

**From:** artbaseler@aim.com [mailto:artbaseler@aim.com]

**Sent:** Friday, December 01, 2006 11:29 AM

**To:** Sen.Breske

**Cc:** Sen.Olsen

**Subject:** ATVs

Dear Senator Breske;

It has come to my attention that there is discussion concerning allowing ATV usage on state recreation trails. I would like to express my objection to the use of these machines on trails that heretofore have been restricted to walking, biking and in some instances horse riding. I usually bike on the Mascoutin Trail around Ripon and enjoy the knowledge that I won't be hit by a vehicle unless I disregard a crossing. To be able to enjoy nature without the hustle and bustle of everyday life on these trails is a great benefit. To introduce noisy, air polluting machines to this environment would be a travesty. To have machines capable of a relatively high speed using the same space with walkers and bikers will endanger those smaller and slower. Only this last summer two young men who were riding on private land ended up in a head on collision sending one boy to the hospital for several days. Accidents can and do happen. In the end I feel that allowing these machines on these trails will eventually discourage the use of the trails by those who the trails were originally designed for. Please keep these comments in mind when you chair the next meeting of the committee on state trails policy.

Thank you

Arthur E. Baseler

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