ORV Trail Fund – Authorization and Activities FAQ

Read This Before You Apply

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1. Do all ORV Trail Fund projects require authorization?

Yes.
All projects must be authorized. Applications without required authorization **will not be accepted or reviewed**.

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2. Is a letter of support the same as authorization?

No.
A letter of support **does not authorize work**. Authorization must come from a **signed agreement or written approval** from the District Recreation Officer (DRO).

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3. When can a project proceed under a Partnership Agreement (PA)?

A project may proceed under a PA **only if**:

- The PA is **current and signed, and**
- The project is included in a **signed Annual Operating Plan, or**
- The DRO has provided **written confirmation (email is acceptable)** stating the project is **approved and authorized to proceed**

You must include **proof** in your application.

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4. What proof is required for PA-authorized projects?

Applicants must include **one of the following**:

- Signed PA + signed Annual Operating Plan showing the project, **or**
- Written confirmation from the DRO stating the specific project(s) are approved for implementation

🚫 Letters of support or verbal approvals are **not sufficient**.

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5. What types of activities are commonly authorized under a PA?

(Only if approved as described above)

- Routine trail maintenance (brushing, clearing, drainage cleaning)
- Signage installation or replacement
- Trail inspections and condition assessments
- Trail inventory, mapping, and data collection
- Minor reroutes **explicitly approved** in the PA or Operating Plan

If work exceeds the PA scope, **Section 57 is required**.

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6. When is Section 57 authorization required?

Always required for projects involving construction or significant ground disturbance, including:

- New trail construction
- Trail reconstruction or major realignment
- Trail hardening, benching, or excavation
- Bridges or major water crossings
- Structural trail features

🚫 If your project requires Section 57 and it is not included, your application is **ineligible**.

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7. Can we apply while our Section 57 is still in progress?

No.
Section 57 authorization must be **approved and submitted with the application**.

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8. Are there any activities that do not require formal authorization?

Yes, but **only very limited activities**, including routine maintenance under:

- **Schedule F trail standards**, and

- **Normal Crown land standard of care**

These activities must **not** include construction, trail expansion, or realignment.

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9. What activities are allowed under Schedule F / standard of care?

Examples include:

- Light brushing and clearing
- Removal of downed trees
- Cleaning existing drainage

🚫 These activities **cannot** create new trails or change trail design.

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10. Do education or safety projects require Section 57?

No, if they do **not involve construction or ground disturbance**.

Examples:

- Ride Safe campaigns
- Environmental stewardship education
- Wildfire preparedness materials
- User etiquette and compliance education

Land manager permission may still be required for placement of materials.

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11. What if our project is on private land or Indigenous land?

You must provide:

- Written landowner consent or legal access agreement, **and**
- Confirmation of public access (where applicable)

Additional approvals may be required.

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12. Can RSTBC help determine what authorization we need?

RSTBC can provide **general guidance**, but applicants are responsible for:

- Identifying required authorizations
- Securing approvals
- Providing evidence in the application

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13. What happens if authorization is missing or unclear?

The application will be **screened out** and **not reviewed**.

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14. What is the safest way to avoid authorization issues?

- Confirm your authorization pathway early
- Obtain written approval
- Clearly explain how your project is authorized
- Include all documentation with your application

Need Help?

If you are unsure, contact:
ORVFundApplications@gov.bc.ca
Include your proposed activities and land location.