

**STATE OF ALASKA SNOWMOBILE TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL  
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 19-001**

A RESOLUTION OF THE SNOWTRAC ADVISORY COUNCIL SUPPORTING REVISING OF SNOWMOBILE AND OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES REGISTRATION FEES AND INCREASED AUTHORITY FOR DISPURSEMENT OF COLLECTED REGISTRATION FEES.

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WHEREAS, the Snowmobile Trails Advisory Council (SnowTRAC) was established under Title 41 through the offices of the Division Of Parks and Outdoor Recreation with the mission to fairly represent all Alaskans by advising DPOR on snowmobile issues including funding, safety, registration, education, access, trail grooming, marking, development and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the SnowTRAC program is one of the only revenue neutral, self-funded, user based, program in the State of Alaska with all funding being derived from the registration of snowmobiles and off-highway vehicles; and

WHEREAS, money collected from registrations fund safety programs, education, trail access/development, trail grooming and trail signage; and

WHEREAS, support of winter trails bring increased business to Alaska communities through increased recreational visitation; and

WHEREAS, the demand for funding snowmobile trail projects has far out-paced the available funds to SnowTRAC, forcing the Council to bypass many worthy programs that would benefit the user community and forcing us to under-fund grooming and signage

activities which increase safety on our trails; and

WHEREAS, AS 28.39.020 authorizes the Department of Administration/DMV to collect snowmobile and off highway vehicle registration fees; and

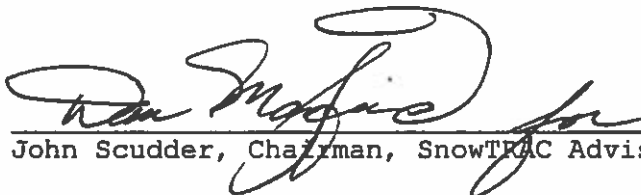
WHEREAS, DMV is only authorized to release a maximum of \$ 250,000 per year to fund the SnowTRAC mission under DPOR; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Snowmobile Trails Advisory Council (SnowTRAC) supports the modification of registration fees as proposed on the attached HB23 as proposed by Representative Neuman and requests that two modifications be made as follows:

DMV authorization to release funds to the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation for the specific purpose of funding snowmobile activities to include safety programs, education, trail access/development, trail grooming and trail signage; become codified so that such disbursement is automatic rather than requiring a line item in the Governor's or Legislative budget process to do so and the funding authorization for DMV to release funds be increased from \$ 250,000 to \$ 500,000 to meet public demand for the ever growing sport of trail riding and other valuable trail activities.

ADOPTED by the SNOWTRAC ADVISORY BOARD this 22nd day of February,  
2019.

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Scudder, Chairman, SnowTRAC Advisory Board

Passed unanimously

Sponsored By: Assemblymember Mayfield  
Adopted:

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 19-025**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING THE RESTORATION OF FUNDING TO THE STATE OF ALASKA SNOWMOBILE TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL (SNOWTRAC) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020 VIA THE SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET PROCESS OR OTHER LEGISLATIVE MEANS.

WHEREAS, in the fiscal year 2020 budget, the Governor declined to fund SNOWTRAC related programs for the state of Alaska, in the amount of \$250,000; and

WHEREAS, the snowmobile trails advisory council was established under Title 41 through the Alaska State Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (DPOR), with the mission to fairly represent all Alaskans by advising DPOR on snowmobile issues including funding, safety, registration, education, access, trail grooming, marking, development, and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, A.S. 28.39.020 authorizes the Alaska State Department of Administration, Division of Motor Vehicles to collect snowmobile and off-highway vehicle registration fees; and

WHEREAS, The SNOWTRAC Program is one of very few revenue neutral, self-funded, user based, programs in the state of Alaska with all funding being derived from the registration of snowmobiles and off-highway vehicles; and

WHEREAS, money collected from registrations fund safety programs, education, trail access and development, trail grooming, and trail signage; and

WHEREAS, support of winter trails bring increased commerce and provides jobs to Alaska communities through increased recreational visitation, providing revenue throughout the tough winter season; and

WHEREAS, a return on investment analysis done by earth economics, dated December 11, 2015, indicates that for every \$1 spent on public open space in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, there is a \$5.31 return on that investment. Not only is investment in open spaces a fiscally responsible decision, it is also necessary for the survival of ecosystems and all of the Alaska communities they support; and

WHEREAS, there are over 39,555 registered snowmobile users in the state of Alaska and that approximately 85 percent of those users either directly benefit from or have the potential to benefit from the funding and services provided by SNOWTRAC; and

WHEREAS, it would be a breach of trust for the state of Alaska to discontinue the SNOWTRAC program and use those funds for other purposes, when so many registered snowmobile users pay these fees with the reasonable expectation that those funds will be used to support trail projects; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Assembly hereby supports the restoration of funding to the state of Alaska snowmobile trails advisory council for fiscal year 2020 via the supplemental budget process or other legislative means and respectfully requests that the Governor and Legislature do likewise.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this \_\_ day of , 2019.

VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

(SEAL)



**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH**  
**ASSEMBLYMEMBER DAN MAYFIELD**  
**DISTRICT NO. 5**

350 E. Dahlia Avenue • Palmer, Alaska 99645-6488  
Phone (907) 861-8683 • Fax (907) 861-7845

February 21, 2019

The Honorable Governor Dunleavy  
Via email at [Michael.dunleavy@alaska.gov](mailto:Michael.dunleavy@alaska.gov)  
And hand delivery

Honorable Governor Dunleavy:

Through an interaction with the Department of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, I was surprised to hear that funding for snowmobile trail grooming, education, and safety projects was not included in your proposed budget. I am hoping that this was an unintended oversight on the part of your staff rather than an action taken with intent. It is extremely important that this program be restored for the benefit of all Alaskans.

Here is a little background. AS 28.39.020 authorized the Department of Administration/DMV to collect a snowmobile registration fee. The Statute does not state what the fees will go toward, however, since inception, the promise and understanding was that DMV would transfer all fees generated to the Department of Natural Resources/Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation. It was agreed that the Division would establish a State Snowmobile Advisory Board (SnowTRAC) and that the funds received from DMV would be spent on trail grooming, as well as snowmobile education and safety projects. SnowTRAC has been in existence since 1999. DNR has included a line item for this funding in their Capital Budget every year. Apparently, this line item was inadvertently or intentionally left out of your proposed budget. I am asking that both you and the Legislature work together to restore that funding.

It is extremely important to understand that the SnowTRAC program is the only user based, self-funded fee program in the State. It is a revenue neutral program that users asked for and fund out of their own registration dollars. We are not asking for a handout. The money funds trail care, safety and grooming activities that, in turn, bring increased business through recreational visitation to each of the communities throughout the State who have qualified for these funds. Failure to fund this program means the end of SnowTRAC, increased hazards on the trails, the failure of several non-profit organizations who work to support snowmobile activity and decreased business/revenue for communities up and down the trail system.

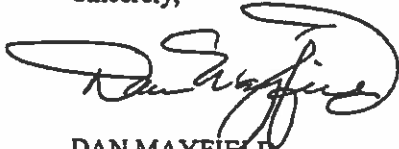
As Co-Chair of the State Snowmobile Advisory Board, as President of Big Lake Trails, Inc. and as an Assembly Member in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, I see firsthand how very important this program is for our communities and users. I hope that you agree.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and your work to see that this program is fully restored. I would be pleased to provide any supplemental information you may need to make an informed decision regarding this request.

I can be reached at 907-892-7406 or 907-602-8490 if there is anything I can assist with.

*Note: this letter reflects my opinion only, as the Borough Assembly has not yet taken an official position on the matter.*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Mayfield", written over a circular stamp or seal.

DAN MAYFIELD  
Assembly Member, District 5

cc: Mayor Vern Halter  
Mat-Su Borough Assembly Members  
Mat-Su Borough Manager  
All State Legislators





**Caribou Hills Cabin Hoppers**  
P.O. Box 375  
Clam Gulch, AK 99568  
[www.akchch.org](http://www.akchch.org)

February 28, 2019

Dear Governor Dunleavy,

I am writing to object to your action of removing the Snowmobile Trails Grant Program (SnowTRAC) from the State budget.

As a member of the Caribou Hills Cabin Hoppers (CHCH) and a user of the multi-use trail system, I am dissatisfied with your decision to dissolve the Snowmobile Trails Advisory Council and seize funds to be utilized for a purpose for which they were never intended.

I would like to clarify the Snowmobile Trails Grant Program. It is funded through a self-imposed user tax, or snowmobile registration/point of sale user fees, that has been in place since 1997. The program was intended to be self-sustaining due to the recurring registration fees paid directly to the state DMV/DNR and the point of sale registration fees collected by snowmachine dealers. This money was to be used to fund the Trails Grant Program, which would cover grooming/maintenance operations of approved/permitted trails, and safety programs. 12% of the registration funds cover the costs of State employees administering the program fees. The grant application process was designed to allocate funds to the various snowmachine clubs in the State, which have approved snowmachine trails in the trails grant program. The SnowTRAC program was intended to support the local communities and boost the winter tourism and economy.

Please consider that the snowmobilers spend hundreds of thousands of dollars in our winter economy. Winter tourism is on the rise because of the groomed/maintained trails, which provide responsible riding and safety. Groomed trails help in resolving conflict with property owners and land managers where snowmachining is prohibited.

The groomed trails have also helped considerably in keeping the cost of State of Alaska Search and Rescue to a minimal. With signs, maps and groomed trails, users are less likely to get lost, which means the State Troopers are called out less, so the cost to the State of Alaska is less. Since the groomed trails have been introduced, Caribou Hills Cabin Hoppers - Search and Rescue (SAR) has had less rescues to respond to, so these trails provide safety as well.

While I understand that the State of Alaska is faced with hard financial decisions, I hope you may consider doing the right thing by reinstating the SnowTRAC Program. This program benefits all Alaskans and anyone who wants to enjoy all that Alaska has to offer in the winter/summer. SnowTRAC saves lives, promotes safety, stimulates the economy, and creates jobs.

The SnowTRAC program is a one of a kind in this State and should be an example for other user groups for their service needs, so as not to strain the State of Alaska budget.

This letter represents the entities listed below and the cabin owners of the Caribou Hills Community who utilize 117.2 miles of maintained/groomed trail system in the Caribou Hills. We have approximately 375 property/cabin owners who use this trail system for recreation, hauling fuel, supplies, and any other necessities.

The trail system that we groom each week from December through March/April are multi-used and benefit not just the snowmachiners, but also the sled dog teams/mushers, hikers, fat tire bike riders, skiers, runners and other users. We as a club maintain our trail system during the summer months as well.

Without the SnowTRAC program, Alaska will be "closed for business" in the winter.

Respectfully,

*Jeff Breakfield*

Jeff Breakfield  
President  
Caribou Hills Cabin Hoppers

Below is a list of businesses, clubs, and lodges that will be directly affected or may close their doors if the SnowTRAC program is discontinued:

**CLUBS**

Petersville Community NPC  
Curry Ridge Riders  
Homer SnoMads  
Caribou Hills Cabin Hoppers  
Willow Trail Committee  
Alaska Motor Mushers  
Big Lake Trails  
Mat Su Vintage Club  
Anchorage Snowmobile Club  
Lake Louise Snowmachine Club (Wolfpack)  
Valdez Snowmachine Club

**LODGES**

Skwenta Roadhouse	Fireweed Lodge
Forks Roadhouse	Yentna Station
Alpine Creek Lodge	Gate Creek Cabins
MacLaren River Lodge	McDougal Lodge
Eagle Quest Cabins and Lodge	Rebels Roost
Sheep Creek Lodge	Shell Lake Lodge
Eureka Lodge	Telvista Lodge
Sheep Mountain Lodge	Bentalit Lodge

Lake Louise Lodge  
Northwood's Lodge  
North Country Inn  
Deshka Wilderness Lodge  
Pioneer Lodge  
Alaska Host B&B

CCL Lodge/Restaurant  
Freddie's Roadhouse  
Alaska Heritage Lodge  
Alaska Winter Park Cabins  
Willow Island Resort

### **BUSINESSES**

Three Bears Big Lake & Healy  
Big Lake Family Restaurant  
Aardvark Restaurant  
Brewed Oasis Coffee Shop  
Cubby's  
The Alaska Market Place  
Chevron Cantwell  
A2D Sledworks

Triple J Restaurant  
The Moonshine Shop  
Tesoro Big Lake and Talkeetna Y  
Newmans Hilltop  
Willow Trading Post  
Totem Restaurant and Inn  
Tesu Cantwell  
Alaska Snowmobile Salvage

### **DEALERS**

Hatcher Pass Polaris  
McKinley Polaris  
Eagle River Polaris/Arctic Cat  
Anchorage Suzuki Arctic Cat  
Big Lake Power Sports  
Wasilla Arctic Cat & Marine  
Ron's Honda

Anchorage Yamaha/Polaris  
Team CC Anchorage/Wasilla  
Alaska Mining and Diving  
Alaska Cycle Center  
House of Yamaha  
River & Sea Marine  
Peninsula Power Sports

### **DOG MUSHING EVENTS**

Iditarod  
Jr. Iditarod  
Klondike 300  
Tustumena 200  
Freddie's Midnight Sun Sled Dog Race

Susitna 50  
Susitna 100  
Willow 300  
Denali Doubles

### **FAT TIRE BIKES**

Fat Tire Bikes of Alaska  
Fat Freddie's Bike Race

### **EVENTS**

Irondog  
Skwenta 200  
Numerous fundraisers between lodges and clubs  
Big Lake Family Fun Run  
CHCH Family Fun Day  
Petersville Community Fun Run and Easter Egg Hunt  
Sponsor Trail rides for locals and tourist  
CHCH Kick-Off Party (fundraiser)  
Freddie's Roadhouse Drag Races  
WOW Cancer Fun Ride (fundraiser)  
CHCH Bird Homestead Golf Tournament (fundraiser)

The following points describe how significant cuts to state funding for SnowTRAC snowmachine trail grooming will affect winter cycling opportunities (fatbikes) around Homer and derivative impacts to the local economy.

1. The Homer Cycling Club conservatively estimates that there are at least 400 user days per year by recreational winter cyclists (fatbikes) on local snowmachine trails that are groomed in part using funds from the State of Alaska SnowTRAC program. Without groomed snowmachine trails, Cycling opportunities for recreational winter cyclists (fatbikes) would be significantly less on the lower Kenai Peninsula, being primarily limited to beaches and roadways. Fatbike sales, rentals and service contribute to the local economy of the Homer area, partly supporting the business of two bicycle shops.
2. The "Homer Epic" is a winter adventure race that takes place exclusively on snowmachine trails groomed in part using funds from the State of Alaska SnowTRAC program. Each year it brings around 50 human-powered racers (fatbikes, runners and Nordic skiers) to the Homer Area from other parts of Alaska, the lower 48 and one participant from a foreign country. These racers contribute to both the state and local economy for an entire weekend through travel, lodging and dining expenses. Many racers also travel to the Homer area for this event with their families, compounding their positive effect on the local economy. The "Homer Epic" race would not be possible without the snowmachine trails groomed in part using funds from the State of Alaska SnowTRAC program.
3. Access to winter fat biking in the Caribou Lake area significantly expands the bike rental and bike tour season for Homer businesses. Two Homer businesses sell and rent fat bikes, their income would be severely impacted if users had less quality areas to explore. One Homer business also offers guided tours, primarily in the summer; again, boosting revenue with occasional snow tours is crucial to maintaining a viable business.
4. Sharing the trails and recreational area with people using snowmachines, 4wheelers and argos is surprisingly easy. There is so much space in this area that even when it's "busy" there is space to spread out. It never feels congested, even on event days such as the Fun Run or Big Fat Bike Festival.
5. Viable winter recreational opportunities are a key component in increasing health and wellness in our community. Biking in this beautiful area provides: exercise, immersion in beauty, fun, camaraderie with fellow bikers, camaraderie (and bridge-building) with other modes of transportation, access to CCL Lodge, and many .more unique to each individual

PETERSVILLE CNPC  
P.O. Box 13392  
Trapper Creek,  
Alaska 99683



March 14, 2018

Dear Representatives and Senators,

This letter is in support of an increase in snowmobile registration fees for the SnowTRAC program.

I would first like to introduce a little history of the SnowTRAC program.

The Snowmobile Trails Advisory Council (SnowTRAC) was established under Title 41 in 1997 through the offices of the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (DPOR) with the mission to fairly represent all Alaskans by advising DPOR on snowmobile issues including funding, safety, registration, education, access, trail grooming, marking, development and maintenance.

The SnowTRAC program is the only revenue neutral, **self-funded**, user based, program in the State of Alaska with all the funding being derived from registration of Snowmobiles and off-highway vehicles.

At the time the SnowTRAC program was put into play, snowmachiners were proliferating for recreation, transportation and subsistence use, there were very few marked and maintained trails. The consequences were, high accident rates, lost snowmachiners, which is a cost to the State; winter conflicts among trail users, conflicts with private property owners and conflicts with public land managers where snowmachining may have been prohibited. The SnowTRAC program was also intended to support the local communities and the winter economy.

The SnowTRAC program has been a success! It took many years of brushing and cutting trails. Surveying and mapping out trails. The communities who have received SnowTRAC program funding have succeeded in achieving all the goals the SnowTRAC program intended it to be. The maintained trails have contributed to, fewer occurrences of Search and Rescue events and less conflicts with property owners. People are getting to their remote cabins safe, they are buying and hauling fuel and supplies. More land is being purchased and cabins are being built because of the ease and safety of the trail systems being marked and groomed. Remote businesses are building and hauling fuel and supplies due to the SnowTRAC program.

Spring is usually the best time of year to haul fuel and supplies to remote cabins and businesses. It is also the time of year that SnowTRAC funding diminishes.

It has been 20 years since an increase in registration fees has been enacted; in fact the fee has never been raised since the program has been in effect. Due to the increase cost of fuel, signage, maintenance on the trails, maintenance on groomers and wages to pay for the operators, the demand for funding snowmobile projects has far out-paced the available funds the SnowTRAC program.

PETERSVILLE CNPC  
P.O. Box 13392  
Trapper Creek,  
Alaska 99683



www.PetersvilleCommunityNPC.org

Thus forcing SnowTRAC to bypass and under-fund many worthy programs that would benefit the user community.

In August of 2015 the SnowTRAC Council submitted a Resolution Serial No. 15-001 (see attached) in favor amending the AS 28.10.421(d) to increase fees. In the resolution the Council submitted a work draft of a House Bill.

In February of 2016 House Representative Cathy Tilton and House Representative Mark Nueman introduced HB 319. On April 6 the bill was amended and voted on:

do pass: 6

do not pass: 1

HB 319 was referred to the Rules Committee to be placed on the calendar. Legislation session expired before the House Bill could be passed.

(see HB 319 attached)

The current registration fee is:

\$10.00 per one season (2 years)

\$20.00 per two seasons (4 years)

\$30.00 per three seasons (6 years)

Increase fees would be:

\$20.00 per one season (2 years)

\$40.00 per two seasons (4 years)

\$50.00 per three seasons (6 years)

The Petersville Community would like to see a reintroduction of a similar House Bill 319 that would include one small important change to the bill:

**Authorization for increased receipt authority from DMV to DPOR to receive the full amount of revenue generated by passage of this bill. It is the communities hope that you will consider this to be a mandatory requirement.**

As with any piece of legislation, there are those in opposition. I hope you will consider that over 85% of all snowmobile users come from communities that either directly benefit from or have the *potential* to benefit from the SnowTRAC funding. It's not that the other 15% aren't important. They are. The SnowTRAC council continues to make strong overtures to include the 15% in all of the outreach they do and make them aware of the funding opportunities in their areas. SnowTRAC is an inclusive group that celebrates the successes of all snowmobile advocates statewide.

This letter represents Cabin owners and businesses of the Petersville Community who has one of the largest trail systems in the State of Alaska, 150 square miles. We have 380 Property/business/cabin owners who use this trail system for recreation, hauling fuel, supplies and any other necessities.

PETERSVILLE CNPC  
P.O. Box 13392  
Trapper Creek,  
Alaska 99683



[www.PetersvilleCommunityNPC.org](http://www.PetersvilleCommunityNPC.org)

The SnowTRAC program benefits all Alaskans and anyone who wants to enjoy all that Alaska has to offer in the winter. SnowTRAC saves lives, stimulates the economy, creates jobs, and it promotes safety. User groups that benefit are Dog Teams, Snowmobiles, Hikers, Fat Bikers and Skiers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Michele Stevens  
President Petersville Community NPC  
Our Board of Directors approved this Letter



**LIST OF BUSINESSES, CLUBS, AND LODGES THAT WILL BE DIRECTLY AFFECTED OR MAY CLOSE THEIR DOORS IF THE SNOWTRAC PROGRAM IS DISCONTINUED:**

**CLUBS**

Petersville Community NPC  
Curry Ridge Riders  
Homer Snomads  
Caribou Hills Cabin Hoppers  
Willow Trail Committee  
Alaska Motor Musers  
Mid Valley Trails  
Kachemack Nordic Ski Club  
Denali Trails Club

Big Lake Trails  
Mat Su Vintage Club  
Anchorage Snowmobile Club  
Lake Louise Snowmachine Club  
(Wolfpack)  
Valdez Snowmachine Club  
Homer Cycling clubs  
Kachemack Ski Club (Homer Rope Tow)

**BUSINESSES**

Three Bears Big Lake & Healy  
Triple J Restaurant  
Big Lake Family Restaurant  
The Moonshine Shop  
Aardvark Restaurant  
Tesoro Big Lake and Talkeetna Y  
Brewed Oasis Coffee Shop  
Newmans Hilltop  
Cubby's  
Willow Trading Post

Cycle Logical  
The Alaska Market Place  
Totem Restaurant and Inn  
Chevron Cantwell  
Tesu Cantwell  
A2D Sledworks  
Alaska Snowmobile Salvage  
Alaskan Off-Road Adventures LLC  
Boreal Back-country Inc  
Off the Grid Rentals

**LODGES**

Skwenta Roadhouse  
Fireweed Lodge  
Forks Roadhouse  
Yentna Station  
Alpine Creek Lodge  
Gate Creek Cabins  
MacLaren River Lodge  
McDougal lodge  
Eagle Quest Cabins and Lodge  
Rebels Roost  
Sheep Creek Lodge  
Shell Lake Lodge  
Eureka Lodge  
Telvista Lodge  
Sheep Mountain Lodge  
Bentalit Lodge

Lake Louise Lodge  
C C L Lodge  
Northwood's Lodge  
Freddie's Roadhouse

Alaska Heritage Lodge  
Deshka Wilderness Lodge  
Driftwood Inn  
Kachemack Bay Wilderness Lodge  
Baycrest Lodge  
Alaska Adventure Cabins  
Beluga Lake Lodge

**LODGES CONTINUED**

Alaska Winter Park Cabins  
Pioneer Lodge  
Willow Island Resort



Alaska Host B&B  
Otter Beach Lodges  
Otter Cove Resort  
Soaring Eagle Lodge (Ninilchick)

Kenai Peninsula Suites  
Bear Creek Bend LLC  
The Point Lodge  
North Country Inn

Lands End Resort

#### **DEALERS**

Hatcher Pass Polaris  
Anchorage Yamaha/Polaris  
McKinley Polaris  
Team CC Anchorage/Wasilla  
Eagle River Polaris/Arctic Cat  
Alaska Mining and Diving  
Anchorage Suzuki Arctic Cat  
All Seasons Honda

Alaska Cycle Center  
Big Lake Power Sports  
House of Yamaha  
Wasilla Arctic Cat & Marine  
Peninsula Ski Doo  
Homer Saw and Cycle  
Lower Peninsula Power Sports

#### **DOG MUSHING EVENTS**

Iditarod  
Susitna 50  
Jr. Iditarod  
Susitna 100  
Klondike 300

Willow 300  
Tustumena 200  
Denali Doubles  
Freddie's Midnight Run Sled dog Race  
Copper Basin 300

#### **EVENTS**

Irondog Race  
Freddie's Drag Racing  
Skwenta 200  
Caribou Hills Cabin Hoppers Family  
Fun Day  
Caroling with Kathy  
Numerous fundraisers between lodges  
Bird Homestead Golf Tournament  
Big Lake Family Fun Run  
Snomads Kick - Off Party  
Meet and Greet with Iron Dog Racers  
Cory Davis & Team Event (stunt  
snowmachine rider)

Caribou Hills Kickoff Party  
Military Appreciation Day's  
Way out Women for Cancer  
Petersville Community Fun Run and  
Easter Egg Hunt  
Ladies Ride for Cancer  
Sponsor Trail rides for locals and tourist  
Sled for Hope (Fundraiser ride for Pacific  
Northwest Adult and Teen Challenge  
programs)  
Alaska SnowX  
Homer Epic  
Iditasport Alaska

#### **FAT TIRE BIKES**

Fat tires bikes Alaska

PETERSVILLE CNPC  
P.O. Box 13392  
Trapper Creek,  
Alaska 99683



[www.PetersvilleCommunityNPC.org](http://www.PetersvilleCommunityNPC.org)

Fat Freddie's bike race  
Big Fat Bike Festival

**WHOLE COMMUNITIES THAT WOULD BE AFFECTED**

Big Lake	Cantwell
Petersville	Willow
Ninilchik	Homer
Trapper Creek	Skwentna



March 3, 2019

Dear Governor Dunleavy,

On behalf of the Lake Louise Snowmachine Club (LLSMC, aka Wolf Pack), we are writing to you to respectfully ask you to reconsider your decision/action in removing the Snowmobile Trails Grant Program from the State budget. Our club was formed in 1994 for the sole purpose of the maintenance, upkeep and grooming of the Lake Louise area trail system. Through the efforts of club volunteers and in a large part, funds the LLSMC has received through the Alaska Snowmobile Trail Grant Program, the maintenance (grooming) and trail marking of the many trails connecting the lakes within the Lake Louise area has been possible. These trails are of vital importance, in that a properly maintained and marked trail provides safe access to and from residential and recreational homes and cabins within the Eureka, Glennallen, Lake Louise, Crosswind, Tolsona, and Mendeltna areas. In addition, the Lake Louise area is noted for being one of Alaska's premier winter playgrounds and these trails provide endless recreational activities. In addition to snowmobiling (primary use), the trails are used by cross country skiers, dog mushing, fat-tire bikers, and hikers. In total, the club maintains over 228 miles of trails.

In addition to providing access to cabins and homes and for enhancing recreational activities, the most important need for these funds is for emergency purposes. The Louise, Susitna, Tyone Community Association (LSTCA) emergency services and the Alaska State Troopers provide the primary emergency services for this area. These trails provide a much safer and faster conduit for emergency personnel to respond to an incident or condition that threatens life or safety. It is our opinion that these funds help support an access system which provides for a positive and realistic approach to emergency and disaster situations.

I believe you are aware of the intent of the Snowmobile Trails Grant Program which is funded through a self-imposed user tax, or snowmobile registration/point of sale user fees, that has been in place since 1997. The program was intended to be self-sustaining due to the recurring registration fees paid directly to the state DNR and the point of sale registration fees collected by snowmachine dealers. This money was to be used to fund the Trails Grant Program, which would cover grooming operations of approved trails, and safety programs. 12% of the funds cover the costs of State employees administering the program and administrative fees. The grant application process was designed to allocate



funds to the various snowmachine clubs and groomers in the State, which have approved snowmachine trails in the Trails Grant Program. The SnowTRAC program was also intended to support the local communities and boost the winter tourism and economy.

We also recognize the challenges you and your administration have before them in addressing the financial challenges of the State budget. However, this self-sustaining program is one we all should be proud of and should be an example for other user types in that it was specifically established through a self-imposed user tax and intended for a specific use, as noted in this letter. Also, it is important to note that his program promotes safety, saves lives, stimulates the State and local economies, and creates jobs.

As members of the Lake Louise Community and (Wolf Pack) Snow Machine Club we greatly appreciate the support we have received from the Alaska Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation through the Alaska Snowmobile Trail Grooming Program in prior years. It is our hope that this program will be allowed to continue. Without this support our Club and the services we provide will be greatly placed in jeopardy.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harry Holt  
President  
(907) 232-9080

Peter J. Probasco  
Secretary  
(907) 351-0085

Lake Louise Snowmachine Club  
HC 01 Box 1684  
Glennallen, Alaska 99588



LAKE LOUISE SNOW MACHINE CLUB  
HC 01 BOX 1684  
GLENNALLEN, AK 99588

Jan 13, 2019

Dear Representatives,

As president of the Lake Louise Snowmachine Club, I am writing to you representing 200 plus members. As a club we encourage you to support and vote Yes on HB23 which will increase the registration fees for snowmachines, ATV's, and off- highway vehicles.-

Registration fees go directly into the SnoTRAC program which is solely user funded. The SnowTRAC program has been a great success! It's taken many years of surveying, mapping, brushing and marking trails by the various Clubs and individuals volunteering their time resources. The clubs and communities who received SnowTRAC program funding have succeeded in achieving all the goals mentioned above. The maintained trails have contributed to, fewer occurrences of Search and Rescue events and less conflicts with property owners.

Public recreational trails contribute to Alaska's economy by providing construction and maintenance jobs, attracting tourists and visitors, stimulating the business of outfitters, guides, tour companies, lodging, restaurants, gas stations, retail sales of machines, parts, clothing, repair shops, sales of dog sleds and equipment. Travel Companies and Snowmachine dealers are flourishing around this industry and contributing significantly to Alaska's winter economy.

People are getting to their remote cabins safe, they are hauling fuel and supplies. More cabins are being built because of the ease of the trail systems being marked and groomed.

The trail systems have grown with demand by users. This is why the need to increase these fees. Please support this legislation by voting Yes on HB23.

Respectfully,

Harry Holt, President

Lake Louise Snowmachine Club



www.TEAMCC.com

TEAM CC  
EAGLE RIVER  
16770 Snowmobile Lane  
Eagle River, Alaska 99577  
907-694-9150 or 800 694-9150

TEAM CC  
WASILLA  
491 South Willow Street  
Wasilla, Alaska 99654  
907-357-3200 888 888-9555

State of Alaska representatives and senators,

It is our wish to submit notification of support to raise the DMV snowmobile registration fee's to in turn fund the SnoTRAC fund.

This is a very important resource for our customers to navigate the variety of trail systems in Alaska. It was originally signed into effect right at our Team CC store. We are in full support of the program seeing the success over the years.

It is an overdue request that would have large benefits to the many customers we serve.

Thank you for your time

Respectfully,

Korey Cronquist  
Owner/President of Team CC

Barbara Harris





Hatcher Pass Polaris

PO 58

Willow AK 99688

907-495-4639

1-12-2019

Representative David Eastman,

We are contacting you with our support of House Bill no. 23.

<http://www.legis.state.ak.us/PDF/31/Bills/HB0023A.PDF>

We sell new snowmachines that provide our customers the means to travel through Alaska in the winter time. We are in agreement that the added fees suggested in this bill will add value to our State Snowmachine trails at a price that is acceptable. There has not been a registration price increase since point of sale registrations were enacted in 1997.

The benefit of additional funds collected will help maintain structure of our current trail system and continue to provide safe marked and groomed trail corridors to our favorite riding areas and back again to our trailheads, homes and cabins.

Thank you for your support.

Randy Bedard

Manager



*Anchorage Snowmobile Club, Inc.*  
PO Box 232196  
Anchorage, Alaska 99523-2196  
Hotline (907) 689-7777

[www.anchoragesnowmobileclub.com](http://www.anchoragesnowmobileclub.com)

To: State Legislators  
Juneau, Alaska

From: Anchorage Snowmobile Club  
A 600+ Member strong Community Organization  
Anchorage, Alaska

Re: Support for Increased Registration Fees for Snowmobiles

Dear Legislator,

The Anchorage Snowmobile Club (ASC) supports increasing registration fees for snowmobiles- which goes directly to SnowTRAC funding. SnowTRAC is the mechanism by which the fees collected for registering snowmobiles are used to develop and maintain the trail systems that recreational, commercial, and subsistence users depend on. Without adequate funding, the trail system is deteriorating.

The current registration fee is \$5 per year. We favor increasing the fee to \$20 per year. The increased registration fee is miniscule in comparison to the costs of owning and maintaining a snowmobile, yet in the aggregate, it amounts to many thousands of dollars that could go to improving the safety and viability of Alaska's winter trails.

Although ASC is primarily a recreational club for snowmachiners, our 600+ members recognize that the trail system provides access to remote lodges, and is the winter highway for fuel and supplies, that is used by dog mushers, skiers, fat tire bikers, winter runners, and lodge owners and their guests. By increasing the registration fee on Snowmobiles, we are in essence shouldering the burden for the maintenance and improvement of these multi-use trails. And we are happy to do so, because it benefits the entire community.

Please count our 600+ members as supporters of increasing registration fees for snowmobiles that flows directly to SnowTRAC.

See you on the trail,

Tim Cook, President  
Alaska Snowmobile Club





*Anchorage Snowmobile Club, Inc.*  
P0 Box 232196  
Anchorage, Alaska 99523-2196  
Hotline (907) 689-7777  
[www.anchoragesnowmobileclub.com](http://www.anchoragesnowmobileclub.com)

March 3, 2019

Re: House Bill 23 and Snowtrac Funding

The Anchorage Snowmobile Club (ASC) strongly supports increasing registration fees on snowmobiles, BUT ONLY if those funds continue to be used to fund Snowtrac's operation of trail development, grooming, and maintenance. If registration fees are not made available to Snowtrac, then we support elimination of registration fees entirely.

The snowmobile community sees great value in these "pass thru" funds not only for recreational activities, but for the general economic well-being of commercial and business establishments, and private citizens that depend on the trail systems to deliver food, supplies, fuel, and all other sundry necessities for off-highway enterprises.

Snowtrac and its funding base- registration fees- was originally conceived by the snowmobile community as means of a self-funding fee structure for trail development, grooming, and maintenance. ASC continues to support registration fees, and increased fees, for snowmobiles, but only if those funds go to support the very activity from which they are derived.

**The Anchorage Snowmobile Club- 600 strong**

The Anchorage Snowmobile Club is a 600+ member organization of affluent, established members of the community. We have members stretching from Fairbanks to Kenai to Haines. Contrary to popular myth, the snowmobile community, is not a sport for young daredevils (though there are some). The typical cost of a new snowmobile is \$10,000 -15,000. Add in the gear and trailer- and for a family of four the total cost can easily exceed \$50,000. As result, it is easy to understand that these members have both the passion and resources to indulge the activity. That passion extends to the ensuring open areas to ride, and well-maintained trails to get to their cabin, or lodge.

Thank you for you help in ensuring that Alaska's trails are safe, inviting, and provide the necessary transportation corridors that this state needs and deserves.

See you on the trail-

*s/ Tim Cook*

Tim Cook, President  
Anchorage Snowmobile Club  
(907) 336-5291

## Sarah Collins

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**From:** Rep. Mark Neuman  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 23, 2019 7:41 AM  
**To:** 'William.Gamble@akleg.gov'  
**Subject:** FW: HB 23

**From:** shell@weldair.com <shell@weldair.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 4:51 PM  
**To:** Rep. Mark Neuman <Rep.Mark.Neuman@akleg.gov>  
**Cc:** 'Michele Stevens' <aksnowgirl@me.com>  
**Subject:** HB 23

Dear Representative Neuman,

I want to thank you for all of the work you have done for our district over these many years.

I applaud your sponsoring HB23.

As you know, millions of recreational dollars are spent each year by the voting public. However, due to lack of funding, many areas are now falling behind in trail maintenance. Volunteer groups such as the Curry Ridge Runners and Petersville Community Non Profit are no longer financially able to sustain trail grooming to a level considered safe by the users.

HB23 will provide the revenue to correct the current funding shortfall.

Please share my letter with those colleagues who may not be aware.

Thank You Again Sir

Shell Ewing  
Weld Air Alaska Inc  
907-373-6012  
[Weldair.com](http://Weldair.com)

**Sarah Collins**

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**From:** Dennis Vau Dell <vaudell@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 23, 2019 5:14 AM  
**To:** Rep. Mark Neuman  
**Subject:** Snow Trac

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** Needs Confirmation, Read

**Mr. Neuman**

Along with a great number of snow machiners, I enjoy using the trails around Big Lake an many other areas of Alaska.

We all hope that you will help help to get Snow Trac money back into the budget.

**Dennis**

**Sarah Collins**

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**From:** Carolyn Haggard <dchaggard83@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 22, 2019 10:21 AM  
**To:** Rep. Mark Neuman  
**Subject:** SnowTRAC funding

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** Read

Dear Rep. Neuman,

Please make sure the funding for SnowTRAC, which is generated totally by snowmachine registration fees, is included in the budget. You know, I'm sure, how important this is to the Big Lake area.

Thank you,

Carolyn Haggard