



Association of Wisconsin Snowmobile Clubs – AWSC

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Fellow AWSC Officers and Members:

After going through quite the process, the 2017 State Budget Bill, Act 59, was finally signed into law yesterday afternoon by Governor Scott Walker. Our legal team confirmed that all of the provisions of the funding requests provided in our presented bills AB180 and SB188 are included in the Act, which will become law.

Thus, the base trail maintenance reimbursement amount has now been raised from \$250 to \$300 per mile. Along with that, the supplemental maintenance request cap will also be increasing from \$750 a mile to \$900 a mile. Also, the minimum grooming amount needed to be used to qualify for supplemental payments has now gone up from \$150 a mile to \$200 a mile as well. And, last but surely not least, the 4 year sunset clause originally set on our trail pass program has now been removed, making the trail pass permanent.

These increases will be in place for this upcoming season. The increased grooming and labor rates that were approved by the Snowmobile Recreation Council will be effective for this year for any work done after July 1.

There is also a provision that the Snowmobile Rec Council needs to study options for ensuring adequate funding for development and maintenance of snowmobile trails in the state, especially currently unfunded trails, and shall report its findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the Joint Finance Committee by January 1, 2019.

This completes another real and deserving benefit from the passage of our trail pass program. We would like to whole-heartily thank all of you and our members for supporting our efforts!

United we trail.... because we did not fail!

Sam Landes
AWSC Legislative Committee Chairman