

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT (EXCERPT)
Act 451 of 1994

324.82109 Appropriation; uses; allocation; grants; contract payments; financial assistance; conditions; application; grant agreement or contract; payment; term; request for information; report.

Sec. 82109. (1) Money appropriated to the department from the recreational snowmobile trail improvement subaccount shall be used for 1 or more of the following:

(a) Planning, constructing, maintaining, and acquiring trails and areas for the use of snowmobiles, or access to those trails and areas, and basic snowmobile facilities.

(b) Financial assistance to local units of government and nonprofit incorporated snowmobile clubs or organizations considered eligible by the department.

(c) The department's administration of subdivisions (a) and (b).

(2) In preparing its annual budget for recreational snowmobile trail improvement funds and determining the allocation of funds as provided for in subsection (1), the department shall do both of the following:

(a) Seek input from the snowmobile advisory committee created under section 82102a.

(b) To the degree feasible, give priority to use of the funds for financial assistance to local units of government and nonprofit incorporated snowmobile clubs or organizations.

(3) A portion of the funds appropriated to the department each year shall be used to provide financial assistance to local units of government and nonprofit incorporated snowmobile clubs or organizations in the form of grants or contract payments for annual snowmobile trail maintenance costs, including signage and liability insurance. The department may also issue grants or enter into contracts for 1 or more of the following additional activities:

(a) Maintenance equipment.

(b) Repair or new development of snowmobile trails or related facilities, including the costs of designing and engineering for grant-funded improvements.

(c) Acquisition of land or rights in lands for snowmobile trails or related facilities, costs of leases, permits, easements, or other agreements that allow for use of private lands for public access to snowmobile trails and related facilities, or development of new snowmobile trails and related facilities.

(4) Financial assistance shall not be made under this section unless the costs are for a trail that is available for public snowmobile use and is approved by the department.

(5) Financial assistance shall be allocated as follows:

(a) Assistance for snowmobile trail maintenance costs, excluding signage and liability insurance, shall be according to a formula promulgated by the state recreational trail coordinator, which shall provide an amount up to 100% of the actual, eligible expense of maintaining the trail per year incurred and documented by the grant recipient or contractor and approved by the department.

(b) Assistance for the cost of land acquisition, leasing, permits, or other agreements may equal 100% of the actual, eligible expenses incurred and documented by the grant recipient or contractor and approved by the department.

(c) Assistance for signage may equal 100% of the actual, eligible costs incurred and documented by the grant recipient or contractor and approved by the department. In lieu of financial assistance for signage, the department may choose to use recreational snowmobile trail improvement funds to purchase signs and provide them to grant recipients or contractors. Financial assistance for signs shall not be provided under this section unless the snowmobile trails meet minimum state snowmobile trail construction standards and are funded for snowmobile season maintenance.

(d) Assistance for trail insurance may equal 100% of the actual, eligible costs incurred and documented by the grant recipient or contractor and approved by the department.

(e) Assistance for repair or the development of new trails or trail facilities shall equal 100% of the actual, eligible costs incurred and documented by the grant recipient or contractor and approved by the department.

(f) The department may also assist in a portion of the costs of acquiring grooming equipment. The department shall determine the available grant or contract percentage for eligible grooming equipment costs on an annual basis and publish the percentage prior to the application deadline. Assistance for acquiring grooming equipment shall be based on actual, eligible costs incurred and documented by the grant recipient or contractor and approved by the department.

(6) To be considered for financial assistance, a local unit of government or nonprofit incorporated snowmobile club or organization must submit an application on a form provided by the department and by a deadline established by the department. An application shall include a proposed budget and the amount of financial assistance requested for each of the activities for which assistance is requested.

(7) To receive financial assistance under this section, a local unit of government or nonprofit incorporated snowmobile club or organization must enter into a grant agreement or contract with the department that specifies the obligations of the grant recipient or contractor. The grant agreement or contract shall include provisions as determined by the department, including, but not limited to, requirements that the grant recipient or contractor maintain records and submit documentation and reports to the department to verify expenditure of money received. The grant agreement or contract shall also require a grant recipient or contractor to adhere to trail specifications prescribed by the department.

(8) Upon execution of a grant agreement or contract, the department may, at its discretion, provide an advanced payment for a portion of the projected cost for 1 or more of the approved activities. The department shall make final payment upon completion of the project as determined by the department and department approval of cost documentation submitted by the grant recipient or contractor.

(9) A grant agreement or contract shall include a specified term for which the grant agreement or contract is valid. Grant or contract funds shall be encumbered upon execution of the grant agreement or contract and remain available for the specified term. Grant or contract funds not expended by a grant recipient or contractor within the specified term may, at the department's discretion, be reallocated to the grant recipient or contractor as part of a new grant agreement or contract.

(10) The department of state and the department shall include in their annual budget requests information detailing their snowmobile programs.

(11) Beginning March 31, 2004, the department shall provide a biannual report to the commission of its expenditures under this section for the prior 2 fiscal years.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 230, Imd. Eff. Dec. 18, 2003;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles