

Reduce Emissions

Inspect and maintain your machine regularly. Use the correct quantity and quality of lubricating oil.

Consider purchasing a snowmobile with a **4-stroke engine**. While 4-stroke engines may be more expensive, they produce cleaner emissions and have approximately 40% better fuel economy than older two-stroke snowmobiles.

Consider purchasing a snowmobile with a **direct fuel injection** system. Two-stroke engines with direct fuel injection reduce hydrocarbon emissions by more than 80% and are more fuel efficient than older two-stroke snowmobiles.



photo: Yukon Government

It's a crime!

Under the Yukon Motor Vehicles Act it is illegal for a person to create or cause the emission of any loud and unnecessary noise from a motor vehicle, which includes snowmobiles.

The Yukon backcountry is shared by many outdoor enthusiasts. While it may not seem like one person makes much of an impact, the effects are cumulative and they add up. We all have a responsibility to our outdoor home.

Let's work together

to ensure the Yukon wilderness stays healthy and accessible for future generations.

*Only You Can Keep the
Yukon Wild.
Ride Smart and Stay
on Trails.*

If you see someone harassing wildlife, contact your local Conservation Officer or call

**Turn in Poachers & Polluters
(TIPP Line): 1-800-661-0525**



We are working together to reduce ORV impacts on the land and can provide you with more information. With your support, we can manage ORV use in a way that works for everyone.

- Klondike Snowmobile Association
- Yukon Off-Road Riders Association
 - Trails Only Yukon Association
- Wilderness Tourism Association of the Yukon
 - Yukon Conservation Society
 - Yukon Fish & Game Association

Snowmobiles and the Yukon Environment



photo: Mark Daniels

Freezing temperatures and deep snow may make winter the most difficult time of the year for wildlife. Disturbance from snowmobiles can result in additional stress and energy loss at this critical time.

Ride Smart and keep the Yukon wild. Travel only on adequate snow cover, respect wildlife and be considerate of others so everyone can enjoy the great outdoors.

Snowmobile Impacts

Snowmobile activity and trails can **fragment habitat** and displace moose and caribou from their preferred habitat.

A snowmobile's spinning track may **damage plants, trees and soils** below the snow surface especially if there is inadequate snowpack. Frozen plants can snap off when run over.

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Snowmobile trails provide **hard packed travel corridors** which allow wolves to move into the alpine and may make it easier for them to hunt moose and caribou.

Fuel spills on frozen wetlands and ponds can introduce toxic chemicals into the water when the ice melts.



photo: Ducks Unlimited Canada

Noise from snowmobile traffic can cause behaviour changes in wildlife such as abandonment of preferred foraging areas which can then lead to changes in the health of the population.

Snow compaction by snowmobiles results in a loss of insulating value causing ground temperature to drop. This can affect the survival of plants and small mammals which move underneath the surface of the snow.



photo: Peter Mather

Reduce Your Impacts

Low snow? Don't go! Avoid riding on sensitive areas including meadows, lakeshores, wetlands, streams and the alpine unless on established routes. Hill climbing in these conditions is especially damaging.

Be respectful of the wildlife around you and encourage other snowmobilers to stay on the main trails and away from critical winter habitat. Animals need to conserve energy to survive the harsh Yukon winter. If your presence alarms or disturbs wildlife, take action to lessen your impact.

Prevent unnecessary noise created by a poorly tuned vehicle or revving your engine without need. Refrain from replacing the manufacturer's certified and approved muffler with noisy after-market pipes that may disturb wildlife, increase emissions and annoy others.

Do your part by leaving the area better than you found it. Properly dispose of waste, restore degraded areas and join your local snowmobile association.

Educate yourself by obtaining travel maps and regulations, planning for your trip, taking skills classes, and knowing how to use and operate your equipment safely.

Did you know?

If you're using your snowmobile to hunt, park your machine in low lying areas and snowshoe to your lookout to watch for animals. This reduces impacts on slopes and minimizes noise that could spook animals.