

## **A notice about the railroad tunnel connecting Pine River Pond to the corridor 22 Dick Doyle Memorial Trail and points West**

This is directed to all members and others who ride on our trails and encounter the tunnel under the active railroad tracks in North Wakefield.

- 1) The tunnel and the long bridge near the Miss Wakefield Diner are the only legal ways to cross the active railroad tracks on our trail system. We have attempted to negotiate other crossings but to no avail.
- 2) The railroad prohibits snowmobiles from crossing the tracks because packed snow can cause a derailment. In addition there is the danger of a collision.
- 3) The tunnel is about 48" wide but the height can vary depending on an unpredictable accumulation of ice and snow, particularly at the lower, west end. Since a brook runs through the tunnel, a bridge had to be constructed within in it so the floor cannot be any lower.
- 4) Most machines will fit. Our SkiDoo Skandic groomers will fit through without a drag which is why drags are kept on both sides. If you use it, go through slowly and keep your head down.
- 5) If your machine is too big or you don't like the tunnel, do not use the trail. We are sorry for this inconvenience.
- 6) We have posted signs about the tunnel as well as fencing to inform as well as deter crossing of the tracks but unfortunately signs and fencing have been taken down by unknown persons. Please be aware that if a Fish and Game officer stops someone who has crossed the tracks, that rider could be subject to a substantial fine.
- 7) If illegal crossing continues, the railroad might close the tunnel, which would render the trail useless and ruin things for many responsible riders. If you have a solution to this problem, we would welcome your input.

Thank you for reading this and be sure to tell your fellow riders.

The Officers and Directors of the Seven Lakes Snowmobile Club.