

# ATV trail may draw riders to The County

BY JEN LYNDS  
OF THE NEWS STAFF

SINCLAIR — The creation of a long-awaited ATV trail built to connect northern Aroostook County to points south is set to bring more riders, and more money, to the area.

Members of the Sinclair ATV Club joined with state officials and other guests at a ribbon-cutting ceremony last week to mark the opening of the new ATV trail.

"We are very excited about this," Jennie Beaulieu, president of the Sinclair ATV Club, said Friday. "We raised money and received some grant money from the state to build the trail, and people started using it late last month."

The trail's opening resulted from a cooperative effort between many organizations and individuals, including the Sinclair ATV Club, the Maine Department of Conservation, the Maine Department of Transportation, ATV Maine and Irving Woodlands Inc. Club members and volunteers also donated time and money to create the trail system.

Club members said obtaining landowner permission from Irving was instrumental to creating the trail.

Brian Bronson, recreational safety and vehicle coordinator for the Department of Conserva-

tion, attended the ceremony. He said he was "really impressed" with the quality of the new recreational trail.

"This trail provides a route of access for both northern and southern Aroostook County regions that will benefit all recreational riders," he said, adding that it also would enhance northern Maine's existing ATV trail system.

Beaulieu said Friday that the Sinclair ATV Club was formed in 2006 when there was no way to ride an ATV trail out of town and connect with other area trail systems. Before the creation of the trail, ATV riders had to load their vehicles onto trailers and drive to get to the trails.

"We have already been getting a lot of calls about the new trail," Beaulieu said. "It is exciting. People want to ride up here, and this is going to allow more people a chance to do it."

The club plans to move forward with other local trail connections, as well as continuing to improve the existing trail.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the club, contributing to the trail-building effort or who has questions may contact Beaulieu at 543-6422 or e-mail [gjbeaulieu@ainop.com](mailto:gjbeaulieu@ainop.com).

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