

Chapter NR 50

ADMINISTRATION OF OUTDOOR RECREATION PROGRAM GRANTS

NR 50.01	Definitions	NR 50.07	Administration of
NR 50.02	Application		ORAP 200 local park aids
NR 50.03	Planning requirements	NR 50.08	Administration of the
NR 50.04	Allocation of grant funds		artificial lake creation grants
NR 50.05	General provisions	NR 50.09	Administration of recreation site planning grants
NR 50.06	Administration of land and water conservation fund program (LAWCON)	NR 50.10	Administration of aids for counties for snowmobile trails and areas

NR 50.01 Definitions. (1) "Department" means department of natural resources.

(2) "Secretary" means secretary, department of natural resources.

(3) "Applicant" means unit of government applying for a grant.

(4) "LAWCON" means land and water conservation fund program.

(5) "Project." (a) "Acquisition project," means the acquisition of land or rights thereto for a well defined outdoor recreation area or purpose.

(b) "Development project," means the development of structures, utilities or facilities necessary for outdoor recreation use of an area.

(6) "Approval" means the signing by the secretary or his deputy of a project agreement resulting in encumbering a specified amount of federal or state aid funds for a specific purpose.

(7) "Assistance" means funds made available by the department to a sponsor in support of a public outdoor recreation project.

(8) "Contingency fund" means that portion of the LAWCON apportionment that is not immediately apportioned to counties or state agencies but held by the department to meet high priority, unforeseen, or emergency need and which is granted by the director upon the recommendation of the outdoor recreation advisory council.

(9) "Project agreement" means a contract between the sponsor and department setting forth the mutual obligations with regard to a portion or all of specific project.

(10) "Sponsor" means local unit of government or state agency receiving assistance.

History: Cr. Register, January, 1972, No. 193, eff. 2-1-72.

NR 50.02 Grant programs. The provisions of this chapter apply to the following grant program: (1) The land and water conservation act of 1965, (PL-88-578) as amended by PL-91-485 (LAWCON) was established to assist the state and federal agencies in meeting present and future recreation demands and needs of the American people and for other purposes.

(2) ORAP local park aids sections 23.09 (20) and 66.36, Wis. Stats., for not more than 50% of the cost of acquiring and developing recreation lands and other outdoor recreation facilities.

(3) Creation of new lakes sections 23.09 (21) and 92.18, Wis. Stats., to provide for the creation of new lakes and assist in providing a continuing, comprehensive outdoor recreation program.

(4) Recreation—site planning sections 23.09 (24) and (11) (c), (d) and (e), Wis. Stats., to develop site plans for outdoor recreation facilities.

(5) Aids for counties for the development of snowmobile trails and areas, chapter 350, sections 23.09 (11) and (26) Wis. Stats.

History: Cr. Register, January, 1972, No. 193, eff. 2-1-72.

NR 50.03 Planning requirements. (1) **LAWCON AND LOCAL PARK AID PROGRAMS.** Applicants are required to submit a comprehensive outdoor recreation plan to the department which conforms to the state outdoor recreation plan; or applicants may qualify for eligibility if proposed projects are identified in approved plans of higher units of government.

(2) **STATE AIDS FOR LAKE CREATION.** Soil and water conservation district applications for grants shall be in conformance with department recommendations in an approved watershed work plan. Applications for aids for watershed development programs under other grant programs administered by the department shall be based on planning requirements of these programs.

(3) **AIDS TO COUNTIES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SNOWMOBILE TRAILS AND AREAS.** Either a separate county snowmobile plan or a snowmobile section of a comprehensive county outdoor recreation plan is required.

History: Cr. Register, January, 1972, No. 193, eff. 2-1-72.

NR 50.04 Allocation of grant funds. (1) **LAWCON** funds apportioned to Wisconsin each fiscal year shall be allocated as follows:

- (a) 40% to local governments.
- (b) 40% to state agencies.
- (c) 20% to a contingency fund for use by local governments or state agencies.

(2) Both **LAWCON** and **ORAP** local park aids funds available to local governments shall be apportioned to counties on the basis of 70% based on each county's proportionate share of the state population and 30% equally to each county.

(3) Two-thirds of the artificial lake creation funds shall be available to soil and water conservation districts and one-third available to the department.

(4) Cost sharing rates shall be as follows unless otherwise specified by statute:

- (a) State aids shall not exceed local contributions.
- (b) A combination of federal and state aids may not exceed 75% of the total cost of land acquisition projects. Cost sharing for development projects may be up to 50% state or federal aids and not less than 50% local funds unless otherwise specified by law.
- (c) Exceptions to the above require approval of the natural resources board.

(d) Allocation of funds to a sponsor is made at the time the project agreement is approved by the secretary or deputy secretary.

(e) A total of state and federal fund aids for land acquisition projects may be reduced to not less than 50% with at least 50% local government funds when **LAWCON** funds apportioned to Wisconsin for any fiscal year are less than \$1,000,000.

History: Cr. Register, January, 1972, No. 193, eff. 2-1-72; cr. (e), Register, November, 1973, No. 215, eff. 12-1-73.

Register, November, 1973, No. 215

NR 50.05 General provisions. (1) Environmental quality is essential and shall be preserved and enhanced. Local governments shall agree to operate and provide adequate maintenance of areas or developments where state and federal aids are granted.

(2) Recreational lands purchased or facilities developed under aid programs may not be converted to other uses without approval of the department and approval shall not be granted unless there is evidence that the new uses are essential to and in accordance with an approved comprehensive outdoor recreation plan for the area. Proceeds from disposal of land purchase or facilities developed shall be returned to the department or be used to further the objectives of the aid program.

(3) Reasonable entrance, service or user fees may be charged to pay for operation and maintenance costs.

(4) To assure fair and consistent treatment of owners under federal aid land acquisition programs, project sponsor shall be guided by the following:

(a) The head of a sponsoring agency shall make every reasonable effort to acquire real property by negotiation.

(b) Real property shall be appraised before the initiation of negotiations and the owner or his designated representative shall be given an opportunity to accompany the appraiser during his inspection of the property.

(c) Before the initiation of negotiations for real property, the head of the sponsoring agency shall establish an amount which he believes to be just compensation therefore and shall make a prompt offer to acquire the property for the full amount so established. In no event shall such amount be less than the sponsor's approved appraisal of the fair market value of such property. Any decrease or increase in the fair market value of real property prior to the date of valuation caused by the public improvement for which such property is acquired, or by the likelihood that the property would be acquired for such improvement, other than that due to physical deterioration within the reasonable control of the owner, will be disregarded in determining the compensation for the property. The sponsor shall provide the owner of real property to be acquired with a written statement of, and summary of the basis for, the amount he established as just compensation. Where appropriate the just compensation for the real property acquired and for damages to remaining real property shall be separately stated.

(d) No owner shall be required to surrender possession of real property before the sponsor pays the agreed purchase price or deposits with the court in accordance with section 1 of the Act of February 26, 1931 (46 Stat. 1421; 40 U.S.C. 258a), for the benefit of the owner, an amount not less than the agency's approved appraisal of the fair market value of such property, or the amount of the award of compensation in the condemnation proceeding for such property.

(e) The construction or development of a public improvement shall be so scheduled that, to the greatest extent practicable, no person lawfully occupying real property shall be required to move from a dwelling (assuming a replacement dwelling as required by title II will be available), or to move his business or farm operation, without at least 90 days' written notice from the sponsor of the date by which such move is required.

(f) If the sponsor permits an owner or tenant to occupy the real property acquired on a rental basis for a short term or for a period subject to termination by the sponsor on short notice, the amount of rent required shall not exceed the fair rental value of the property to a short term occupier.

(g) In no event shall the sponsor either advance the time of condemnation, or defer negotiations or condemnation and the deposit of funds in court for the use of the owner, or take any other action coercive in nature, in order to compel an agreement on the price to be paid for the property.

(h) If any interest in real property is to be acquired by exercise of the power of eminent domain, the sponsor concerned shall institute formal condemnation proceedings. No sponsor shall intentionally make it necessary for an owner to institute legal proceedings to prove the fact of the taking of his real property.

(i) If the acquisition of only part of a property would leave its owner with an uneconomic remnant, the sponsor shall offer to acquire the entire property.

(5) (a) For acquisitions with total cost of \$25,000 or more a narrative appraisal report shall include appraiser qualifications; statement of limiting conditions; purpose of the appraisal; identification of the property; city and area data; property data; analyses of highest and district use; land value; value estimate by cost approach; value estimate by comparative approach; interpretation and correlation of estimates; history of conveyances; certification of appraiser and exhibits and addenda.

(b) For acquisitions of up to \$25,000 total cost the appraisal report shall include property description; date of value; supporting data; statement of highest and best use; appraiser's qualifications; appraiser's certification and history of conveyance.

(6) Provisions for consideration of handicapped shall conform with the American National Standard Institute specifications (ANSI A117.1-1961 (R1971)) (copies are available for inspection at the office of the department of natural resources, secretary of state's office and the office of the revisor of statutes, and may be obtained for personal use from the American National Standards Institute, Inc., 1430 Broadway, New York, New York 10018) for making buildings and facilities accessible to, and desirable by, the physically handicapped shall be considered by project sponsors.

Note: The approval of the revisor of statutes and the attorney general does not extend to the secondary standards contained in sections 5.1.2, 5.4, 5.13.5 and 5.13.6 of ANSI 117-1-1961 (R 1971) and without approval said secondary standards are unenforceable.

(7) Provisions of the federal office of management and budget, circular A-102 as published on October 19, 1971 and September 8, 1972 shall apply to all federal grants.

History: Cr. Register, January, 1972, No. 193, eff. 2-1-72; cr. (4), (5), (6) and (7), Register, November, 1973, No. 215, eff. 12-1-73.

NR 50.06 Administration of land and water conservation fund program (LAWCON). (1) **ELIGIBLE UNITS OF GOVERNMENT.** Towns, counties, incorporated villages, cities, school districts, soil and water conservation districts and state agencies.

(2) **LEVEL OF ASSISTANCE.** Federal support shall be on a matching basis to a maximum 50% of total project allowable costs.

(3) **PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION FOR GRANTS:**

- (a) Meet planning requirement.
- (b) Submit a resolution officially adopted by the governing unit containing the following:
 1. Formal request for a grant.
 2. Naming the agency of local government authorized to act in behalf of sponsor and sign forms and claims.
 3. That the local government will maintain the area or facility.
 4. Indicate funds budgeted for the project or schedule of funding.
 5. Agree to comply with the terms and interests of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, PL 88-354 (1964) and to the regulations promulgated to such act by the Secretary of the Interior and contained in 43 CFR 17.
- (c) Submit a letter to the Metropolitan and State Clearinghouse stating intention to apply for a federal grant as required under the Bureau of Management and Budget Circular A-95.
- (d) Furnish land appraisals, relocation plans, and specifications for development proposals and other information as may be required.

(4) **TYPES OF PROJECTS.** (a) *Land acquisition.* Acquisition of lands for public outdoor recreation including new areas or additions to existing parks, forests, wildlife areas, beaches and other similar areas dedicated to outdoor recreation may be eligible for assistance. Acquisition can be by fee simple title or by whatever lesser rights will insure the desired public use.

(b) *Development projects.* Development projects may consist of improvements that contribute directly to outdoor recreation and provide basic facilities for outdoor recreation including access, safety, health and protection of the area as well as the facilities required for the use of the area. Development project proposals may include construction or renovation, site planning, demolition, site preparation and architectural services.

(c) Construction contract compliance with Presidential executive order 11246 requires contractors and subcontractors to provide equal employment opportunities in each of the trades on federally assisted projects. Local governments are required to inform contractor and subcontractor of federal grants and send copies of the bid announcements to the federal government.

(5) **PRIORITIES.** Priorities are given to projects which meet urban needs, to activities of the general public over those for a limited group, to basic over elaborate facilities, to participant over spectator type facilities, to projects not having other public or private funds available to them, where a scarcity of recreation land exists and to acquisition over development. Projects which may enhance or preserve natural beauty are encouraged.

(6) **OTHER GOVERNMENT REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS.** Before construction or development of certain public facilities may be undertaken, formal approval may be required from other state agencies concerning health, safety or sanitation requirements.

(7) **ALLOWABLE COSTS—BILLINGS—AUDITS.** (a) Project costs will be matched project by project. To be eligible for matching assistance, costs must have been incurred within the project period or the period covered by the agreement, with specific exceptions described in the BOR Grant in Aid Manual. Basis for assistance in Part 670 of the BOR Grant in Aid Manual shall be used to determine allowable costs.

(b) Billings may be submitted when deeds have been received for land acquisition and upon completion of a development project or a useable portion of a large development project.

(c) All payments are contingent upon final audit. Financial records including all documentation to support entries in the accounting records to substantiate charges for each project must be kept available for representatives of the state, bureau of outdoor recreation, the department of the interior and the general accounting office. Such records shall be retained and available for inspection for a period of three years after final payment.

(d) The rental rate charged by project sponsors for use of their equipment will be the rate established by the department of transportation for the county where the sponsor is located. If equipment used is not included in the department of transportation schedule, the sponsor shall request approval of a rate prior to beginning work.

History: Cr. Register, January, 1972, No. 193, eff. 2-1-72; cr. (4) (c) and (7) (d), Register, November, 1973, No. 215, eff. 12-1-73.

NR 50.07 Administration of ORAP 200 local park aids, sections 23.09 (20) and 66.36, Wis. Stats. (1) PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION FOR GRANTS: (a) Meet planning requirements.

(b) Submit a resolution officially adopted by the governing unit containing the following:

1. Formal request for the grant.
2. Name the agency of local government to act in behalf of sponsor and sign forms and claims.
3. That the sponsor will maintain the area or facility.
4. Indicate funds budgeted for the project or schedule of funding.

(2) **TYPES OF PROJECTS.** (a) *Land acquisition:* Acquisition of lands for public outdoor recreation including new areas or additions to existing parks, forests, wildlife areas, beaches and other similar areas dedicated to outdoor recreation may be eligible for assistance. Acquisition can be by fee simple title or by whatever lessor rights will insure the desired public use.

(b) *Development projects:*

Development projects may consist of improvement that contributes directly to outdoor recreation and provide basic facilities for outdoor recreation including access, safety, health and protection of the area as well as the facilities required for the use of the area. Development project proposals may include construction or renovation, site planning, demolition, site preparation and architectural services.

(3) **PRIORITIES.** Priorities are given to projects which meet urban needs, to activities of the general public over those for a limited group, to basic over elaborate facilities, to participant over spectator type facilities, to projects not having other public or private funds available to them, where a scarcity of recreation land exists and to acquisition over development. Projects which may enhance or preserve natural beauty are encouraged.

(4) **OTHER GOVERNMENT REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS.** Before construction or development of certain public facilities may be undertaken, formal approval may be required from other state agencies concerning health, safety or sanitation requirements.

(5) **ALLOWABLE COSTS—BILLINGS—AUDITS.** (a) Project costs will be matched project by project. To be eligible for matching assistance,

costs must have been incurred within the project period or the period covered by the agreement, with specific exceptions described in the agreement.

(b) Billings may be submitted when deeds have been received for land acquisition and upon completion of a development project or a useable portion of a large development project.

(c) All payments are contingent upon final audit. Financial records including all documentation to support entries in the accounting records to substantiate charges for each project must be kept available for representatives of the department. Such records shall be retained and available for inspection for a period of 3 years after final payment.

History: Cr. Register, January, 1972, No. 193, eff. 2-1-72.

NR 50.08 Administration of the artificial lake creation grants section 92.18, Wis. Stats.

(1) General provisions:

(a) Aids for land acquisition are limited to the same acreage eligible for full cost sharing assistance under the federal PL-566 program.

(b) Land appraisals shall be based on standards used by the department and land appraisal reports shall be approved by the department.

(c) Priorities for approval of grants shall be based on the watershed work plan, demonstrated needs, and justification provided.

(d) The depth of any proposed impoundment shall be at least 15 feet over at least one-third of the surface area.

(e) There shall be adequate flow to insure flushing of stored water within a period not to exceed 3 months based on base flow.

(f) In addition to the 300 foot owned horizontal buffer zone required around the recreational impoundment, an additional 700 foot strip of land shall be owned or zoned in accordance with state, county or local ordinances as conservancy district or recreational conservancy district.

(g) Improved public access shall include a minimum of 100 feet of shoreline per mile of lake frontage and public fishing shall be provided.

(h) Recreational development plans and forestry, game and open space management practices on all public lands surrounding impoundments shall be approved by the department.

(i) Hunting privileges shall be provided except on intensively developed areas.

(j) Structures:

1. Cold water streams (containing trout or smallmouth bass or managed for trout or smallmouth bass).

a. Design of single purpose structures on cold water streams shall retain the natural stream channel except within 300 feet of the structure and shall not back up water during normal base flow.

b. Aids will not be approved where wet pools or impoundments back waters over a state class A or B trout stream. Approval of aids for impoundments on class C trout streams may be given only if alternate sites on warm water streams have been determined nonfeasible.

c. If a dam is constructed on a cold water stream, it shall have a dry sediment pool. The conduit through the dam shall be straight through without obstruction and designed to carry base flow with a velocity of not less than 1.5 fs. and not to exceed 4.0 fs. A cuneate

will be installed in the flume to maintain a minimum water depth of 4 inches. The fall from the flume outlet to the surface of the stilling basin shall not be less than 12 inches nor more than 24 inches.

2. Warm water streams. Wet sediment pools are desirable on warm water streams provided valuable wildlife habitat or aesthetic features are not destroyed.

3. Multiple use structures. The design shall provide for a full bottom drain to be utilized for management, and a cold water draw (variable if possible) to carry full base flow.

4. Damage to habitat. Any damages to the water, fish or game resources shall be mitigated and planned for in the project plan.

History: Cr. Register, January, 1972, No. 193, eff. 2-1-72.

NR 50.09 Administration of recreation site planning grants. Applications may be submitted by any county, town, city or village for grants of not more than 50% of the cost to develop site plans for outdoor recreation facilities and reimbursement will be after the plans are completed upon incorporation in an approved development agreement or program.

History: Cr. Register, January, 1972, No. 193, eff. 2-1-72.

NR 50.10 Administration of aids for counties for snowmobile trails and areas. Sections 23.09 (11) and (26) and chapter 350, Wis. Stats.

(1) ELIGIBLE ITEMS:

(a) Purchase of easements or leases over private property for snowmobile trails, facilities and areas, if such easements provide public access to the trail, facility or area. No lands or easements may be acquired under condemnation. Property appraisals shall be based on department standards and property appraisal reports shall be approved by the department.

(b) Enter into agreements with the department to use for snowmobile trails, facilities or areas on lands owned or leased by the department. No lands will be condemned for this purpose.

(c) Develop and maintain snowmobile trails, facilities and areas on public lands designated by the county board or trails or areas under paragraphs (a) (b). The amount of aids to be granted to develop leased lands will be commensurate with the duration of lease.

(2) PROCEDURE FOR APPLYING FOR GRANT:

(a) Submit snowmobile plan approved by regional planning commission and compatible with state plans.

(b) Submit resolution adopted by the county board containing the following:

1. Applications for any or all:
 - a. Grants for purchase of easements, leases, or lands.
 - b. Grants for cost of developed trails and facilities.
 - c. Grants to maintain trails.
2. Name agency of county authorized to sign forms and act in behalf of county.
3. That the county will maintain the trails and facilities.
4. That county crews may do the work in excess of \$1,000.
5. Indicate funds budgeted for county share of lease, easement or land purchase and for maintenance of trails.

(c) Submit application forms, maps, data and follow procedures outlined in outdoor recreation aid program guide.

(d) Submit an environmental impact assessment or environmental impact statement.

(3) SNOWMOBILE TRAIL DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS:

(a) *Required specifications:*

1. Permanent trails:

a. Minimum graded width for one-way trails is 6 feet and maximum about 8 feet.

b. Minimum graded width for two-way trails is 10 feet and maximum about 12 feet.

c. Minimum turning radius is 25 feet.

d. A height of 10 feet above the trail will be cleared.

e. Sustained grades and slopes will be a maximum of 25%.

f. Brush will be cleared from an area 2 feet outside the trail edge.

g. Reflectorized signs or nonreflectorized signs.

2. Trails constructed with short term easements:

a. Minimum graded width of one-way trails is 4 feet and maximum width about 8 feet.

b. Minimum graded width of two-way trails is 8 feet and maximum about 12 feet.

c. Reflectorized or nonreflectorized signs.

d. Trail blazers, directional arrows, stop, regulatory, warning signs and highway guide signs may be used.

(b) *Desirable specifications:*

1. Trail length of 15-30 miles is desirable, 40-50 miles maximum, 5-10 miles minimum.

2. Toilet facilities should be provided at about 15-mile intervals on heavily used trails and recreation areas.

3. Trail vertical and horizontal sight distance should be a minimum of 50 feet. Snowbanks at road crossings should be cut back to provide adequate visibility in both directions on both sides. Snowbanks should be kept low at trail crossing points to permit easy exit from and entrance back on to the trail. Warning signs should be installed on trails at both trail and road crossings.

4. Approaches and exits to grades and slopes should be straight, at least as long as the slope, grades and hill crossings should be wider than the normal trails.

5. Access to trails should be controlled where possible. Caution signs should be used to indicate trail intersections. Trails should be routed away from areas that will attract undesirable traffic or uses. Emergency exits should be provided at about 5-mile intervals and shown by trail signing.

6. Topography and land characteristics should be varied to maintain user interest, and to take advantage of interesting features.

7. Occasional open areas should be provided for frolic and rest.

8. Trail maintenance is extremely important to improve trail usability and enjoyment. Constant dragging of the trail is needed to eliminate moguls (humps). Ideally, heavily used trails should be dragged immediately after each new snowfall. Once-a-week maintenance is recommended.

9. Snowmobile trails should not be routed over lakes, streams or other bodies of water. If stream crossings are necessary, provide bridges at least 6 feet wide. Permits may be required on navigable streams.

10. Trails should cross contours at right angles where possible. Routing trails along side slopes should be avoided.

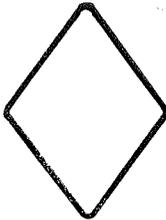
11. Route trails away from areas designated in department wilderness policy, game preserves, winter browse areas, experimental stations, nurseries, plantations and other areas of anticipated conflict, particularly areas which may be damaged by trail development or snowmobile use.

12. Trash barrels and picnic facilities should be provided at all rest and other use areas.

(4) SNOWMOBILE TRAIL SIGN STANDARDS:

(a) Snowmobile trail, regulatory, warning, guide and informational signs.

Signs for use on snowmobile trails to regulate snowmobile traffic, warn snowmobile drivers or assist the snowmobile driver to reach his destination.

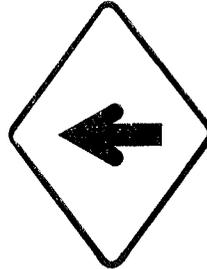


TRAIL BLAZER

Purpose: to delineate the trail and to reassure the user that he is on the trail.

Size: 5" x 7" or 6" x 6"

Color: Reflective orange with black border. A limited number of 9" x 9" blazers may be used where needed.



DIRECTIONAL ARROW SIGN

Purpose: Indicates trail direction or changes in trail direction.

Size: 9¼" x 12", 9" x 9" or 12" x 12"

Color: Reflective orange background with black arrow and border.

Legend: 5¼" directional arrow.



STOP SIGN

Purpose: Use on trail prior to road crossing.

Size: 12" x 12" or 18" x 18"

Color: Reflective red background and reflective white letters and border.

Legend: 12" x 12" size—4" upper case letters, 18" x 18" size—6" upper case letters.



REGULATORY SIGN

Purpose: To inform snowmobile driver of regulations.

Size: 12" x 18"

Color: Reflective white background and black letters and border.



WARNING SIGNS

Purpose: To warn snowmobile driver of hazard.

Size: 12" x 12"

Color: Reflective yellow background and black letters or legend.



DO NOT ENTER SIGN

Purpose: To indicate one way trail or restricted area.

Size: 12" x 12" with 2½" letters.

Color: Reflective red background with white letters, border and legend.



PERMISSIVE

Purpose: To indicate snowmobile trails and other areas where snowmobiling is permitted.

Size: 12" x 12"

Background Color: Reflective white.

Legend: Reflective green circle. Black snowmobile symbol.



RESTRICTIVE

Purpose: To indicate areas where snowmobiling is not permitted.

Size: 12" x 12"

Background Color: Reflective white.

Legend: Reflective red circle. Black snowmobile symbol.



GUIDE SIGN

Purpose: Directs snowmobile driver to his destination.

Color: Brown background with reflective white letters and legend.

Legend: 2½" upper case letters.



SNOWMOBILE TRAIL SYMBOL

Purpose: Indicates snowmobile trail where trail intersects highways.

Size: 13" x 10½"

Color: Reflective orange with black letters and symbol.

**INFORMATIONAL SIGN**

Purpose: Furnish information about trails or facilities.

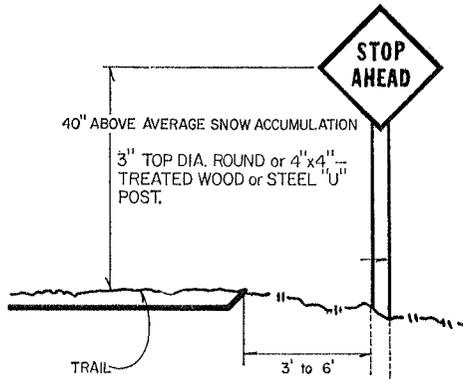
Color: Painted or stained brown background with painted or routed white letters.

Legend: Maps.

**HIGHWAY GUIDE SIGN**

Purpose: Inform auto driver of location of snowmobile trail or route.

Color: Brown background with painted reflective white letters and legend.



DIRECTIONAL ARROW SIGNS AND TRAIL BLAZERS MAY BE MOUNTED ON 2"x2" WOOD OR STEEL "U" POSTS.

SIGN PLACEMENT

(b) Snowmobile trail and highway signs shall conform with sign legend and colors listed in Wisconsin Manual of Traffic Control Devices. Signs used on highways shall be reflectorized and constructed to the minimum specifications of the standard intersection signing listed in the Wisconsin Manual of Traffic Control Devices. The reflective material shall meet the specifications of paragraph 637.2.2.1 on reflective sheeting of Wisconsin Division of Highways standard specifications for road and bridge construction, edition of 1969.

(5) SNOWMOBILE ROUTE SIGN STANDARDS:

(a) *Snowmobile route signs.* Signs for use on highways and sidewalks designated for use by snowmobile operators by the governmental agency having jurisdiction or authorized by chapter 350.04, Wis. Stats., are as follows:

1. The Snowmobile Route (D11-6) sign shall have a reflectorized white symbol, margin and message on a reflectorized green background. The standard and minimum size of this sign is 24" x 18". The design of the stylized snowmobile symbol and the word message "SNOWMOBILE ROUTE" shall essentially conform to the standard

design on file in the division of highways, department of transportation. A Cardinal Direction marker (North, South, East or West) and the END marker with reflectorized white letters and margin on reflectorized green background may be used with the Snowmobile Route sign if appropriate. The standard and minimum size of such markers is 24" x 12".

When a Snowmobile Route has a name and it is desirable to use that name on the signs to distinguish one Snowmobile Route from another, not more than two additional lines of message may be added to the Snowmobile Route sign above the symbol. The standard and minimum size of such route signs is 24" x 24".

2. A Directional Arrow marker having a reflectorized white arrow and margin on a reflectorized green background shall be used with the Snowmobile Route marker except when it is used just beyond a turn or a Reassurance marker. The standard and minimum size of the Directional Arrow marker is 24" x 6", and the arrow shall have a length of 15½" and a stem 1½" wide.

When required by special conditions, a supplemental panel of the same width as the Snowmobile Route Sign may be mounted below that sign to post supplementary guidance or regulatory information. This sign shall have white letters and border on a green background if it is a guide sign, and shall have the same background and a message color combination as for the appropriate regulatory sign if of that type. The message and color combination shall have the approval of the authority in charge of the maintenance of the highway.

3. A Snowmobile Route sign with appropriate Directional Arrow shall be placed at the beginning of a Snowmobile Route and at such locations and intervals as are necessary to enable snowmobile operators to follow the route. Excessive signing should be avoided.

4. At intersections where a snowmobile route turns a Snowmobile Route sign with Directional Arrow marker pointing in the appropriate direction shall be placed, at or just in advance of the point of turn. It may be desirable in some cases to place a Snowmobile Route sign without Directional Arrow a hundred feet more or less beyond the intersection or point of turn to reassure snowmobile operators that they are on the Snowmobile Route.

5. White on brown guide signs, as specified under Snowmobile Trail signing, may be used to designate the junction of a Snowmobile Route with a Snowmobile Trail.

6. Separate STOP signs and other regulatory and warning signs for snowmobile operators are not considered normally to be necessary on a Snowmobile Route since those provided for highway traffic should suffice. However, where such special signing is done for snowmobile operators, the sign specified for Snowmobile Trails shall be used, and they shall be so placed and positioned as not to confuse drivers of vehicles on the highway.

7. All Snowmobile Route signing shall be done by or under the direction of and is the responsibility of the unit of government which designates the Snowmobile Routes. The department of transportation does not participate in Snowmobile Route signing but reserves the right to require such changes in the signing of Snowmobile Routes marked over the State Trunk Highway System as it deems necessary in the safety of highway traffic and the efficient and effective operation of the highway.

8. All Snowmobile Route signing shall insofar as practicable be placed between the path intended for snowmobile use and the edge of the highway right-of-way. In no case shall Snowmobile Route signing be closer than two (2) feet to the outer edge of the highway shoulder. Snowmobile Route signs should be placed on wood or light weight metal supports which will readily break or bend without injuring the occupants if hit by a vehicle or snowmobile.

9. Snowmobile Route signs shall not be erected on highway right-of-way until permission therefore has been received from the authority in charge of the maintenance of the highway.

(b) *Reflectorization.* The reflective material for all reflectorized signs shall meet the specifications of paragraph 637.2.2.1 on reflective sheeting in the State of Wisconsin division of highways standard specifications for road and bridge construction, edition of 1969.



GREEN-REFLECTORIZED BACKGROUND WITH WHITE-REFLECTORIZED LETTERS AND SYMBOLS

SNOWMOBILE ROUTE SIGN

History: Cr. Register, January, 1972, No. 193, eff. 2-1-72; r. and recr. Register, March, 1973, No. 207, eff. 4-1-73.

Cr Ch NR 70