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Alaska Department of Natural Resources

## DIVISION OF PARKS & OUTDOOR RECREATION

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### Snowmachine Trail Grants Awarded for 2009

The Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2009 Snowmachine Trail Grant and Grooming Pool awards. The Snowmachine Trail Program is a competitive and reimbursable matching grant. Grants are available for developing and maintaining public Snowmachine trails and related facilities and for safety and educational projects. The Snowmachine Trail Program's Grooming Pool provides funding for trail grooming, marking and signage for Snowmachine trails.

Grant applications were reviewed and evaluated by SnowTRAC, a statewide citizen advisory committee appointed by the Director of the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation to promote safe snowmobiling and development of facilities statewide. These grants are made possible by Snowmachine registration fees paid to the State by Snowmachine owners. Continuation of this grant program is dependent upon an annual appropriation by the Legislature of Snowmachine registration fees.

TESORO IRON DOG Snowmachine SAFETY EXPO, submitted by Iron Dog, Inc.

The grantee will host a free public festival to promote Snowmachine education and safety through presentations, seminars, industry vendors, public safety organizations, and the distribution of educational brochures. The festival will be held indoors at the Wasilla Sports Complex on January 31, 2009 from 10am to 2pm. Iron Dog Inc. was awarded \$8,306.

WILLOW WINTER TRAIL MAINTENANCE PROJECT, submitted by the Willow Trails Committee.

The grantee will utilize funding to groom sign and maintain approximately 100 miles of winter trails and trailheads within the West Gateway Trail System. This project will include the purchase of a four-stroke Snowmachine and grooming equipment, the grooming of winter trails, posting of directional and safety signs, and implementation of safety and educational materials at kiosks. The Willow Trails Committee was awarded \$14,350.

MONTANA CREEK TRAIL GROOMING, Submitted by the Montana Creek Motor Musers.

Grant funds will be used to purchase a "wide-track" Snowmachine to tow a groomer on the Southfork Montana Creek trail system. This grant will now allow the applicant to pull a total of three groomers and be able to maintain the trail in a more expeditious manner. The Southfork Montana Creek trail system provides access to a vast area of alpine riding between Montana Creek and Sheep Creek. The Montana Creek Motor Musers were awarded \$11,250.

#### Grooming Pool Allocations 2009

Mat-su Area was awarded \$105,000

Chugach Area was awarded \$25,000

Northern Alaska was awarded \$37,000

Kenai Peninsula was awarded \$25,000

Southwest was awarded \$2,000

Wood Tik-Chik State Park was awarded \$6,000

**\*Note:** These are approximate funding allocations. Actual funding amounts will be distributed based on weather conditions and snowfall.

An additional \$10,000 will be provided to the Mat-Su Area State Park office to distribute safety and educational signs to grooming pool grantees.

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#### Mission Statement

"The Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation provides outdoor recreation opportunities and conserves and interprets natural, cultural, and historic resources for the use, enjoyment, and welfare of the people."



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