

► Navigational Intersection Markings Project

Currently poised on the brink of implementation, this Project is a straight-forward, no-frills effort undertaken to demonstrate the capacity to advance snowmobile trail navigation and safe riding in the Commonwealth.

In plotting and erecting navigational signs for intersections, the Project is intended to bring Pennsylvania signage in line with best practices of snowbelt states, while addressing current problems of navigation and safety that plague both local and visiting riders.



Specifically, Pennsylvania has many self-contained trail systems with little or no navigational markings other than street or road names. Included within these segments are trails that loop and those that cross the same road more than once. At these junctures, riders that are not intimately acquainted with the landscape have no means of identifying their location at a crossroads --- offering potential for riders to become lost, and to do so when low on fuel, in periods of extreme weather conditions, and at nighttime.

In advance of the Project, snowmobile clubs in the three-county area selected for the pilot (Erie, Potter, Somerset) identified the locations of intersections and numbers of signs needed, and did so by utilizing the same set of guidelines. PSSA's next step is to move forward in purchasing and working with clubs to place the first 700 signs to offer uniform and consistent information for in-state and visiting snowmobilers.

It should be emphasized that consistency is key to the Project. By utilizing the same signs, the Project will illustrate the potential for consistently navigating trails cutting across PA Bureau of Forestry land, private trails and connectors, ANF Federal land, joint use roads, and designated snowmobile trails. In this regard, the Project provides a key component for the development of statewide mapping.

For more information on the Project, contact PSSA at pasnow@verizon.net, or call (888) 411-PSSA.