



Schedule F

Operational Standards

Recreation Trail

1. TRAIL MAINTENANCE

1.1 Maintenance Priorities

- Safety considerations should *always* be the first priority. Unsafe conditions should be corrected or normal use restricted.
- Environmental and trail damage should be corrected and actions taken to prevent further damage.
- User convenience should be considered.
- Continuous maintenance and repair to the trails and infrastructure to protect provincial investments.

1.1.1 Preseason Trail Maintenance

Maintenance and repair of trail and its ancillary facilities should be scheduled prior to the operational season of use, when it's least disruptive to trail users. Only use ministry approved paint/stain colours. On a priority basis the following should occur:

- **Trail signs**
 - check all km markers, signs and cairns to ensure they are in place, visible and in good repair
 - additional signs should be installed as needed
 - conduct minor repairs and paint/stain all trail signs and posts as required.
- **Kiosks**
 - inspect kiosk structure to ensure it's secure and solidly installed
 - conduct minor repairs and maintenance
 - remove cobwebs/dirt
 - replace damaged signage
 - remove all unauthorized signage
 - paint/stain as needed.
- **Trail tread**
 - drain/harden mud holes and boggy areas
 - complete washout and/or slump repair
 - grub rocks, roots, stumps as necessary

- undertake surface repair as required; remove loose rocks, replenish surface material
 - repair turnpike sections; close unwanted trails/shortcuts and restore vegetation.
- **Deadfall**
 - cut out windfall/deadfall on the trail
 - remove wood a minimum of 1.5 metre from the tread centre dispose downhill when possible.
- **Brush/Vegetation**
 - remove all juvenile trees and woody brush for 1.5 metre on either side of tread centre within 3 centimetres of ground level
 - scatter the cut material out of sight of the trail
 - remove vegetation for viewpoint maintenance
 - inspect for hazard trees and report to Recreation Officer when known.
- **Erosion control**
 - clean-out and repair: existing water bars, culverts and ditches as necessary
 - drain water away from the trail to prevent erosion.
- **Route marking**
 - mark obscure routes with flagging or delineating tags as required.
- **Litter cleanup**
 - remove litter and garbage at the trailhead, along the trail and parking area(s), dispose of in an approved landfill site.
- **Limbing**
 - remove tree limbs to allow 2.5 metres of overhead clearance and 2.0-3.0 metre trail width
 - scatter cut limbs a minimum of 1 metre from the trail edge, out of sight where possible
 - cuts limbs clean to avoid scarring main trunk of the tree.
- **Parking area(s)**
 - remove all encroaching vegetation and overhanging limbs
 - brush back shrubs that conceal trailhead signs and kiosks
 - undertake surface repair as required; remove loose rocks, replenish surface material.
- **Informational and Interpretive Signs**
 - check signs to ensure they are in place, visible, in good repair and up-to-date as required
 - remove all unauthorized signs.

- **Trail Infrastructure**

- Ensure all bridges, boardwalks, paths, steps, stairs and handrails are safe and in a fully functional condition
- repair or replace material as required, including cribbing, retaining walls and barriers.

1. Routine Trail Maintenance:

Trail and ancillary facilities should be inspected and monitored throughout the operational season for possible repairs and maintenance.

2. TRAIL HAZARDS

Repair or eliminate known trail hazards when possible. If a natural hazard becomes known during routine maintenance visits, such as river/creek crossings, slides/washouts and hazard trees, the Directors of FOSS must be advised.

END