

Stone Valley Cooperative Recreation Area (SVCRA)

Project Description

The Stone Valley partners request that proposed work on land within the SVCRA boundaries be reported to them for discussion and suggestions before pursuing acceptance from the relevant property owner(s).

1. Submission Date: __Dec. 10, 2013__

2. Name of project__O'Malley Brook Bike Trail__

3. Description of location__E. of Lenny Rd and N. of Co. Rt 58__

photos/maps attached__"SVCRAmap2.jpg"__

property owner(s) __St. Lawrence Co.__

4. Contact Person(Name): __Jim Akins, St. Law. Co. Mtn. Bike Assn.

USMail Address __P O B0x 673__

__Canton NY 13617__

Phone: __386-4348__

E-mail :__akinsacres@gmail.com__

5. Person completing this form (if different from above)

John Omohundro, ADK Laurentian chapter

6. Short Description of proposed project

3.5 mi. of narrow easy and medium mountain bike trails on both sides of the brook [O'Malley bridge project to be proposed separately]

Mountain bike trails will consist of both new single track and existing skidder road. The single track will be designed to be ridden in either direction and the skidder roads will be utilized as access to the single track. The single track will be created similar to IMBA's twist-and-turn design of trail building. (<http://www.imba.com/resources/trail-building/twists-and-turns>) There will also be aspects of a "flow trail" added into the descents that will allow for both beginning riders and seasoned riders to enjoy the same terrain.

The mountain bike trails will be mostly "easy" with a few sections that will be "more difficult" in terms of the IMBA chart (<http://www.imba.com/resources/maps/traildifficulty-ratings>.) The nature of this trail will be curves, bench cut,

rock surfaces, mellow descents with rollers and berms. Most obstacles will be very small. Larger obstacles will also have an easier alternate route to allow for riders of various ability levels to enjoy the same trail system. Rollers and berms will be installed to provide descents with entertaining features for both new and seasoned riders. These features can also be utilized to mitigate erosion.

7. Estimated starting date _June 2013_

8. Estimated completion date _Dec. 2013_

9. Materials to be used (Wood, metal, stone, etc.) : __none__

10. Description of signage to be installed (per SVCRA sign guidelines, see Management Agreement Appendix 11)

A brown and yellow entry sign on Lenny Rd.; brown and yellow loop signs with arrows; red diamond hiking trail signs on the main trail from Lenny Rd to Co. Rte 58; diamond trail markers in another color for dedicated bike sections

11. Equipment required to complete (especially machines, power tools): all hand tools

12. Estimated Cost of The Project : approx. \$900 in cash, plus donated labor

proposed source of funding or supplies: \$549 for roue hoes from RRAC;
\$300-400 in signs from RRAC

13. Organization of the work (coordination, reporting structure, safety/risk management)

Work will be performed by St. Lawrence Mountain Bike Association and ADK Volunteers and other individuals under the supervision of Dawn Howard, the Soil and Water Conservation District Manager. Trail design and layout for this extension project will be supervised by Ben Yandeau under the direction of Soil and Water.

Construction work on new trails will occur as sanctioned ADK events. All ADK safety protocols will be followed, including participants reading and signing the ADK waiver. Crew leaders (Phil Bridgeman, Ben Yandeau and Mark Simon) will conduct a safety briefing prior to all work sessions. Objective hazards such as safe working distances between work members while swinging tools will be among topics discussed. When appropriate, helmets, gloves, and safety glasses will be worn.

14. Sustainability, or expected life use of project: __20__ years

All new trail work and maintenance will be performed with the goal of 20-year longevity. Rock materials will be favored over wood. If wood is used for water bars, stairs, or other structures, then cedar, hemlock, or environmentally-friendly treated wood will be used.

Estimated annual maintenance requirements and associated cost:

Social or unapproved trails or impacts from ATV trespass will be brushed in to mitigate further impacts to soil and vegetation.

Invasive plants along the trails will be identified and reported to Soil and Water

Trails with erosion exceeding 4" in depth as measured with a string across the width of the tread will receive priority for maintenance or new trail construction.

Who will monitor and maintain:

Trail conditions will be monitored regularly by members of SLMBA and brief reports periodically communicated to Soil and Water.

Equipment and supplies needed to maintain:

Hand tools and replacement signs

15. Anticipated Impacts of Project on Management Goals of Agreement; check all that apply

- ☐ Healthy and abundant natural resources for timber, hydropower, and recreation
- ☒ Public has access for allowed activities
- ☐ High scenic values of forested landscape and river flow
- ☒ Mitigate conflict among users and owners
- ☐ Biological diversity, with emphasis on native species
- ☐ Interpretation and protection of geologic and historic features

Elaborate on each impact checked above:

-public has access: this trail adds a significant length of dedicated bike trails to the SVCRA while also adding additional multi-use non-motorized trail.

-mitigate conflict among users and owners: two conflicts could result from such a trail: collisions of cyclists at crossings of the bike trail with the skidder log-

ging trails, which serve other users; trail users and hunters in the fall. To mitigate the collisions, we will sign the crossings with caution and brush out unused skidder logging trails; to mitigate conflict between hunters and other users, we'll mount more copies of the warning signs now in use at Stone Valley and Red Sandstone hiking trails. Multi-use trails that may be used by equestrians will be distinguished by signage from dedicated bike trails. The traditional hiking trails that run along the Raquette River will remain unchanged and will be separate and discreet from mountain bike trails, meaning that they will not have short spurs (other than the existing stair bypass) or other features catering to mountain bikers

16. Management Objectives of Agreement addressed by Project:

- ☒ Enhance public information about SVCRA
- ☒ Maintain / improve access to SVCRA and related spaces
- ☒ Minimize/reduce and mitigate human impact
- ☐ Increase public awareness of Leave No Trace ethics and land use policy
- ☐ Enhance public safety
- ☒ Deal with invasive plants
- ☐ Gather and report user statistics
- ☐ Promote tourism

Elaborate on each objective checked above:

public information: SLMBA intends to publicize this new trail to mountain bikers

improve access: this greatly expands the mileage of dedicated mountain bike trails, and also increases the mileage of multi-use non-motorized trails.

human impact: Monitoring will look for erosion or spread of the narrow trail, accumulation of trash, occurrence of social (unplanned) trails

Invasives: SLMBA trail monitoring will include identifying and reporting invasives along trail

17. Anticipated Impacts of project during and after construction on Socioeconomic Characteristics of the Area:

- ☐ Provision of emergency services
- ☐ Persons with disabilities, minorities, or elderly

_____ Local tax base

_____ Adjacent land use (outside SVCRA)

Elaborate on each category checked above:

18. Anticipated Impacts of project during and after construction on Natural Resources of the Area

☒ Soil

☒ Vegetation, trees

_____ Streams, rivers

_____ Groundwater aquifers

☒ Runoff or runoff patterns

_____ Wetlands

_____ Fish and wildlife

☒ Significant habitat areas

☒ Rare, threatened or endangered species

Elaborate on each category checked above:

soil: Erosion and water control will be created by following the principals of grade reversals. While this area is mostly mild in gradient, where sections become steep grade reversals will be utilized to control erosion (<http://www.imba.com/resources/trail-building/easy-way-toughen-trails>). Social (unplanned) trails will be identified and brushed out to prevent expansion of trail's impact and confuse visitors.

soil and vegetation: Bench cuts will be dug down to mineral soil with the duff layer removed. These cuts will have a slight camber for drainage. Switchbacks will be brushed in to prevent hikers and other visitors from cutting across them.

Sapling stobs (trees 3" and less in diam.) will be completely removed from the trail rather than cutting them off (which risks tripping injury).

Run off/patterns: the trail will be kept at least eight feet from streams except where the trail approaches O'Malley Brook to cross the bridge proposed for that location.

Habitat/rare plants: The trail will be kept to its mostly two-foot width and unplanned trails removed to minimize impact on the ground cover.

19. Anticipated Impacts of project during and after construction on Cultural or Historical Characteristics of the Area

_____ Cultural or historical features

Elaborate on impacts:

NA

20. Anticipated Impacts of project during and after construction on Pollution Potential of the Area:

- _____ potential for hazardous wastes
- _____ effects from solid waste
- _____ noise impact
- _____ air quality
- _____ motor traffic patterns and safety

Elaborate on each category checked:

NA

Submission of this form to the Stone Valley partners is for coordination only and does not constitute an approval process. Applicants still must acquire written permission of the property owner(s).