

DRAFT LEGISLATION

WHEREAS any use of the Beebe Spur Rail Trail by snowmobiles is wholly incompatible with the existing, long standing, and cherished use of this rail trail as a well-groomed cross-country ski trail and the investment of Memphremagog Trails in this recreational resource which is now used regularly throughout the winter by hundreds from near and far, especially young families, seniors, and elite skate skiers.

WHEREAS the trail is only 7 feet wide in most places, with steep embankments on either side in many places and its use by snowmobiles is inherently dangerous

WHEREAS closing this four-mile stretch of rail trail to snowmobiles has no adverse impact on the 450 miles of groomed VAST trails in Orleans County

NOW THEREFORE

5 V.S.A. § 3408a (b)(11) prohibiting the use of all motorized vehicles on the four Vermont Rail Trails, except for:

....

(B) snowmobiles, *subject to applicable State rules*, when the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers, Inc. has declared the Statewide Snowmobile Trail System officially open,

Shall be amended to add

with the exception of the Beebe Spur Rail Trail where snowmobiles shall be prohibited.

So that 5 V.S.A. § 3408a (b)(11)(B) shall read in full:

(B) snowmobiles, *subject to applicable State rules*, when the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers, Inc. has declared the Statewide Snowmobile Trail System officially open, **with the exception of the Beebe Spur Rail Trail where snowmobiles shall be prohibited.**