



Volume 18 Issue 4 December 2021

Holiday Hunt Delays Trail Opening

NYS DEC has implemented a new Holiday Deer Hunt which will cause the snowmobile trails to delay opening until January 2nd.

This hunt will be for hunters who use bow or muzzleloader only. It is aimed at the time when families and friends are gathered for the Christmas holiday and students are home on school break. The hunt extends to the New Years Day holiday. However Christmas itself will not be part of the hunt. Late bowhunting and muzzleloader season begins December 13th and goes to the 21st. The season then resumes on Dec 26 to Jan 1.

There is a small window from December 22nd to the 25th in which, with landowner permission, clubs can get to work on the trails. This small window however will not be open for trail riding.



The earliest Frontier Sno Rider trails can open is now January 2nd 2022.

Schoharie County had tried to get an exemption to not allow the holiday hunt but were unable to get a supervisors vote on the issue before the deadline.

As readers will recall, last December Frontier land was covered in 2+ feet of snow early in the month. Frontier trails opened and were ridden on for a number of days before closing due to melt.

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Adopt A Highway

The East Berne Adopt A Highway was held November 14th. Clubmembers lead by President Gerry Lenseth included Zach and Chelsea Simeon, Calypso Tregoeat, Matt and Stephanie Lord, Joel, Mel, and Tyler Vadney, Joel Church, and Brian Buchardt.

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Trail Log



Club Membership stands at **231** as of 12-1-2021

Frontier would like to have supported the Holiday Hunt opt out effort that neighboring clubs in Schoharie County were attempting, but lacked help within the club to pursue it this season.

National Grid will be conducting pole replacements on the right of way that both C7B and C7E cross. This may require temporary closures of the trail.

Landowner memberships have been renewed.

Super Raffle tickets should be available at the club meeting. Lots of prizes to win!!

Schoharie County Snowmobile Map is in final review.

Matt Lord is putting together a new kiosk map. Should be ready before the trails open.

New NYSSA grant funding proposal getting favorable nod from Parks and Rec.

Christine Rulison reports she will be using a new spreadsheet to record trail work and grooming for the coming season.

Help Wanted

Duanesburg Trail Boss Position Open

The club is currently looking for a member who is very familiar with the Duanesburg area and trails C7B and S70. Help is available. Please come to the meeting!

Club Seeks Secretary

Frontier Sno Riders are asking the membership for a volunteer to take on the Secretary office. The club Secretary is an important officer and is needed to record the business of the club at meetings. If you or someone you know can attend most meetings, please volunteer. Contact President Gerry Lenseth at 518-330-7373.

Northern Area

Burtonsville/Charleston C7E - Yancey Zimmer - A club member has stepped up to help him sign and clear trail.

Mariaville C7B - Mark VanWoeart - Some more trail signs have been put out. When hunting season is over, trails will be patrolled for any downed trees.

Sloansville C7F - Laudy Hoyenga/Brian Schoenherr - Both C7F and Stockyard trail signed and trimmed. Kiosks to be put out next.

Central Area

Esperance/Delanson C7E - Tom Rulison - Signs are going up, walking only as too wet for ATV. Gage Rd area has a new route.

Duanesburg C7B/S70 - Open - Ash Lane needs widening work. New landowner at Chadwick and Schoharie Tpk may work with club. S70 has a major washout on old rail bed. Weaver Rd section has been brushed and cleared.

Wright C7B - Joel Church - Fields west of Wellman woods have new landowner and permission may not be given. New section of C7B completed thru Martin and White property.

Southern Area

Township S70 - Skip Murrell - Still need to put up signs. Trail brushed and cleared.

Knox C7B - Zach Simeon - Fields being cut, signing to follow. Turner Rd section has been cleaned up. Need to fix a culvert.

Maple Inn S73 - Don Bauer -

East Berne C7B/S72 - Brian Buchardt - Watch for new sled parking area in Thacher Park. Simons Rd reroute completed. Roadcrossing signage underway



Excerpts from DEC Comments

NYS Register/February 17, 2021

"Currently, the existing 9-day late bow and muzzleloader season accounts for 6-8% of the reported deer taken in the Southern Zone. DEC does not anticipate substantial positive or negative economic impacts from the season expansion."

Comment: Many writers opposed the proposal, believing the extended deer season would negatively impact snowmobile trail preparation and reduce snowmobiling activity, thereby causing economic harm to rural communities.

Response: Snowfall records reveal that no portions of the Southern Zone consistently have adequate snow cover for snowmobiling during the week between Christmas and New Year. In most years, the entire Southern Zone either lacks snow or has very shallow cover during that time. Only in

some years and some areas is there adequate snow cover for snowmobiling during the holiday week. DEC does not anticipate substantial or routine impact on actual snowmobiling activity and associated economic inputs to rural economies. Snowmobile trail preparation may occur prior to adequate snowfall and can occur simultaneously with deer hunting as it already does with concurrent small game seasons.

Comment: Some snowmobilers and landowners wrote to support the proposed extended deer season, stating that the conditions for snowmobiling are inconsistent during the Christmas to New Year week, that they prefer to hunt, or that they believe snowmobiling and hunting can safely occur at the same time.

Response: DEC agrees that snowmobiling and deer hunting can safely occur at the same time.

The DEC response failed to consider that trail

preparation had occurred after the late bow hunt and before normal snowfall was on the ground. In many cases landowners will not allow trail preparation while deer hunting season is open. Last season Frontier trails opened right after late bowhunting season ended. Snow does fall in December, enough to snowmobile on. Never before has deer hunting and snowmobiling overlapped. DEC says it can occur.



Trail C7B just before Christmas last year.

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WES OSTRANDER
General Manager



Sign stakes are in short supply this season. Please be careful when riding on the trail, avoid hitting sign posts. They break easily and are hard to replace.

New signs are being distributed to trail bosses.

PB100 tracks were installed and blade to go on next.

New fuel caps are needed for PB70, trouble locating replacements.

Skip M. has the 2011 Gator engine running like a top.

All Skandics are in running order and ready for snow.

Laudy reports the Jeep groomer is ready to hit the trail as well.

The new JD drags are being worked on, first one is nearly ready for powder coating. They will be solid and heavy units.

The club kiosks are going to have updated trail maps installed this season. Matt L. reports work is ongoing.



Groomer Locations 2022

Charleston/Burtonsville
Skandics (2)

Mariaville
Gator 825i

Sloansville
Jeep

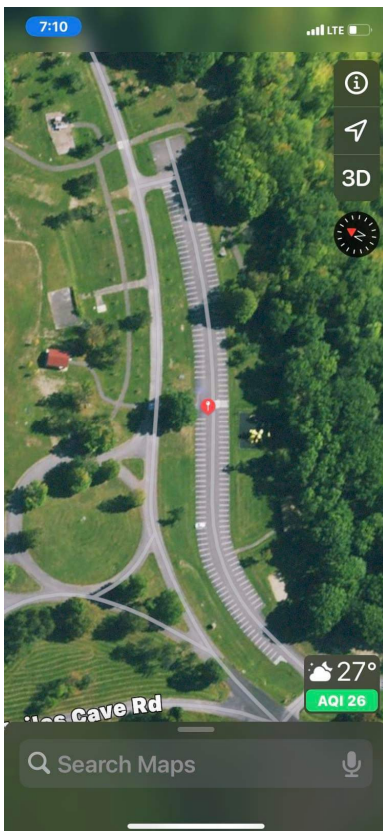
Duanesburg/Wright
Gator 825i + Skandic

Esperance/Delanson
Pisten Bully 70

Knox/Township
Pisten Bully 100

East Berne/Thacher
Park
Skandic

Note: many locations will overlap coverage.



Thacher Park has new parking area designated this season for snowmobile users. It will allow much easier access for trailers.

To all Trail Bosses, if you need new road crossing mileage signs, please forward your request to Laudy.

Trail Marshal says...

The trail gates will remain closed until January 2 this season due to the Holiday Hunt. Please respect the landowners. Hunting may be happening on the land.



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Club Meeting & Party
December 8
6 pm
On The Hill—Township



Safety Class Success In Knox



Instructor Michael Riek speaks to students.



Photos by VP and instructor MaryAnn Nickloy

Club Folks



Club Officers

| | | |
|-----------|------------------|----------|
| President | Gerry Lenseth | 330-7373 |
| Vice Pres | Mary Ann Nickloy | 895-2595 |
| Treasurer | Tammy Saddlemire | 872-2125 |
| Secretary | | |

Board of Trustees

Christine Rulison
Tom Rulison
Wes Ostrander
Michael Riek
Bob Meyer
Brian Schoenherr

Board of Directors

Don Bauer
Laudy Hoyenga
Chris Bukowski
Karl Pritchard
Joel Church
Zach Simeon

Trail Boss Contacts

| | | |
|----------------|--------------|----------|
| Brian Buchardt | East Berne | 872-1878 |
| Don Bauer | Warner Lake | 337-1985 |
| Zach Simeon | Knox | 860-2325 |
| Skip Murrell | Township | 867-1235 |
| Joel Church | Wright | 895-5451 |
| | Duanesburg | |
| Casey LeClair | Duanesburg | |
| Tom Rulison | Esperance | 728-9551 |
| Laudy Hoyenga | Sloansville | 868-2092 |
| Mark VanWoeart | Mariaville | 376-0063 |
| Scott Claus | Burtonsville | 848-0524 |
| Yancey Zimmer | Charleston | 657-9588 |

Support Staff

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Equipment Boss | Tom Rulison |
| Membership Administrator | Gerry Lenseth |
| Grant Administrator | Christine Rulison |
| Trail GPS/GIS | Matt Lord |
| Safety & Education | MaryAnn Nickloy |
| Website | Randy Stein |
| FaceBook | Chris Bukowski |
| Remind | Mary Ann Nickloy |
| Newsletter Editor | Joel Church |



Trail Boss Pics - Knox



Knox Ball Park Bridge

Karl Pritchard saves the day again for us at the Knox Ball Park bridge project. Due to the wet weather we've not been able to make any kind of ramps to the bridge. On one side we had 18" drop from the deck.

During the short dry spell and

just before another full day of rain, Justin Bates and I went down to move a little fill after work and found Karl moved a huge amount of fill on the deep side and the ramp on the opposite side smoothed off.

Justin tapered off the piles and added more. It is not complete, but passable if needed.

Photos and report by Trail Boss Skip Murrell.



Knox-Gallupville Road Crossing



Karl Pritchard clearing open a stonewall for a new road crossing on C7B at the Knox-Gallupville Road.

Photos and report by President Gerry Lenseth.



Trail Boss Pics - Delanson, Wright



Cooley Heights, had to work with landowner to put new road in. Had to lift bridge and rebuild in supports from washout behind Hannaford in Esperance. Photos and report by Trail Boss Tom Rulison.



Scotchridge Rd bridge was jacked up and repaired.



Blue Heron Airport

Snow fencing was placed across approaches to the pond below the airport. Beaver are active and the outlet does not freeze over, please stay off the pond and use the highway bridge to cross the water. Photos by Trail Boss Joel Church.



Above, after a long walk to the far end of the runway, signs are going up.



Trail Boss Pics - Wright



Straight sections will help with big grooming machines, like the PB100 in the Martin woods.

New Route For C7B Completed
Work on the trail thru the Martin woods and White meadows has been finished. Signs are up and the old section of trail is closed. The new route is a much straighter and wider path.



At left Skip Murrell, Karl Pritchard and Brian Buchardt clear the entrance between the Martin woods and White meadow.



Above, Ray Plant, Randy White, Brian, and Skip clear brush. At right, Karl pushes on thru hedge-row, before and after pics.

Photos by Trail Boss Joel Church.



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Trail Boss Pics - East Berne



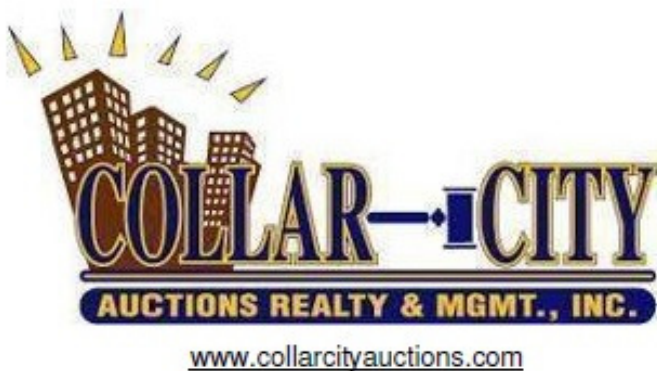
Trail Boss Brian Buchardt and Tom Goodman put up signs, cleared brush, and strung rope along S72. Wet conditions have really limited the use of ATV/UTV and tractors this fall. Trail work has required a lot of walking way back in.



Continued from p8

Left, an arrow sign directs to the new trail.
Right, Brian Buchardt smoothes the upper hill section near Panis Road.

Project began in late summer and finished in November, shout out to Karl Pritchard for lending his dozer and big thanks to Fred Martin and Larry White for allowing the trail work to go forward.



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Think Snow!

Think Snow!

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Think Snow!



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Club Meeting/Holiday Party
December 8
6 pm
On The Hill—Altamont



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