



**Capital Repairs**

1. Repairs on the following equipment:

Model

Year

Please list what repairs will be made to the equipment listed above and include ALL invoices associated with the repair:

Total Cost of Repairs:

**Signatures**

Club/Contractor:

Signed

Date

VAST Trails Administrator:

Signed

Date

**VAST Equipment Financial Analysis**

*Applicant may use the figures from the end of season grooming financial analysis to determine total season grooming cost.*

Notes

**Grooming Cost:**

**Must be filled out.** Take total season cost for all power units.

Avg Fuel Cost/Yr:

Insurance:

Pre-Maintenance:

Major Repairs:

Annual Payment:

*(interest, drag & PU)*

Total No. of Power Units in Formula:

Labor:

TOTAL:

**Revenue:**

VAST Payment:

Dues:

Fund Raisers:

**NET Loss/Gain:**

**Total Cost:**

**Cost Per Mile:**

**Cost Per Hour:**

**Formulas**

**Miles/Gallon:** Total Miles for Tank of Gas / # of Gallons in Tank

**Miles/Hour:** Total Season Miles / Total Season Hours Groomed OR

Total Miles in Run / # of Hours Groomed

**Season Hours Groomed:** Total Season Miles / Avg. Miles per hour

**Season Labor Cost:** Operator \$ per hour x Hours groomed

**Avg Fuel Cost per year:** (\$ fuel per gallon / miles per gallon) x total season miles

**Net Gain/Loss:** Total Revenue - Total for grooming cost

**Total Cost:** Sum of Grooming Costs

**Cost Per Mile:** Total Cost / Season Miles Groomed

**Cost Per Hour:** Total Cost / Season Hours Groomed

*\*\* This cost analysis sheet has been formatted in Microsoft Excel, please contact the VAST TA for a excel file with formulas*



## C. Equipment Program Policies

The following are the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers, Inc. policies and procedures developed by the VAST Trails Committee, which includes County Trail Coordinators from each county. These policies and procedures have been reviewed and adopted by the VAST Board of Directors and are incorporated in the master document "VAST Policy Manual." These policies and procedures along with any revisions are current as of May 1st, 2009.

### 1. Minimum Standards for Power Units and Grooming Equipment

#### a. Power Units

Class-Power Unit and Drag Width	Examples
1- Minimum 8'	Tucker, Sur-Trac, Pisten Bully, Prinoth,
2- Minimum 7'	Tucker 1000, Tractor Conversion, Pisten Bully
3- Minimum 6'	Tractor Conversions, Track Truck, Tracked ATV's. (As approved by Trails Administrator)
4- Minimum 4' Drag	Alpine, Skandic, Polaris wide-track/long track, Yamaha VK 540, Tracked ATV's. (As approved by Trails Administrator)

#### b. Class IV Grooming Policy

Class IV power units must be utility vehicles of a twin-track design or single-track snowmobiles with a track at least 20 inches wide and 150 inches long. ATV's that have a snow track conversion kit may be utilized for Class IV grooming with the following installed on the vehicle for trail grooming and/or maintenance and snowmobile rescue only during the winter months:

1. Landowner Permission for Class IV ATV Power Unit
  - a. Visible mounted beacon
  - b. Slow moving vehicle sign
  - c. All safety gear and equipment (first aid kit, etc)
  - d. Display VAST Trail Maintenance sign on front and rear of power unit.

Clubs and grooming contractors may only operate this unit on the VAST trail system upon the approval of the VAST Trails Administrator and the County Trails Coordinator. Once approved, the club/contractor must have a VAST grooming contract that is approved by the VAST Board of Directors.

#### c. Groomer Classification

If a VAST Club/Contractor is pulling a drag (the drag must meet the requirements of the current VAST policy for grooming equipment) with a narrower power unit and has successfully groomed their trails to the VAST Corridor Trail Standards, both the County Trails Coordinator and the VAST Trails Administrator shall approve the grooming classification for the equipment upon their discretion.

#### d. Groomer Drags

Grooming drags must be of a side-rail design with multiple cutting blades, packing wheels and rear trailing wheels. The purchase of new AFMI drags will not be eligible in this program.

### 2. Grooming Equipment Grant-In-Aid Policies and Procedures

(Revised 4/08)

#### a. Equipment Grant-In-Aid Criteria

1. No equipment grant-in-aid for acquisition of equipment over 20 years old.
2. Financial capabilities of the Club/Contractor
3. Volume of Non-Commercial Snowmobile Traffic
4. Priority Order:
  - a. Documented record of serious mechanical failure that has caused repeated/excessive down time.

- b. Longevity of grooming season and compliance of VAST guidelines for trail signing and trail maintenance.
- c. Class upgrade (Class 3 to 1 for example).
- d. An incremental increase in the number of miles of trail groomed resulting in current equipment no longer being sufficient for the job.
- e. Other.

#### b. Application Procedures

The VAST club/contractor must submit a equipment grant-in-aid application to the VAST Office by **June 1st**.

Grooming equipment grants may be approved only for grantees with an approved (current or pending) VAST grooming contract.

The following are minimum contracted miles required to be eligible to apply for grant-in-aid for grooming equipment.

Class I - 25 miles

Class II - 25 miles

Class III - 15 miles

Class IV - 10 miles

*Class I grooming equipment should not be contracted for more than 60 one-way miles of trail (i.e. 60 miles x 2 ways x twice a week equals 240 miles divided by 6 mph = 40 hrs.).*

#### c. Purchase of Equipment

Up to 65% of the net purchase price (Net = cost of unit less trade) with the grant payment to be determined based on the contractual mileage and the five-year average of grooming weeks. The club/contractor's five-year average of grooming weeks will determine the maximum grant allotment for the purchase of the power unit. The following tables represent the percentages divided into the two categories:

##### Contractual Mileage:

25-30 Miles ..... 65% of net

31-40 Miles ..... 60% of net

41-49 Miles ..... 55% of net

50+ Miles ..... 50% of net

##### The maximum grant amount is based on grooming weeks\*:

0-7.9 Wks.: ..... \$30,000

8.0-11.9 Wks.: ..... \$45,000

12.0-16 Wks.: ..... \$60,000

\*Based on Upcoming season's five year rolling average of grooming weeks.

**Example:** Club A has 45 miles on their VAST Tailored Grooming contract and a 5-year average of 11.5 weeks.

Cost of Power Unit: .... \$165,000

Less trade: ..... \$(90,000)

Net Purchase Price: ..... \$75,000

Based on the five-year average, the maximum grant allotment is \$45,000. Since the contractual mileage is 45 miles, clubs/contractors are eligible for 55% of the net purchase price. Therefore the total grant amount on this unit would be \$41,250.

**Class IV Equipment:** Clubs applying for an equipment grant for Class IV equipment shall be eligible for 50% of the net purchase price.

#### d. Purchase of Equipment – Additional Units

VAST recognizes that special circumstances may arise, and that additional grooming equipment is necessary in order to maintain the trail system within a contracted area. VAST Clubs and contractors that have a grooming contract for 60+ miles may be eligible for an equipment grant for multiple power units. The contracted miles will be divided into equal segments,

equaling no less than 30 miles and the grants will be distributed according to the approved amount of grooming mileage and the five-year grooming average. Clubs that require multiple units for a grooming contract that is less than sixty miles may apply for an equipment grant; however a subcommittee will review their request. The members of the subcommittee shall include the VAST Trails Administrator, Trail Committee Chair and Co-Chair and one member from the Trails Committee. The subcommittee will approve or deny the special request according to eligibility and need.

*Note: Additional units for a contracted area will be considered as new units and will not require payoff of depreciation liens held by VAST on other units.*

**Example # 1:** Club has 64 miles and 12.6 weeks, divide the contract into two ( $64/2 = 32$  miles) At 32 miles, club is eligible for 60% of the net, grant not to exceed \$60,000.

**Example #2:** Club has 78 miles and 8.0 weeks, divide the contract into two ( $78/2 = 39$  miles) At 39 miles, club is eligible for 60% of the net, grant not to exceed \$45,000

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**e. Grooming Drags**

VAST equipment grants of 50% of the purchase price are available for clubs or contractors wishing to purchase new approved manufacturer side-rail style grooming drags. Used side-rail grooming drags will be funded at 50% of fair-market value as determined by the VAST Trails Administrator taking into consideration drag condition, age and size. Approved side-rail drag manufacturers are: Mogul Master, Mountain Grooming and other drags approved by the VAST Trails Administrator.

This lien shall require that the grantee(s) repay the pro-rated balance should the equipment be disposed of prior to full repayment.

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**f. Capital Repairs of Existing Owned Equipment**

Does not cover expendable items such as tracks, tires, rollers, belts, batteries, etc. 25% of documented purchased parts and labor per minimum below. Total not to exceed 50% of fair-market value.

Class 1 = \$2,000

Class 2 = 1,500

Class 3 = 1,000

Class 4 = 800

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**g. Lien Period for Service Payback**

VAST Clubs and contractors will be eligible for an equipment grant in five years or 2500 hours. No equipment grants will be awarded within the five years unless the club/contractor is eligible for a grant for multiple units. Hour meter readings will be tracked through the submission of the grooming log sheets during the snowmobile season and verified by the County Trails Coordinator or VAST Trails Administrator.

This lien shall require that the grantee(s) repay the pro-rated balance should the equipment be disposed of prior to full repayment.

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**h. Filing Equipment Grants Under the UCC-1 Codes**

All equipment grants shall be filed with the Secretary of State under the UCC-1 code. After the equipment grant is awarded, it will be the responsibility of the VAST Trails Administrator to file the lien with the Secretary of State. The club /contractor will receive copies of the paperwork at the time when the funding becomes available.

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**i. Grooming Contractors**

All VAST Grooming Contractors shall establish a business name for their VAST grooming contract and the business shall be registered

with the Vermont Secretary of State. This must be accomplished before the grooming contract goes into effect for the season.