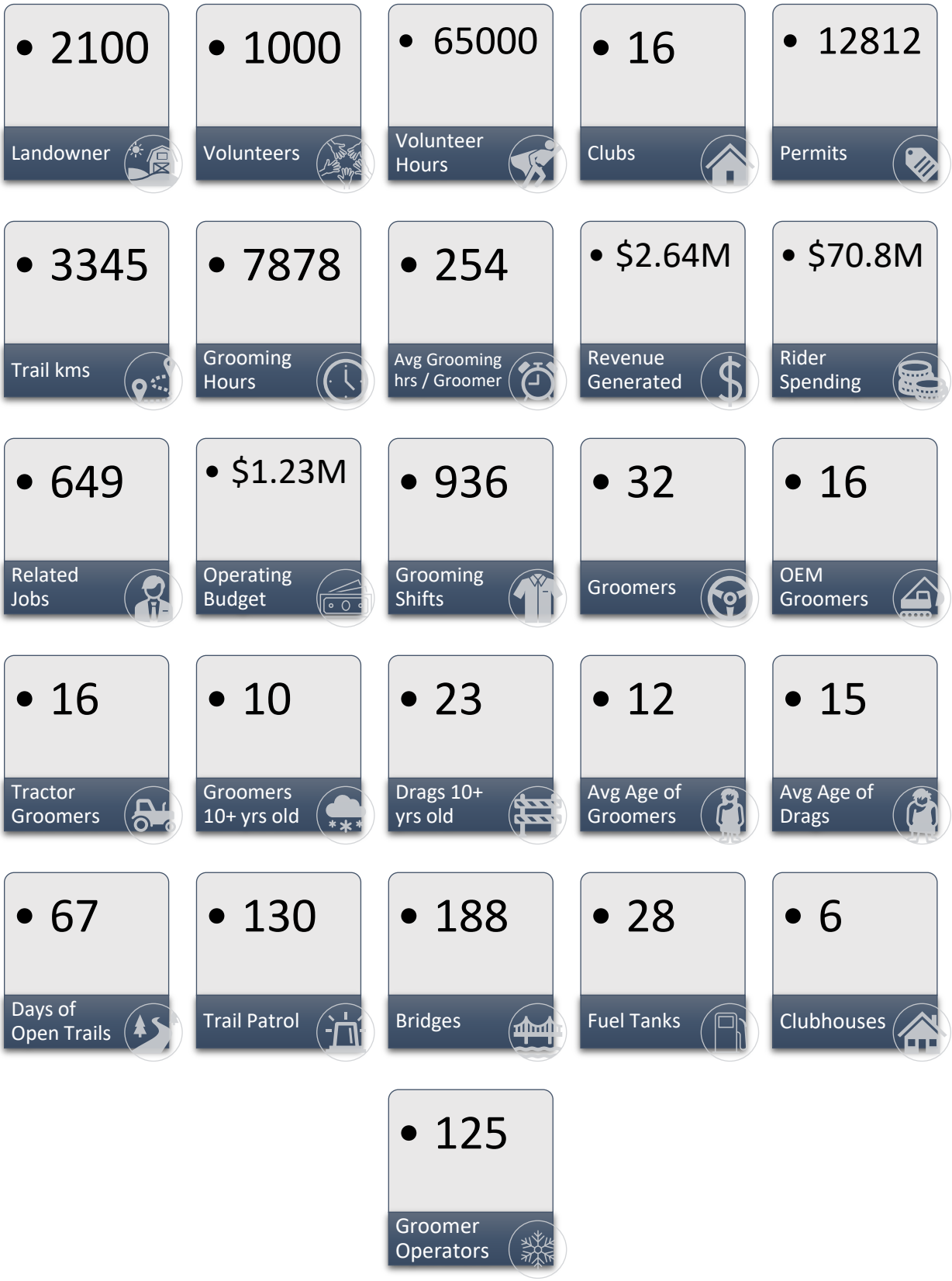
Darin R. McRae | District Manager
Winston Goodman | Bookkeeper

Clubs

The UCSR is comprised of 16 OFSC snowmobile clubs:

Club	Logo	Area
Athens & District Snowmobile Club		Athens, Lansdowne
Beautiful Eastern Association of Snowmobile Trails (BEAST)		Carleton Place, Clayton, Franktown, White Lake, Lanark, Almonte, Stittsville, Smiths Falls, Munster, Ashton, and Richmond.
Carleton Regional Snowmobile Club		Eastern part of the Ottawa Capital Region
Eastern Ontario Snowmobile Club		Casselman, Embrun, Limoges, Bourget, Rockland, Hawkesbury, and St. Isidore
Elizabethtown Snowmobile Club		Brockville
Glengarry Snowmobile Club		Alexandria, Apple Hill, Vankleek Hill, Williamstown
Grenville Snowmobile Club		Prescott, Maynard, North Augusta, Spencerville
Kemptville Snowmobile Klub		Kemptville, Spencerville, Burritt's Rapids, Merrickville, Easton's Corners
Lennox & Addington Ridge Runners		Kingston, Napanee, Newburgh, Tichborne, Sydenham, Harrowsmith, Yarker, Bath
Nation Valley Snowmobile Association		Finch, Chesterville, Winchester, South Mountain, Moorewood
Osgoode Carleton Snowmobile Trail Club		Osgoode, Metcalfe, Russell, Vernon
Rideau Ridge Riders Snowmobile Club		Smiths Falls, Portland, Newboro, Westport, Elgin, Seeleys Bay, Rideau Ferry
Rideau Snowmobile Club		Smiths Falls, North Gower, Richmond, Kemptville, Burritts Rapids
Riverside Snowmobile Club		Johnstown, Iroquois Morrisburg, Ingleside, Cornwall
Seaway Valley Snowmobile Association		Cornwall to Casselman. Crysler, Berwick, Finch, Avonmore, Moose Creek, Gravel Hill, Monkland, Maxville, Apple Hill, Bonville, St. Andrews W, and Martintown
West Carleton Snowmobile Trails Assoc.		Arnprior, Fitzroy Harbour, Constance Bay, Kinburn, Dunrobin, Panknham, Carp, Kanata, Blakeney, Almonte

2022-2023 By the Numbers



OFSC and UCSR Award Winners 2021-2022

1. UCSR Family of the Year: The Bothwell family, RRRSC
2. UCSR Safety Ambassador: Dave Tubbe, CRSC
3. UCSR Volunteer of the Year: Allan Kinch, RRRSC
4. UCSR Outstanding Promotion: UCSR & SCSR for Ottawa Valley River Loop
5. UCSR Club of the Year: ADSC

Municipal, Conservation Provincial, Federal and Community Partners

It is important to us at the UCSR to work together with our municipal, provincial, federal and community partners to best serve our clubs, volunteers, and riders. We are grateful to work with you.

Municipal Partners

- City of Ottawa
- City of Prescott
- County of Frontenac
- County of Lanark
- County of Lennox & Addington
- The Nation Municipality
- Town of Carleton Place
- Town of Greater Napanee
- Town of Prescott
- Town of Smiths Falls
- Township of Athens
- Township of Augusta
- Township of Beckwith
- Township of Champlain
- Township of Front of Leeds and Lansdowne
- Township of Loyalist
- Township of Montague
- Township of North Dundas
- Township of North Glengarry
- Township of North Stormont
- Township of Leeds and Lansdowne
- Township of Rideau Lakes
- Township of South Dundas
- Township of South Frontenac
- Township of Stone Mills
- United Counties of Leeds and Grenville
- United Counties of Prescott Russell
- United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry

Provincial Partners

- Cataraqui Regional Conservation Authority
-
- Ministry of Energy & Infrastructure
- Ministry of Natural Resources
- Ministry of Transportation
- Ontario Infrastructure and Lands Corporation
- Ontario Power Generation
- Parks of The St Lawrence
- South Nation Conservation Authority
- Voyageur Provincial Park
- Ontario Parks

Federal Partners

- Canadian National Railway Company
- National Capital Commission
- Parks Canada
- VIA Rail Canada

Community Partners

- Algonquin Properties
- Agrodrain Systems Ltd
- Brigil Construction
- Capello Investments Ltd
- Cardel Homes
- Claridge Homes
- Cumberland Township Agricultural Society
- Emerald Links Golf Course
- Ernestown Windpark Inc.
- Greely Sand and Gravel
- Highway 7 Convenience
- Thomas Cavanagh Construction Ltd
- Lafarge Canada
- Lombardy Golf Course
- Mattamy Homes
- Minto Homes
- My Self Storage
- Newcastle Developments Inc
- Pomerleau Sand & Gravel
- Pyper Sand and Gravel
- R.W. Tomlinson Ltd
- Richcraft Homes
- Rideau Carleton Raceway
- Smiths Falls Golf Club
- Smiths Falls Civitan Club
- Twin Elm Rugby Park
- Unicorn Properties
- University of Guelph

Farmers

It is important to us at UCSR to highlight and extend a BIG thank-you to all the farms and farmers that support our network. We are truly grateful for your support and allowing OFSC trails on your land.

- A&L Desnoyers Farms.
- Allensite Farms
- Berton Farms
- Bourgon & Frères Farms
- Bossell Farms
- Box Arrow Farms
- Brugline Farms
- Brugman Farms
- Burnbrae Farms
- Cedar Hill Farms
- Chicken Little Farms
- Clay All Over Farms
- Colview Farms
- Cornerview Farms
- Critesdale Farms
- Deliduc Farms
- Donevelyn Farms
- F & H Haerle Farms
- Ficko Farms
- G.C. Myers Farms
- Glendalk Farms
- JockBrae Farms
- Johmar Farms
- Laplante Farms
- Livingston Farms
- Lynch Farms
- Honey Due Farms
- Howesburn Farms
- Mainville & Fils Farms.
- Maple Hill Farms
- Marlboro Farms
- Mythen Dake Farms
- Ninth Farm Corporation
- Pillar Farm
- Quintan Farms
- Racine Farms
- Sachsen Farm
- Sandy Lane Farms
- Schouten Corner View Farm
- Standelman Farms
- Third High Farms
- Tico Farms
- Vandenbosch Farms
- Velthuis Farms
- Wanna Make It Farms

Sponsors

“Support those who support us” is the motto we often use when promoting our sponsors. The following businesses and organizations directly support the development, printing and distribution of our District Trail Guide. They also support our district fundraising efforts to ensure the district can undertake other endeavours or projects not covered by permit dollars. Many thanks to:

- Allan Johnston Repair & Sales
- Antrim Truck Stop
- Barley Moe - Almonte
- Black's Corners Motorsports
- BMR Signs
- Carleton Place Marine
- Cartronics Powersports
- Comfort Inn - Carleton Place
- Cornwall Township Lion's Club
- Crossings Road and Trail
- Days Inn - Renfrew
- Dillabough Sales & Service Ltd
- DM Boat Sales
- DockMaster
- Drummond's Gas
- Eastern Canada Industrial Werks (Pisten Bully)
- Emard Bros Lumber
- Flegg Equipment Ltd.
- Georges Bar and Grill
- Hammond Golf & Country Club
- Hammond Hill
- Herbs Travel Plaza
- Irwin Supply Ltd.
- Jim's Performance Ltd
- Knapps Yamaha Sales & Service
- Loiselle Sports Inc.
- Marlborough Pub and Eatery
- Motor Sports World
- Murray Motor Sports
- MTN Snow Equipment Inc.
- Ontario East Powersports
- Peak Velocity
- Perth Power Sports
- Place 19-67 Restaurant and Hotel / Le Chardo
- Quintan Products Inc
- Redneck Bistro
- Rockland Marine & Equipment
- Shane Signs
- Smiths Falls Ford
- St Pierre Fuels Inc
- Stormont Country Trailers
- Sure Stay by Best Western - Kemptville
- The McIntosh Country Inn & Conference Centre
- The Shop Industrial
- Tom Irwin Adventure Tours
- Urban Sport
- Ward's Marine
- White Lake General Store
- Whiterock Hotel
- Wild Wings - Smiths Falls

Landowners

As each snowmobile season ends and our experiences become memories, it is time for us to remember the landowners who generously helped to make these experiences possible. Taking in the beauty of any trail on a crisp winter day would be enough to make any snowmobiler's week, but the added experience of a season on private trails make that experience that much more special.

Remember that access to private land is a privilege provided to us through the generosity of the landowner. 80% of OFSC Prescribed Trails are private property. There are 2100 private and public landowners within the UCSR that allow nearly 3345 kms of OFSC trails each winter. Without you we would not have organized snowmobiling like we do today.

The following article appeared in Snowmobile Magazine and says it all. It has been edited for length.

Thanks to Landowners By John Pruzak

They are the totally forgotten saviors of our sport, generous folks who may or may not understand snowmobiling, but people who care enough about others and their hobbies to allow our sport to exist. I'm talking about private landowners - nameless, faceless people to most of us, owners of farms and homes, estates and businesses whose property many of us cross every time we go out snowmobiling. There are likely hundreds of people who signed [agreements] to allow access to their land so you and your friends can snowmobile on a given day.

Why do they do it? It's not for the money. The landowners also don't do it for the notoriety. Do you know who lives in the yellow house with the white picket fence who you go … by at [50 Km/hr]. Of course not. You're only on that person's land for 10 seconds, then you're on to somebody else's property. And then somebody else's. And that's part of the challenge that our sport faces. The common snowmobiler doesn't know any of these people, and some snowmobilers don't even respect these people. [BUT,] the vast majority of snowmobilers have common sense and respect other people's property.

So on behalf of all snowmobilers, I would like to give a very heartfelt "Thank You!" to the landowners. And I ask you to extend a "Thank You" yourself, by following the rules, respecting their property rights and doing
the right thing this winter. Our sport depends upon it.

Reference: Snowmobile Magazine, Winter 2001

UCSR Clubhouses

Six clubs operate clubhouses in the UCSR. Many thanks to their support in terms of on-trail food, parking, shelter, and hosting events. Stop in and visit a clubhouse on your next trip.

Highlights of 2022-2023

Landowners

"The OFSC" is comprised of 182 community snowmobile clubs who collectively provide 30,000 kilometres of "OFSC Prescribed Snowmobile Trails". These member clubs are only able to deliver trails because of the hard work and dedicated efforts of their volunteers and the cooperation and generosity of local landowners who grant permission for organized trails on their property. Without landowners, none of us would have OFSC snowmobile trails to enjoy. Many thanks to the over 2100 landowners in the UCSR!

Volunteers

National Volunteer Week was 16-22 April 2023 which provided an excellent opportunity to celebrate all the snowmobile enthusiasts who carry on the volunteering tradition and weave together our 30,000 km trail system. Let's celebrate our individual and collective actions in creating a strong, interconnected and vibrant snowmobile community! Many thanks for everyone for sharing your time, talent and energy to support one another.

OFSC Groomer Fleet Plan 2023

As part of the OFSC's 2023 Provincial Groomer Fleet Program, the UCSR received two new and two cascaded groomers. BEAST received a new 2022 Prinoth Husky groomer with a new 2022 Mogul Master drag and their BR180 was shifted to be the district spare. EOSC received a cascaded 2004 Case Puma with their old Massey Ferguson being used as a parts machine. KSK received a JD6420 Gilbert unit to replace their old Massey Ferguson. LARR received a 2018 Trooper which replaced their 1996 BR110. WCSTA received the 2021 New Holland tractor with SUR TRAC drag and this allowed WCSTA's Piston Bully to be transferred to RRRSC. RRRSC's older JD tractor was surplused to be put up for sale.

In addition to the 2023 Fleet Program, UCSR partnered with the OFSC to share the cost of a 2022 Prinoth Husky demo unit which eventually went to RSC. Their TS110 was moved to another district and ESC took possession of their BR180.

-BEAST

-EOSC

-KSK

-LARR

-WCSTA

-RSC

Trans Canada Trail Grants

BEAST, L&ARR and RRRSC all received 'trail care' grants from the Trans Canada Trails (TCT) organization for $1000 each. L&ARR and RRRSC used their grant on the Cataraqui Trail which carries the Top E. BEAST used their grant to buy a pole saw to help with future brushing of the Ottawa Carleton Trailway. This trail carries the OFSC BEAST 200 trail. Many thanks to the TCT, City of Ottawa and Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority (CRCA) for your support for these projects.

Royal Distributing Grant

For 31 years since Royal was established in 1990, we have been playing our part in sustaining snowmobiling in Ontario. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all the volunteers and landowners who make it possible to ride. Your dedication and efforts are the reason why sledding is the beloved sport it is today. Thank you! We're sending donations to the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs -OFSC to ensure that we have some awesome trails to ride on this winter! UCSR received a cheque for $500.

Regional Tourism Grant

KSK successfully secured a Regional Tourism Organization (RTO9) grant for $90,000 allowing the club to purchase a bush hog and packing bar to enhance the trails and allow them to move forward with a storage shed project to store signs, pickets, and extra equipment.

BRP SnowPass Grants

A big thanks to BRP and their SnowPass program. Funds were made available for national, provincial, and local organizations throughout North America. Eligible projects could include making snowmobiling more accessible, helping clubs reinvent themselves, trail development or safety Initiatives. Ski-Doo matched with a grant of up to $5,000 USD to fund a variety of projects. The following clubs received grants:

- ESC received $5,000 which was matched with other club fundraising dollars to buy and upgrade two warm-up shacks.
- Riverside SC received $5,000 which was matched with permit dollars and used to fund a number of mechanical trail brushing projects due to the three major storms that impacted the area. The club tackled 10 site projects due to rough trail, ruts, rocks, and poor drainage s to repair and improve the trail base for early open trails with marginal snow.

Rails and Trails Loop

In partnership with OFSC District 6 and under the leadership of Lanark County Tourism Association (LCTA), the District added a new loop called the Rails and Trails Ontario East Loop. Without LCTA's leadership and funding, District 6's support, and the commitment from the various D1 and D6 clubs, it would not have happened! Covering 267 kilometres, with the bulk of the loop contained in Lanark County, this snowmobile tour has the potential to draw more snowmobilers to the region to explore the Ottawa Valley Recreation Trail (OVRT) and other trails that take riders through the region.

Check out this great YouTube video LCTA made on the loop: [Success Story - Lanark County Tourism Association - YouTube]

The Distances

Smiths Falls to Carleton Place: **26 kms**
Carleton Place to Almonte: **11 kms**
Almonte to Pakenham: **14 kms**
Packenham to Arnprior: **14 kms**
Arnprior to Renfrew: **28 kms**
Renfrew to Calabogie: **24 kms**
Calabogie to Snow Road SC Clubhouse: **47 kms**
Snow Road to Sharbot Lake: **30 kms**
Sharbot Lake to Perth: **39 kms**
Perth to Smiths Falls: **34 kms**

TOTAL: 267 kms

UCSR District Ride and Townhall

The District ride was hosted by Riverside SC in Morrisburg on 8 February 2023. 28 riders from across the District braved the warm temperatures including a few special guests: Dave Baker (OFATV President), Murray Baker (OFSC President), Peter Asquini (OFSC Governor/UCSR President) and Ryan Eickmeier (OFSC CEO). The ride covered about 150 kms of both Riverside SC and Nation Valley SA trails. Many thanks to Peter Asquini (UCSR President) and Andrew Byvelds (NVSA President) for leading the two groups and getting us to lunch and back.

After the ride, we hosted nearly 60 people for the OFSC/UCSR Town hall where Ryan and Murray provided updates on the OFSC Strategic Plan and took questions. The OFSC's #makeitsnow Town Hall Tour provided an opportunity for Ryan and members of the OFSC Executive to visit Clubs and Districts, speak with volunteers, check out infrastructure projects, review grooming equipment, visit clubhouses, and chat with riders. These conversations were critical to help determine how we can best support their efforts moving forward to deliver world class snowmobile trails in Year 2 of our new Strategic Plan.

Many thanks for The Macintosh Inn for such a great venue and meal.

District Sign / Map Board Update

Over this past season, the District and Clubs updated over 140 District sign / map boards. This included the District providing each board with a new map and the clubs updating the city sign boards and ensuing each board had arrows and distances to services and towns. These boards are provided to ease tourism riding and support safety on the trail.

International Snowmobile Safety Week

International Snowmobile Safety week was 14-22 January 2023. For safety week, we remined snowmobilers to only ride Available or Limited Availability OFSC trails and avoid riding Unavailable trails at any time during the winter. We encouraged all riders to always stay on the trail. OFSC Prescribed Snowmobile Trails are planned, prepared and maintained for the use of responsible recreational snowmobilers who display valid Ontario Snowmobile Trail Permits on their sleds. These snowmobile corridors are the smart choice for safety's sake, and to avoid trespassing on private property or compromising the safety of landowners or their property. Lastly, we encouraged snowmobilers entering Available OFSC trails to always ride responsibly, with caution, care & control. OFSC trail riding, like many other outdoor activities, has inherent risks that may occur in an unpredictable and uncontrollable natural environment, often far from home. So, snowmobilers must take personal responsibility for their own safety by making prudent choices, practicing safe riding behaviours, and always being prepared for the unexpected.

> *"Safety is a shared responsibility, a reminder that we send to all snowmobilers every January," said Ryan Eickmeier, OFSC CEO. "Safety week is an early season focal point to refresh ourselves on key safe riding principles to ensure everyone enjoys OFSC trails this winter."*

SAFE RIDERS!
You Make Snowmobiling Safe

Trade Shows

The UCSR participated in three major trade shows this past year.

-Kemptville

The first event was the 2022 International Plowing Match in Kemptville, ON. from 20 to 24 Sept 2022. The intent was to promote snowmobiling, talk to landowners and snowmobilers. Many of our generous landowners were exhibitors at the IPM. Many thanks to volunteers from ADSC, BEAST, CRSC, ESC, KSK, RSC, Riverside SC, and WCSTA for manning the booth.

-Toronto

It was great to be back to the Toronto International Snowmobile ATV and Powersports Show which ran 20 to 23 October 2022. The show had been cancelled for the past two years. The show has been running for over 30 years is one of largest shows of its kind in North America. The show is sponsored by OSM, Canada's leading snowmobile magazine and offers Snowmobile and ATV Manufacture Corporate displays, Snowmobiles and ATV's onsite, Snowmobile and ATV Parts, Clothing and Accessories, Trailers, Custom Snowmobile & ATV displays, Tourism Destinations, Vintage Snowmobile and ATV displays. The event provided a great opportunity reach out to riders from all over Ontario. We gave away a bunch of maps and sold a bunch of lottery tickets. Many thanks to volunteers from BEAST, CRSC, and ESC for manning the booth.

-Peterborough

The final show that UCSR attended was Sledarama on Sunday, 20 Nov 2022 in Peterborough, ON. We talked to lots of riders about snowmobiling in Eastern Ontario and gave away lots of maps! Many thanks to Ed, from BEAST, for helping out!

CCSO Support

What? A groomer downtown Ottawa on Sparks St in October!? Many thanks to Rideau Snowmobile Club for lending out their new Husky to support the Canadian Council of Snowmobile Organization. Canadian Council of Snowmobile Organizations (CCSO) were meeting with politicians to secure more money for organized snowmobiling. With a $9.3 Billion Dollar economic impact across Canada and supporting over 41,000 jobs, snowmobiling is absolutely critical not just for tourism but for our mental health of getting outdoors and enjoying the beautiful Canadian winters.

2022 UCSR Raffle

The Lucky Winner is Ms. Julie Licandro of Greely, ON. She purchased her ticket from the Eastern Ontario Snowmobile Club (EOSC) and was excited to find out that he was that lucky winner. The winning ticket was 004317. The Snowmobile and Trailer Raffle is an annual event where two demo snowmobiles and a trailer are raffled off to support the district's and clubs' safety and education programs. The Winning Package is worth $36,997. The sixteen participating snowmobile clubs from UCSR and 2 clubs from Snow Country (D6) shared the $40,000 plus profit that will be put to use in UCSR's safety and education programs, thus providing a better and safer product for snowmobilers in communities all over Eastern Ontario. The UCSR Board of Directors would like to thank all who purchased tickets, all volunteers who sold tickets along with BRP / Losielle Sports, Stormont Country Trailers, and Smiths Falls Ford for their support. Once again, congratulation to Julie!

Ford
SMITHS FALLS FORD
www.smithsfallsford.com
1-800-550-3305 or 613-283-8200
230 Lombard Street, Smiths Falls, Ontario
Mon-Fri: 8:30 am to 5 pm • Sat: 8:30 am to 4 pm • Sun: Closed
Just off the OFSC 'E' Trunk Trail in Smiths Falls

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Len Sabourin
3461 HIGHWAY 138 & 43
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3 LOCATIONS
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Land Use Permission Project

Over the past four years the District and clubs have undertook to collect and digitize all the land use permissions (LUPs) and contracts for the over 2100 landowners in the UCSR. These LUPs are the agreements between the club and the landowner that allows an OFSC Prescribed Trail to be on private or public property. At the same time, clubs updated the landowner database and developed a centralized holding location for the LUPs at the District office. The exercise also helped clubs keep on top of any landowner changes and to update older agreements to the more current LUP. Progress on this project continues. Overall, clubs have collected, updated, and digitalized over 1500 LUPs, contracts and verbal agreements. This is a huge success given the scope of work and geography.

Out of 158 interested operators, 124 operators completed all the requirements to be authorized to groom unsupervised in the 2022-2023 season.

Groomer Operator Training

The District has once again delivered an extensive groomer operator training program for 158 potential operators. The training was completed online, in-person classroom and in-person in-the-field. Training was conducted by self-study by operators, peers, club grooming coordinators, OEM trainers, and District grooming coordinator and staff. The objectives of the training were to meet annual operational requirements, health and safety refresher requirements, provide a refresher on OFSC and UCSR standard operating procedures (SOPs), discuss and develop best practices, organize operator networking across the district, complete required employment and training paperwork, and develop and implement common grooming processes and procedures.

District Volunteer Appreciation

The Volunteer Trailblazer Program was designed to recognize an exclusive group of snowmobile volunteers who have a long service dedication to the clubs/district in UCSR. Entry into this exclusive group required 25 or more years of continuous volunteering to your club/district. Each volunteer meeting the 25-year criteria received a blue spring/fall jacket with the TRAILBLAZER logo on the back, UCSR logo on the front, their club's name, and their first name. The district has taken on the commitment to acknowledge long service volunteers with a jacket where these long serving volunteers can show it off at their club and district events. Approximately 33 volunteers will be receiving their 2022-2023 coats this year.

District Trail Patrol

Overall, the Trail Patrol program had a great season!

The season started off with an online re-certification and training course on 30 December 2022 with 20 members participating. Four of those members were new club volunteers. Later in January, the District hosted two in-person training and recertification sessions. The first was hosted by LARR at their clubhouse where 25 attendees from four clubs. Five of the members were brand new volunteers. The second session was hosted by OCSTC for eight members from their club. In the end, the District has over 130 active TP volunteers with over 50 being either recertified or new this year.

The season continued with two great zoom info sessions with the OPP Sled, ATV, Vessel Enforcement (SAVE) team on 10 January 2023 and then the City of Ottawa Marine, Trails & Dive Unit (OPS MTU) on 11 January 2023. Both were well attended and as usual a very spirited conversation.

The season was busy even through the weather was not cooperating. We held a checkpoint day with the Ottawa Police Service MTU on 5 February 2023 which was very successful. Both the OPP and OPS were very active this year and they were a big help keeping the people on the trails, safe and compliant.

The District extends a huge thanks to all operators for their hard volunteer work as trail ambassadors for the spot.

District Bridge Inspection Training

RRRSC hosted this year's Bridge Inspection Competency Training. This training allows attendees to carry out simple visual inspections of OFSC bridges. Such competent persons, by virtue of their training, experience, knowledge and demonstrated ability, will then be capable of documenting as-built bridge information or doing bridge inspections in according with the inspection guidelines provided during the training. Many thanks to Tim Lee, CET, with Northern Mat & Bridge, for conducting the training again this year. The one-day course is a combination of in-class and field inspections. 20 members attend this session in Portland, ON. The training does make the member an engineer but covers MNR and MTO Snowmobile Bridge Guidelines, basic record keeping, identifying common defects on snowmobile bridges, and two field bridge inspections.

District Chainsaw Safety Training

This year the District organized three Chainsaw Safety Courses which were hosted across the district by GSA, EOSC, and Riverside SC. Many thanks to GSA and Riverside SC for providing the use of your clubhouses and to OASIS for a great facility. Thanks again to Marvin Keller, Professional Chainsaw Operator and Instructor for conducting the courses. A total of 65 volunteers were trained over the three sessions. The one-day in class course covers: chainsaw safety, chainsaw operations and hazards, maintenance of the chainsaw, dealing with problem trees, PPE requirements, and safe operations. No trees were harmed in the conduct of this training 😊.

Club Membership in OFSC

At the 2022 OFSC AGM in September, the following clubs celebrated significant membership milestones within the OFSC. [Note: Clubs may be older than the years below as they may have formed as a club and then later joined OFSC.]

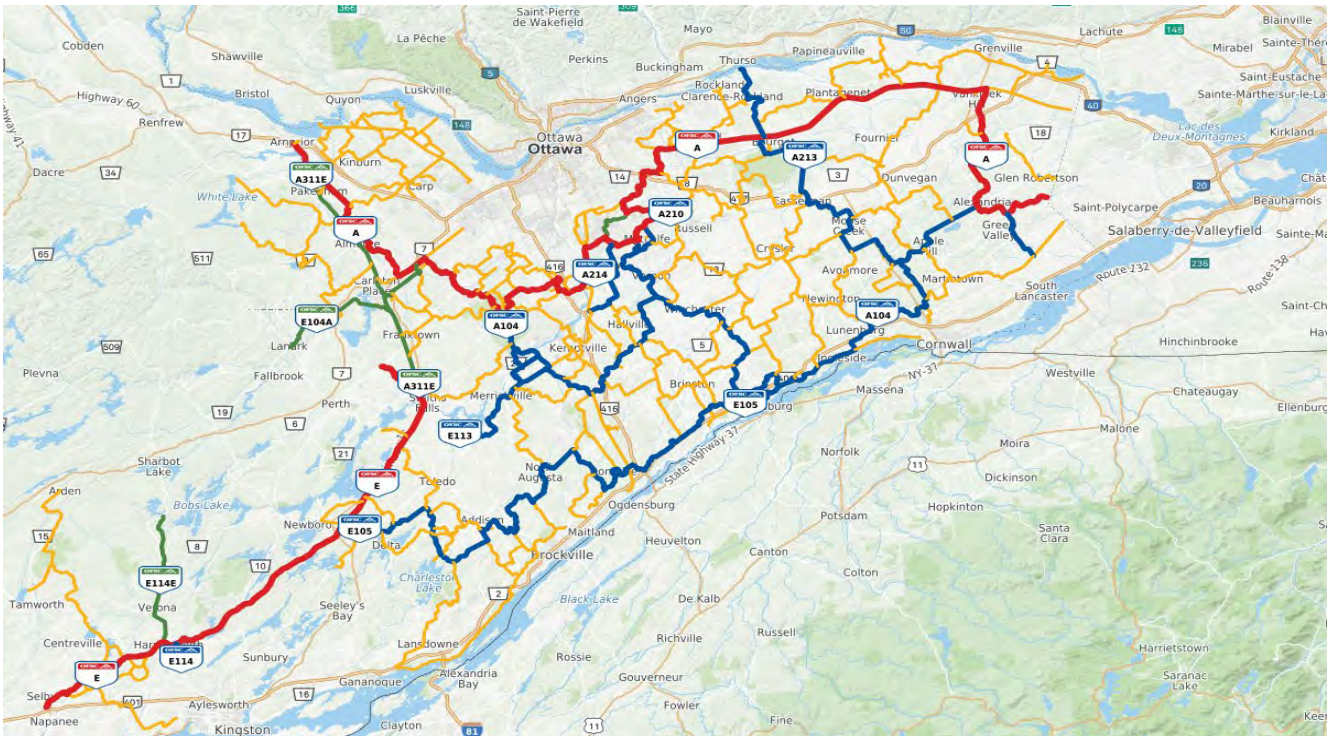
2020

The Trail Network

Ser	Club	Trails (kms)
1	ADSC	160
2	BEAST	348
3	CRSC	141
4	EOSC	393
5	ESC	124
6	GSC	161
7	GSA	110
8	KSK	230
9	LARR	244
10	NVSA	332
11	OCSTC	183
12	Riverside SC	163
13	RRRSC	124
14	RSC	149
15	SVSA	204
16	WCSTA	279
Spare	UCSR	0
	Total	3345

The UCSR consists of 16 clubs managing 3345 kms of trails. These trails are split into club, feeder, connector and top trails. Over 200 trail changes were actioned to update the trail network from last year. These trail changes do not normally make considerable changes to the kms of trails per club, but two noteworthy changes are the addition of 35 kms of trails along the St. Lawrence Parkway for ESC and the re-establishment of GSA trail 55 for 35 kms.

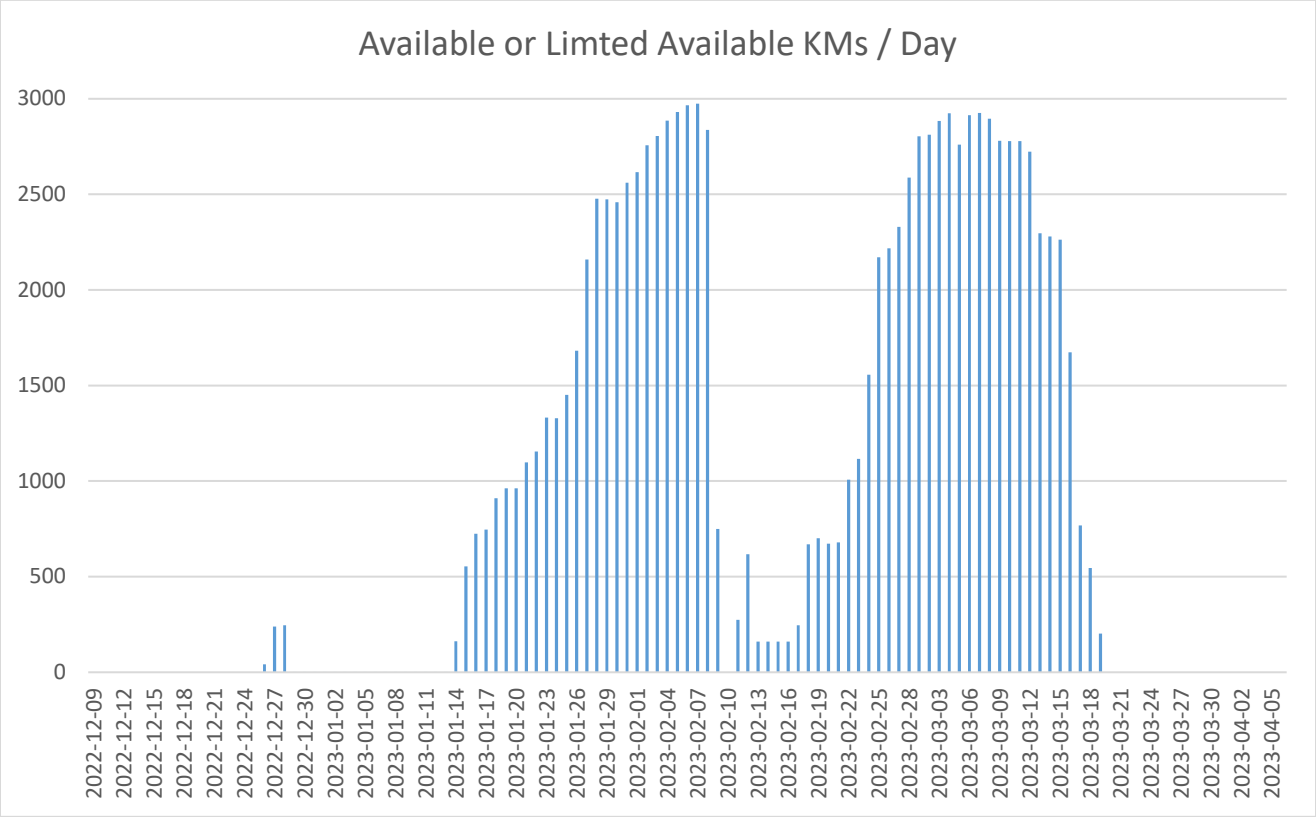
Trail Type	Colour	Kms
Club Trails		2150 kms
Feeder Trails		625 kms
Connector Trails		144 kms
Top Trails		426 kms
Total		3345 kms



Trail Status Through the Season

The network was first AVAILABLE on 26 December 2022 and was made NOT AVAILABLE for the end of the season on 19 March 2023. The network was AVAILABLE or LIMITED AVAILABLE for a total of 67 days throughout the 2022-2023 season. There was a promising start to the season in late December but then the weather was not cooperative pushing the 'second' season opening to 14 January 2023. In early February 2023, there was another weather event which shut down most of the network for nearly two weeks. In the end, we were able to have trails AVAILABLE or LIMITED AVAILABLE in the later part of March 2023. Of the 3345 kms of trails, clubs were able to open 2974 kms throughout the season. 371 kms of trails simply could not be opened due to water, ice and safety considerations. Overall, and given the weather situations, it was a good season.

The following chart shows the available or limited available Kms of trails by day over the 2022-2023 season for the whole district.



The Fleet

Groomers

Groomer Type	Model	Make(s)	Age	Number of Units
Tractor	Case	Maxum 135, Puma 140	2011-2018	4
	John Deere	6130, 6410, 6430	2004 – 2016	3
	Massey Ferguson	4370, 6270	2002-2003	2
	New Holland	TM125, TM130A, TS125, TS135A T6030, T6050, T6.175	2004 – 2021	7
OEM	Bombardier	BR180	2001 – 2004	4
	Pisten Bully	Trail Bully	2012 - 2021	5
	Prinoth	Husky	2010 - 2022	6
	Prinoth	Trooper	2018	1
			Total	32

Drags

Model	Make(s)	Age	Number of Units
Mogul Master	18-08, 18-09	1998 - 2022	11
AFMI		2004	1
MTN		2006 – 2020	7
Ebert		1998 – 2021	8
BG	Rosco	2005 - 2014	5
		Total	32

Grooming Data

Ser	Club	Trails (kms)	Grooming Hours	# of Groomers	# Kms / Groomer	Hours / Groomer	Hours / # Kms
1	ADSC	160	227	1	160	227	1.4
2	BEAST	348	850	3	116	283	2.4
3	CRSC	141	570	2	71	285	4.0
4	EOSC	393	1517	4	98	379	3.9
5	ESC	124	106	1	124	106	0.9
6	GSC	161	311	2	81	156	1.9
7	GSA	110	158	1	110	158	1.4
8	KSK	230	398	2	115	199	1.7
9	LARR	244	388	2	122	194	1.6
10	NVSA	332	890	3	111	297	2.7
11	OCSTC	183	486	2	92	243	2.7
12	Riverside SC	163	337	2	82	169	2.1
13	RRRSC	124	265	1	124	265	2.1
14	RSC	149	287	1	149	287	1.9
15	SVSA	204	456	2	102	228	2.2
16	WCSTA	278	622	2	139	311	2.2
Spare	UCSR	0	11	1	0	11	0.0
Total		3345	7879	32			
Average					112	237	2.2

Permits

Ontario law requires a snowmobile entering an OFSC Prescribed Snowmobile Trail for recreational riding purposes to display a valid Ontario Snowmobile Trail Permit. Many thanks to the riders who selected an UCSR club as your club of choice. Permit revenue accounts for over 89% of UCSR and Club operating funding.

Ser	Club	Permits
1	ADSC	650
2	BEAST	1428
3	CRSC	583
4	EOSC	2490
5	ESC	132
6	GSC	611
7	GSA	310
8	KSK	760
9	LARR	960
10	NVSA	758
11	OCSTC	1043
12	Riverside SC	466
13	RRRSC	510
14	RSC	402
15	SVSA	548
16	WCSTA	1154
17	UCSR	7
	Total	12812

Club Fundraising Dollars

Clubs raise money over and above permit revenue to support trail, grooming, programs, admin, and other activities. Here is a summary of expenses occurred by clubs from fundraising dollars for FY 22-23 to support trail development, grooming operations, program and admin expenses.

Club	Trails	Grooming	Program	Admin	Total
Athens & District Snowmobile Club	$ 9,087	$ -	$ 34	$ 2,304	$ 11,425
Beautiful Eastern Association of Snowmobile Trails	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 63	$ 63
Carleton Regional Snowmobile Club	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Eastern Ontario Snowmobile Club	$ 5,691	$ -	$ 716	$ 1,315	$ 7,722
Elizabethtown Snowmobile Club	$ 7,808	$ -	$ 438	$ 211	$ 8,457
Glengarry Snowmobile Club	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Grenville Snowmobile Association	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 430	$ 430
Kemptville Snowmobile Klub	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 386	$ 386
Lennox & Addington Ridge Runners	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 717	$ 717
Nation Valley Snowmobile Association	$ 1,020	$ -	$ -	$ 114	$ 1,134
Osgoode Carleton Snowmobile Trail Club	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,634	$ 1,634
Rideau Ridge Riders Snowmobile Club	$ 1,210	x	$ 49	$ 180	$ 1,439
Rideau Snowmobile Club	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 415	$ 415
Riverside Snowmobile Club	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Seaway Valley Snowmobile Association	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
West Carleton Snowmobile Trails Association	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total	$ 24,816	$ -	$ 1,237	$ 7,769	$ 33,822

Financial Statements

Statement of Financial Position / Balance Sheet
31 March 2023 (Unaudited and subject to change)

	31 Mar 23		31 Mar 22
ASSETS			
Chequing/Savings	$ 624,510		$ 899,189
Accounts Receivable	$ 156,181		$ 4,198
Undeposited Funds	$ 4,983		$ 277
Total Current Assets	$ 785,673		$ 903,664
Fixed Assets			
1600 · Grooming Equipment	$ 400,524		$ 400,524
1605 · Accum. Amort.-Grooming Equip.	-$ 233,193		-$ 233,193
1610 · Furniture & Other Equipment	$ 208,034		$ 174,809
1615 · Accum. Amort.-Equipment	-$ 86,080		-$ 86,080
Total Fixed Assets	$ 289,285		$ 256,060
TOTAL ASSETS	**$ 1,074,958**		**$ 1,159,723**
LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	$ 108,897		$ 50,256
Credit Cards	$ 3,816		$ 4,758
Other Current Liabilities	$ 344,920		$ 416,425
Total Current Liabilities	$ 457,633	#	$ 471,439
Equity			
General Unrestricted Reserve	$ 133,397		$ 233,649
Opening Balance Equity	$ -		-$ 8,749
Restricted Reserve	$ 184,857		$ 202,127
Retained Earnings	$ 261,257		$ 214,011
Net Income	$ 37,815		$ 47,246
Total Equity	$ 617,325		$ 688,284
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	**$ 1,074,958**		**$ 1,159,723**

Statement of Operations
31 March 2023 (Unaudited and subject to change)

	Apr '22 - Mar 23	Apr '21 - Mar 22
Ordinary Income/Expense		
40 · Permit Revenue	$1,262,593	$1,030,044
41 · Fundraising Revenue	$117,055	$113,233
42 · Sponsorship Revenue	$0	-$0
43 · Marketing Revenue	$18,469	$10,913
44 · Interest/Investment Revenue	$3,430	$1,712
45 · Grant Revenue	$26,764	$11,340
48 · Gain on Sale of Assets	$161,752	$30,000
Total Income	$1,590,063	$1,197,241
Gross Profit	$1,590,063	$1,197,241
Expense		
Reconciliation Discrepancies	$0	-$138
51 · Fundraising Expense	$57,035	$88,867
52 · Marketing/Sponsorship Expense	$13,843	$11,365
53 · Trail Expenses	$318,784	$274,500
54 · Grooming Expense	$942,038	$586,175
55 · Program Expense	$9,328	$8,053
56 · Administration Expense	$212,378	$164,752
57 · Facilities Expense	$0	$825
58 · Extraordinary Expenses	$0	$899
66000 · Payroll Expenses	$0	$4,618
Total Expense	$1,553,405	$1,139,916
Net Ordinary Income	$36,658	$57,326
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
49 · Miscellaneous Revenue	$1,158	-$10,080
Total Other Income	$1,158	-$10,080
Net Other Income	$1,158	-$10,080
	$37,815	**$47,246**