

[November 30, 2006]

Senator Breske,

I would have liked to attend the November 10th hearing of the Special Legislative Committee on State Trails Policy in Merrill but I unfortunately had other commitments that day. So I am sending this message to present my opinion on the issue.

I am a private landowner of 48 acres of forestland in Taylor County. I worked hard to purchase this property three years ago and I have no desire to allow All-Terrain Vehicles or any public motorized use on any portion of my property.

A beautiful half-mile segment of the Ice Age Trail does cross my property and I enjoy having a small piece of this thousand-mile footpath across my domain. Hikers treat my property with respect and I have been very happy to meet and talk with some of them.

People who ride ATVs are not welcome to ride their machines across my property any more than they are allowed to ride them into Miller Park or Lambeau Field. But everyone is welcome to walk across my property on the Ice Age Trail.

I understand that the Ice Age Trail has been designated by the legislature as a "State Trail". You need to understand that I oppose, with all the passion I feel for my land, any attempt by the legislature to open the Ice Age Trail to public motorized use.

Respectfully,  
Andrew Hanson  
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