



UNITED RIDERS OF CUMBERLAND

BUILDER GUIDELINES

TRAIL WORK APPROVAL PROCESS

May 2020

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INTRODUCTION

This document sets out the PROCESS to get trail work approval. It is very important that no “significant trail work” takes place until express permission has been given in writing by UROC after approval from the landowners.

It is UROC’s goal to make this process as streamlined as possible and to support volunteer builders within the requirements of the land access agreement to the greatest extent possible. We recognize that there would be no trails without the efforts of volunteer builders, and we want to ensure that can continue.

What is “Significant Trail Work”?

Significant Trail Work is:

1. Any building or construction of new trail.
2. For existing trail, re-routes, tree root or embedded rock removal, building features or structures, major drainage work, or any other trail alteration.
3. If you are using a chainsaw or axe, you are probably doing “significant trail work”.
4. If you are moving a lot of dirt, you are probably doing “significant trail work”.
5. Clearing deadfall on a non-existing trail is “significant trail work”
6. Clearing deadfall or other debris/obstacles, brushing or addressing minor drainage issues on existing trails is not “significant trail work”.

Why Do We Need This?

- The trail network exists on privately owned land.
- Unauthorized trail work on that private land could jeopardize the access agreement UROC has attained with the landowners.
- In addition to trail building and maintenance, this access agreement allows us to have vehicle access for trail work, have a paid trail crew, apply for government funding, and host events.
- Our collective stewardship of the trails is crucial to maintaining the reputation of the mountain bike community and strengthening our advocacy efforts.
- Failure to follow these guidelines potentially jeopardizes access to the trail network for everyone.
- In cases of unauthorized trail building, the builder could be held liable. UROC insurance may not apply. It is possible the builder/s would be asked to pay for the restoration of the line.
- UROC takes unauthorized trail work seriously. UROC is obliged to decommission any unauthorized trail building and report circumstances to the landowners. The landowners may consider issuing fines or take legal action against the offenders.
- The trail network is becoming denser and there is a need to be strategic about new trail construction.
- Times are changing. More and new builders of varying levels of experience are moving to town and want to build trail (i.e. we need you all to work with us, but, it's as much or more about the less experienced builders and those not in the know).

STEPS TO APPROVE TRAIL WORK

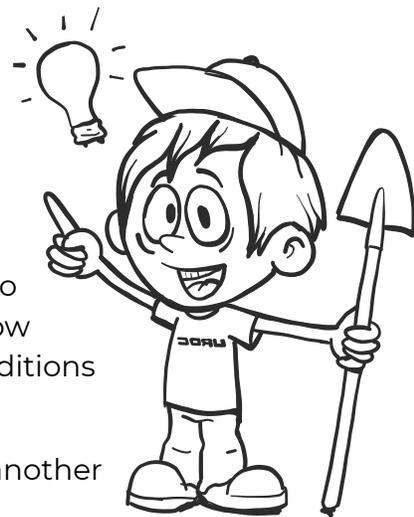
We want to help you get your trail proposal approved!

STEP 1: INITIATE CONTACT

Important: Before you put in all the hard yards of a trail plan initiate your idea with UROC at veride@unitedridersofcumberland.com

It's a good idea to check in to see if your trail idea fits into the overall planning for the trail network. This would allow you to avoid the extensive fieldwork if the following conditions already exist:

- A similar trail plan has already been submitted by another builder.
- The trail plan conflicts with a build plan already in progress by UROC., or trail strategy.
- Another trail of similar characteristics is planned in an adjacent area that will fulfill the needs of that type of trail.
- Trail location is in a potential or existing parkland, riparian zone or sensitive watershed location.
- Trail location is planned for timber harvesting based on landowner planning that UROC may have access to and the builder does not.
- Trail location crosses land ownership/management boundaries that should be avoided.



STEP 2: MAKE A TRAIL PLAN

Once you know that your idea is feasible submit your trail plan sooner than later, get your ducks in a row. New trail submissions happen once a year in the fall. Be ahead of the game. We want to build smart and work wise.

What's in the Trail Plan?

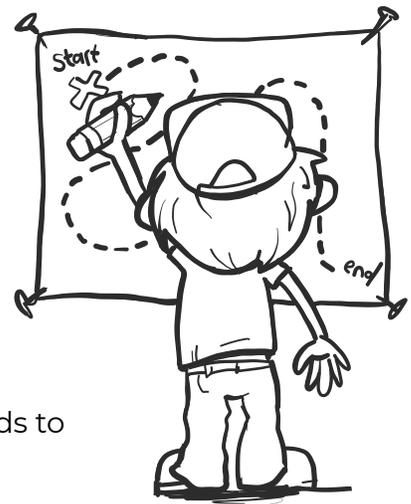
In order to assess your proposed trail work, the trail plan needs to include:

1. The location of the line (GPS track/traverse) with control points (bluffs/steep slopes, scenic lookouts, large trees, boulders, rail grade, road, and water crossings). The proposed line should be walked thoroughly with all options explored and the final line flagged and mapped.
2. Builder access routes.
3. Any stream, trail or road crossings (please note trail mergers are discouraged).
4. A trail designation or difficulty rating should be identified (consider the Trail Zone and what trails precede and follow the proposed line).
5. The style and character of trail. E.g.:
 - Do you plan to build jumps or structures?
 - Will it be downhill dedicated or cross-country?
6. The project timeline (when do you want to start building).
7. What resources will be required.
8. If it is work on an existing trail, an explanation of why it's needed and whether it's been discussed with the original builder.

In making this plan, please DO NOT start any trail work. This should be a passive process where there are no modifications to any existing trail or proposed trail, to ground, forest and/or vegetation.

Refer to the UROC Trail Planning and Construction Guidelines for more details.

If you've done something unauthorized, don't be scared to tell us. Reporting unauthorized work, and ceasing that work, will increase your chances of getting your proposal approved.



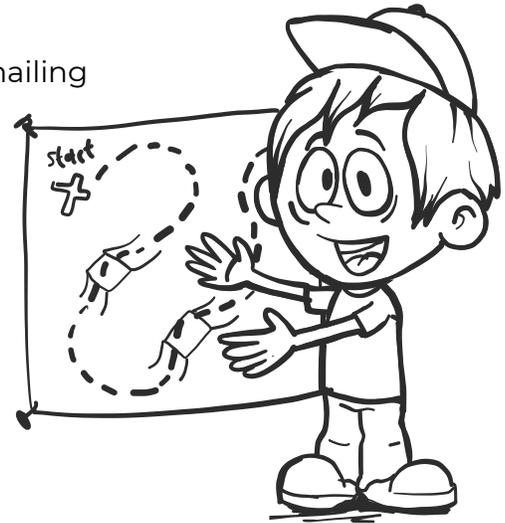
STEP 3:

SUBMIT YOUR TRAIL PLAN TO UROC

Submit your plan by contacting the UROC ED or by emailing veride@unitedridersofcumberland.com

UROC will consider/determine:

1. Whether the proposed trail work fits within UROC's overall trail network strategy.
2. Whose land the proposed trail is located on.
3. Whether the proposed trail will connect well to the existing trail network.
4. Will the proposed trail cause orientation confusion or unnecessary densification?
5. Whether the proposal may raise any safety/risk concerns and what measures can be considered around that.
6. Are there any measures to alleviate the safety/risk concerns?
7. Will gas powered machinery be required?
8. Who is the landowner where is the trail situated? Land boundaries will be determined (i.e. where the proposed trail work will take place).
9. If altering an existing trail, was the original trail builder consulted on the proposed work?



N.B. Having your proposed line placed on trailforks is not approval and doesn't cut it.

The UROC ED will walk the proposed line with you after submission to better understand the trail plan and will either:

1. Submit the plan to the landowners as received and advise the builder;
2. Work with the builder to address identified concerns prior to submission to the landowners; or,
3. Reject the proposed trail work and provide a rationale.

Once submitted, the UROC ED will advocate for the approval of the line from the landowners and work with the builder to provide any additional information that may be needed for approval.

Submissions are in the fall of each year.

STEP 4: YOU NOW GOTTA WAIT

Sometimes landowner approval takes time. It is important that no trail work takes place during this time as the application and continued trail access may be jeopardized.

STEP 5: FINAL APPROVAL / DENIAL

If the landowner approves the work, UROC will advise you in writing that you may proceed with your trail proposal (including any modifications that may be required to your plan). The final approval will come only from the UROC ED - no one else can give you final approval. *(Because “Bobby” told you could go ahead doesn’t cut it).*

You will also be advised if your proposal has been denied and the reasons why.

Only after you’ve received written approval from UROC, can you start your trail work. Renewed approval is required after 12 months if you have not started the trail in that period, or if you have not finished within the projected timeframe; in other words, if you haven’t finished the work within the projected timeframe, you will need to seek renewed approval before continuing.

UROC will consistently help you where needed.





UNITED RIDERS OF CUMBERLAND

BUILDER GUIDELINES

New Build & Significant Trail Work – May 2020

UNITED RIDERS OF CUMBERLAND ASSOCIATION

**RELEASE OF LIABILITY, WAIVER OF CLAIMS,
ASSUMPTION OF RISKS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT**

(hereinafter referred to as the "Release Agreement")

**BY SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT YOU WILL WAIVE OR GIVE UP CERTAIN LEGAL RIGHTS,
INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO SUE OR CLAIM COMPENSATION FOLLOWING AN ACCIDENT**

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

SIGNATURE OF PARTICIPANT

Name	Last	First	Middle Initial
Address	Street		
	City	Prov./State	Postal/ZipCode

TO: United Riders of Cumberland Association, Timberwest Forest Company, Mosaic Forest Management Corp., Hancock/Comox Timber Ltd., the Corporation of the Village of Cumberland, and all owners or occupiers of premises where Trail Building Activities (as defined herein) take place, and their respective directors, officers, employees, members, volunteers, instructors, guides, agents, representatives, independent contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, sponsors, successors and assigns (all of whom are hereinafter collectively referred as "the Releasees")

I am of the full age of 19 years or am the parent/legal guardian having full legal responsibility for decisions regarding my minor child/ward under the age of 19 and I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THIS RELEASE AGREEMENT PRIOR TO SIGNING IT, and I am aware that by signing this Release Agreement, I am irrevocably and forever waiving certain legal rights which I or my invitees, heirs, next-of-kin, executors, administrators and assigns may have against the Releasees.

DEFINITION

In this Release Agreement the term "Trail Building Activities" shall include all activities, services and use of facilities whether or not provided by or arranged by the Releasees, including, but not limited to: orientation and instruction sessions or workshops; use of trails for any purpose; recreational activities undertaken during an event, all travel either within or beyond the designated boundaries, including in the backcountry and on logging roads and trails; construction or maintenance of trails; hauling or transportation of tools or building materials, or other related activities or services, which are organized, provided, arranged, conducted, sponsored, promoted or authorized by or connected with the Releasees.

SAFETY

I have been advised to wear approved safety equipment while participating in Trail Building Activities, and to comply with all applicable municipal and provincial laws and regulations. I recognize that serious injury or death can result even when approved safety equipment is worn.

ASSUMPTION OF RISKS

I am aware that participation in Trail Building Activities involves many risks, dangers and hazards including, but not limited to: natural obstacles, trees, roots, tree stumps, logs, forest deadfall, cliffs, rocks, rock drops, loose gravel, holes and depressions on or beneath the trail or surface, streams and creeks; changing variable and difficult weather conditions; constructed features such as bridges, ramps, ladders, bumps, berms, jumps, and drops; travel on back-country roads; road-banks and cut-banks; hand or power tools; collisions with natural and constructed objects, other participants, vehicles, pedestrians, spectators and officials; encounters with domestic and wild animals, negligence of other persons; and NEGLIGENCE ON THE PART OF THE RELEASEES. I UNDERSTAND THAT NEGLIGENCE INCLUDES FAILURE OF THE RELEASEES TO TAKE REASONABLE STEPS TO SAFEGUARD OR PROTECT ME FROM THE RISKS, DANGERS AND HAZARDS OF TRAIL BUILDING ACTIVITIES.

I AM AWARE OF THE RISKS, DANGERS AND HAZARDS ASSOCIATED WITH TRAIL BUILDING ACTIVITIES AND I FREELY ACCEPT AND FULLY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, DANGERS AND HAZARDS AND THE POSSIBILITY OF PERSONAL INJURY, DEATH, PROPERTY DAMAGE OR LOSS RESULTING THEREFROM.

MINOR PARTICIPANT

In consideration for allowing my minor child/ward to participate in Trail Building Activities, I hereby warrant and agree:

1. I am familiar with and accept, on behalf of myself and my minor child/ward that there is the risk of serious injury and death in participation in Trail Building Activities;
2. I have satisfied myself and believe that my minor child/ward is physically, emotionally and mentally able to participate in Trail Building Activities, and that his/her equipment, is mechanically fit for his/her use;