



## **ABCSC BASIC RECOMMENDED SNOWMOBILE BACKCOUNTRY STEWARDSHIP AND BEHAVIOUR**

### **BEFORE YOU GO**

- Identify the areas in which you are going to ride.
- Is it Private Property or Tenured land and have you obtained permission to ride there?
- Are there Environmental or Wildlife concerns and are you aware of them?
- Have you advised anyone not going with you where you are going and when you should be expected back?
- If you are snowmobiling in unfamiliar terrain have you acquired maps of the area?
- HAVE A PLAN!

### **WHEN YOU GET THERE**

- When you arrive at the staging/parking area, make certain you park your vehicle in a “user friendly” manner. There may be others using the area, therefore keep that in mind and don’t take up more room than you require.
- Don’t block others in.
- If it is necessary to unhook your trailer to accommodate other users, do so.

### **RIDING IN THE BACKCOUNTRY**

- Please observe the “Pack it in-Pack it out” rule at all times.
- If using cabins or shelters provided by others for snowmobilers, remember that this is a valuable service provided by the host in the area you are in, and treat it accordingly. Remember that others

have put in a great deal of effort to provide you with this service and that you are a guest.

- Many areas promoted for Recreational Snowmobiling contain Cutblocks and Logged over areas. Please be aware that these areas have been replanted and avoid accessing them if stems are visible, as running over these stems with a Snowmobile will cause considerable damage. This also includes Skid Trails as they have been replanted as well.
- When crossing rivers or streams try to cross where bridges have been provided or where there are natural ice bridges, which you have deemed safe for use. Do not drive through streams, as this could cause Environmental damage.
- Always be aware that you may be snowmobiling in watersheds, which are being used for human consumption.
- In case of an emergency, volunteer assistance. Always carry essential emergency equipment such as a light source, shovel, and first aid kit.
- If riding in an area, which has Groomed Trails, always, buy a trail pass where required, and observe the rules of the trail. Your trail fee helps pay for the development and maintenance of the trails.
- Always carry the necessary Safety equipment required for the terrain you will be riding in. (Avalanche areas, etc.)

## ABC Snowmobile Clubs

### **OTHER USERS OF THE BACKCOUNTRY**

- Don't interfere with or harass others, recognizing that people judge all other winter recreationists by your actions.
- When meeting Cross Country Skiers or Snowshoers do not ride in their "set" tracks.
- Always offer a friendly greeting and ask where they are going as you can move with much more speed and ease than they can. This way you can leave areas for them to recreate in.
- Ask if there is anything you can do for them before you leave.
- When stopping, don't block the trail.
- Ride under control at all times -- speed can be hazardous, both to you and to other users of the trail.
- Slow down and use caution when approaching or overtaking others.
- We are in a sport that generally attracts nice people. Say hi and leave your ego in your vehicle, and don't leave your manners at home!
- No matter how much we disagree with somebody else's way, we all have something in common. We're there to appreciate the backcountry and to savor our "day in the woods."

## **WILDLIFE CONCERNS**

- Do your best to have as little impact on wildlife as possible.
- If you are riding in authorized areas and you encounter wildlife, give them room.  
Winter is a much more difficult time for wildlife as it takes most of their energy just to survive.
- If you can not safely avoid an encounter, leave the area in the least intrusive manner possible.
- Observe all applied rules and regulations concerning wildlife in the area you are riding in, and use COMMON SENSE!

## **"SUPPORT YOUR SPORT"**

As Recreational Snowmobiling is currently facing many future changes, it has become more apparent that we must always represent ourselves as responsible users and stewards of our Recreation Areas. Always promote a friendly and positive attitude while in the backcountry, as this is what people remember.

Become informed. Become involved.

**Remember,**

### **SNOWMOBILE**

**T**-Travel and recreate with minimum impact.

**R**-Respect the environment and rights of others.

**A**-Allow for the continued use of our resources by exhibiting good behavior.

**C**-Co-operate with other users.

**K**-Keep aware of changes and policies governing our sport.

**S**-Support your sport-Join an organization!

