



 **CARIBOU**
Parks & Rec. Dept.



THE OFFICIAL SNOWMOBILE TRAIL REPORT

From the Desk of: Gary Marquis | Caribou Parks & Recreation Dept. | 55 Bennett Drive

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Happy New Year to all from the County: Where is all the snow well now it is in Virginia or California in the Sierra's. All joking aside we do have some snow on the ground just not as much as we would like. For the clubs that have been able to get out and pan and do some limited grooming, reports are coming back decent conditions. These decent conditions are railbeds, logging roads and some wooded trails that have a good base. Fields pretty much all over the County are very thin and rough, plus if markers were not put into the ground, they are shoveling snow to get them up, so in some places they are very sparse.

Lakes are not quite safe to be venturing out so please check with the locals.

There are many active logging areas going on in the Crown of Maine with several of them getting done within the next few weeks.

TRAIL INFORMATION:

Sly Brook (Soldier Pond): Reporting that signs are all up has made a run to 96 and 73 towards Fort Kent and cut branches as he was out. 73 to Eagle Lake is not groomed as they are waiting for a logging operation to finish up. Once finished and they receive more snow than everything will be open.

Washburn Trail Runners (Washburn): reporting that all signs are up on trails that are open. Trail 61 is still closed as more snow is needed. The trail to the Aroostook Hospitality inn needs

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more snow as well. 105 to axle siding will be done on Wednesday and 83 to Carson will also be done today. Thanks goes out to these guys while Nordic Lakers are waiting for their groomer to come back from service.

Portage Lakers: Reporting that their trails are looking good and will finish up signing this weekend.

Caribou: is reporting good great conditions on the rail beds. Trail 88A has been groomed several times from 83 to 88 and is in good shape. Trail 89 through Connor has been done and is in good shape and Caswell will have come through tomorrow. ITS 90 from Dodo's market to 105 in Perham has not been opened yet waiting on more snow. The trail going towards the Inn and Convention center is completely signed and field marked but has not seen the groomer yet, there is a logging operation off the back Presque Isle Road and should be wrapped up this week. Fields in this area are very thin, best suggestion is to trailer to the Otter Street Park and Ride. There is a logging operation on ITS 83 in the New Sweden area, they are plowing a 1-mile section of the rail bed and this operation will last until the end of February.

Fort Kent SnoRiders (Fort Kent): reporting they are in the early stages of getting trails set up. Limited markers are out with the lack of snow. They will be out this weekend putting up piles of snow to set markers and signs in. They have been over all their trails. Most holes and ditches have been filled. Signs are all up at intersections. ITS 92 to St. Francis is in great shape. 73 to Soldier Pond is in decent shape for what there is for snow, not much snow in the fields. 73A to Crosslake is in the same condition.

Eagle Lake Winter Riders: Reporting all signs are up and 85 is in good shape. ITS 120 new reroute is in excellent condition.

Fort Fairfield Snowmobile Club: reporting they have 90% of their signs up and are waiting for more snow to finish. ITS 88 has water holes so please use caution. Open fields have bare spots so please use caution.

St. Francis Sno-Angels: reporting that all their signs are up and ITS 92 is in great shape. Planning on going back out this weekend.

Central Aroostook Snowmobile club (Mars Hill, Blaine, Bridgewater, and Monticello):

Reporting that the only trail open is ITS83 from Monticello to Presque Isle. There is an active logging operation on ITS 83 in the Bridgewater area. 2-mile plowed section, the landowner is going to allow the snowmobile trail to continue through this area if speed does not exceed 30mph, and yield to motor vehicles. If there are issues, they will close this section of trail down and the club will need to reroute 20 miles. Potato fields are extremely rough.

Ashland snowmobile club: reporting ITS 85 North to Portage is in good shape, still need field markers in 2 fields. ITS 85 South to Masardis has been panned but there is a lack of snow to continue. Field markers will be going up Friday. ITS 88 to Castle hill groomed but low snow conditions, and still need field markers in two fields.

Moose town Riders (Allagash): reporting that signs should be all up this week. Wooded sections of trails are ok but still need snow. Roads are great.

Frenchville snowmobile club: reporting that all their signs are up. Trails were groomed on Monday and Tuesday. Fields have low snow and will resume grooming once we get more snow.

Red Arrow (St. Agatha, and Sinclair): reporting that they are opening 81B today. They will be working on signage as they have about 40% complete. ITS 83 from Lakeview to the turnaround on the Sullivan Road is in good condition.

Chapman Ridge runners:

Aroostook River Snowmobile (Mapleton, and Castle Hill): The only trail that has been groomed is 105. Fields are too thin, but they will try to open for the weekend if we get any new snow. They will also be signing this weekend.

Easton Trailbreakers (Easton): reporting fields are thin.

Madawaska snowmobile club: reporting MSC trails have all been opened but have very limited snow in places. Use extreme caution while venturing out to scratch that early season "itch". A few last-minute trails change this year, partly due to logging on ITS 81 by the old Tower Billboard. The logger and surrounding landowners allow ITS 81 to go through a brief

section of the powerlines and a wooded section of trail, coming out onto the old trail before Pelletier Rd. Another trail change is on the West side of Madawaska. There is a new three-way intersection from the Elementary School heading West. Turn right to go to Martin's Motel & Valley Fuel, turn left to go to Dolly's Restaurant, or for Frenchville's Hill Ave / Nelson Ave Access. Note 83AB are all dead ends. We continue to snow dance and pray for snow. Not all our trail markers are up, hope to finish soon. We will commence normal grooming operations shortly. See you out on the trails.

Cold Mountain Snowmobile Club (Grand Isle): reporting that most of their signs and markers are up, they will be finishing up today. They are reporting that trails are in good shape.

Presque Isle Snowmobile club: reporting that signs are up, and they are only doing railbeds until more snow. ITS 88 to Caribou's 90A has been done and ITS 83 to Crouseville has been groomed.

Gateway Snowmobile Club (Van Buren): 105 has been groomed several times and very good considering snow conditions 81n to grand isle has been panned with limited to no signage. Minimal snow in spots. 94 has been panned last night with no signage. There are a few water/wet spots that need to freeze but are passable. 81s to Caswell is currently being panned waiting to hear back on condition. This section has many open fields and may be bare in many spots. We are hoping to get some signs out this weekend just waiting on more snow to hold them up.

Limestone Snow Hawks: reporting trails 81,89, 100A and 81A are signed. The border trail is still closed until more snow is needed. 100B is also closed as there are no signs. The runway trail remains closed until we get more snow.

Pleasant Ridge Riders (Caswell): Reporting that they will be going over all their trails by tomorrow and will have them all signed by the end of the weekend.

Walker Siding Snowmobile Club:

Southern Aroostook Report

Oxbow-Masardis Snowmobile: Club: We will be out all this week packing what we have for snow and getting more trail signs out. Hope to be able to open Trail 71-A across the Aroostook River after we check ice conditions. Will update conditions later in the week as we get more trail open. The weather guy is talking about a good storm maybe toward end of the week.

Benedicta Snow gang: Reporting that trails are not open yet. Ground is freezing up good. parts of the system are ok but in town needs more snow.

Linneus Sno Sports: Reporting that they don't have enough to groom. ITS 83 is still closed due to a farmer still has cows out.

East Grand Snowmobile Club: Waiting for more snow.

Eastern Maine Snow Riders (Macwahoc):

Smoki-Haulers Snowmobile Club

Meduxnekeag Ramblers: They have done most of ITS 83, they tried to meet with Oxbow and turned around fields too rough.

Big Valley Sno-Club (Island Falls): They are working on signs, not enough snow to do anything.

Patten-Rockabema Snow Rangers:

Sno-Rovers:

Bowlin-Matagamon Snowmobile Club: