

Memo Regarding the Payment of Third Parties for Non-Contract Grooming

To Whom it may concern:

This memo is to inform all parties that may have the ability to groom or otherwise perform trail maintenance of any kind, summer or winter, that the Flathead Snowmobile Association (FSA) will only pay for activities for which an active and approved written contract exists between both parties prior to any work for compensation is performed.

Should any party take it upon themselves to improve any trail for which the FSA has license or agreement to maintain without a previously written and approved contract, the FSA is not liable for any invoices, expenses, penalties, fines or any payment of any kind to the third party or governing body that may levy a fine or penalty for work done without said right.

The FSA operates under various agreements with multiple government agencies. It pays license fees, insurance, and has within its operating agreement(s) language that defines who can operate equipment to maintain specific trails. In the case of Contract Grooming, the FSA must have a written agreement with any contractor(s) in which those contractors must meet and prove that they meet the requirements set forth in our overall operating agreement(s). Every contractor must also carry their own insurance with named third party liability as specified under our operating agreements. Therefore, it is not possible for the FSA to have a third party perform trail maintenance and then get compensated in arrears.

Finally, the FSA operates on a very tight budget funded primarily via two to three grant programs (both federal and state). Unexpected expenses for maintenance which are not budgeted for or approved by the board in advance, is unacceptable. Should the FSA not be able to perform its expected duties, any third parties with the ability to assist, should contact FSA in advance of doing anything and establish a written contract with all the necessary coverages, licenses, etc. Even if you are donating your services, please check with the Grooming Chair first.

If you have any questions, please contact the FSA Grooming Chair, Rick David at grooming@flatheadsnowmobiler.com