

The Official Snowmobile Trail Report

From the desk of:

Kathy Mazzuchelli

Caribou Parks & Recreation Department

55 Bennett Dr.

Caribou, Me. 04736

207-493-4224

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Greetings from Aroostook County.....

There will be heavy traffic across the crown this weekend with the Moosestompers Festival the International Snowmobile Festival and the Andy Santerre ride, sledders are urged to use caution, ride right and reduce speed.

Sledders should also use caution as there are many reports of deer and moose on the trails so use caution especially when night riding.

ITS 81 Trail improvements both north and south with the cold weather and a bit of snow. Northern Penobscot County is in the game with great grooming efforts and good snow cover. May run into ice and even some water despite cold but nothing beyond that. Rockabema and Shin Pond have groomed and note that logging is still active at the north end of the Snowshoe Rd on ITS 81/85 section. Moving north you are good to Mars Hill. Coming north from there you will hit some skimpy cover in a few fields but north of Caswell the cover increases and the border is good all the way north. Remember to use the Number Nine Lake trail as the section of 81 from that intersection to Mars Hill is closed due to logging.

ITS 83 Clear sailing here with everyone out grooming this week. Much improved conditions in the southern most sections. Still watch for ice in some of the low lying areas as well as traffic, especially Saturday. You will run into a couple of small reroutes primarily from water problems so please watch for signage and follow it.

ITS 85 This corridor, the blood line to the western reaches of The Crown, is in good shape. Everyone was out this week and reports are that surfacing is good throughout. Still watch for active logging in a few places south of Ox Bow and north of Portage. Ox Bow has

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reopened Rt. 71A the loop off 85 between Ox Bow and Ashland. Watch for wildlife. Twin Lakes and Sly Brook both have all the connector trails open and groomed.

ITS 88 is back in good shape with the help of cold weather. A few ice spots on the western sections in lo lying areas but great riding.

ITS 90 has been rerouted back to the southern route between Rt. 105 and Portage. Thanks to Seven Islands for the great cooperation. Watch for signage. Beyond that the trail is groomed through to Ft. Fairfield where you will find some skimpy field cover in sections but still good riding. Also there is a new logging operation opening just west of 105.

ITS 92 groomed with great reports from riders. There has been a little loop trail opened from St. Francis to give some rider options. Remember that customs is open limited hours so check ahead before you venture out as there are no services for about 42 miles once you leave Allagash. 92B remains closed due to logging but 92A is open and groomed.

ITS 105 is in good shape from Van Buren to Squa Pan.....all groomers are up and running there. Some of the off trails will be a bit loggy so slowing down will help. Rt 94 off 105 is open and groomed as well as Rt. 89 which runs from 94 to Caribou and ITS 83. Pleasant Ridge Runners have their trails open including 100 which connects to Rt 89 as well as 81A between Limestone and Hamlin.

ITS 120 the five mile stretch between the Red River Camp road and Pushneer has been groomed. Remember there is logging around so use caution.

Active logging:

ITS 81 west of Mars Hill this section closed....see above.

Rt. 81A and Rt. 74 around Squa Pan

ITS 86 west of St. Croix Lake

ITS 85 north of Portage and south of Ox Bow

ITS 90 west of ITS 105

Rt 89 in Connor near Madawaska River

Social Events:

Fridays Stew Night at the Presque Isle Clubhouse, 5-7 p.m.

Saturdays

The Washburn Clubhouse is open for breakfast and lunch Sat and Sun.

Meduxneakeag Ramblers Clubhouse open for breakfast Sat. from 6-9 a.m.

Feb 5-7

International Snowmobile Festival Madawaska/Edmunston
(remember you need passport or cards)

Moosestompers Festival Houlton www.greaterhoulton.com

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Feb 6

Andy Santerre Ride Caribou www.amhc.com

Feb 13

Pie Auction 7 p.m. at Dean's in Portage

Vintage Snowmobile Racing at Spud Speedway in Caribou practice at 10/ Racing at 2

Feb 20

Chicken Stew, Ployes, etc at the Sportmens Inc Lodge 11 a.m. -4 p.m.
(ITS 83 and Rt. 161 intersection in Stockholm)

March 9

Hot Dog Roast sponsored by the Caribou Club at Axel Siding (intersection ITS 83 and Rt. 105 in Stockholm)

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