

**Subject:** Fwd: Do I have your permission?  
**From:** Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>  
**Date:** 03/11/2015 11:58 AM  
**To:** Corrie Kost <corrie@kost.ca>

No post. FONVCA review.

----- Forwarded Message -----

**Subject:** Do I have your permission?  
**Date:** Tue, 3 Nov 2015 11:38:04 -0800  
**From:** Monica Craver <mecraver@shaw.ca>  
**To:** DNV Mayor and Council <council@dnv.org>  
**CC:** [fonvca@fonvca.org](mailto:fonvca@fonvca.org)

Dear Mayor and Council:

Do I have permission to "alter" the forest landscape, like the mountain bikers do? I would not actually be altering the landscape, but would love to bring in a "Demo Crew" to take down all those clap-trap MTB abusement park structures that have no place inside our forests: wall rides, rollercoaster, jump ramps, teeter totters, and the like. The mountain bikers can have these easily rebuilt inside a properly run recreational resort like those on our three mountains.... What they have done to our natural environment cannot be replaced or restored so easily, if it can be done at all... Is going in to restore, or prevent what is being damaged, a criminal offence? After watching the antics of a certain off-road sports group over the many years -- it would seem so. Pretty mixed up, isn't it.

**May I have your permission? (You realize I am asking permission, first)** Or do I just have to go in and do whatever I please, just like the mountain bikers have done, and still do? It seems like the "dismantle first, ask permission later" idea would work as well for me and my crew, as did the whole mountain bikers' "build first, ask permission later" deal. Many conservation/environmental and restoration groups would die for the kind of funding like that given to rogue mountain bikers ongoing ecological vandalism (the proper use of the term, in this case.) Do you see what I am getting at?

Should I expect to be rewarded for my initiative, for scoffing at permits and common civility, just like the mountain bikers do, and have done? After all, its considered "fair play" by the District of North Vancouver to dole out the goodies to such rogues in the woods, these days. Lets take a look at how the

word "vandalism" is being tossed around... those for it, and those against it (being discussed by various factions of mountain bikers...) One highlight in an ongoing thread that may soon disappear from public eyes... "Vandalism on Leppard" thread (refer to an earlier email on that subject)

The MTBers love to taunt, it is clear. It reflects very badly on the District of North Vancouver, which aligns itself far too closely to these MTB rogues in the woods, you understand. You need to read the following to understand the sheer problem with all these mountain bikers (permitted?) running around doing whatever they can get away with, under the very noses of your public land managers:

<http://bb.nsmb.com/showthread.php?p=2894759#post2894759>

Jugger

11-03-2015 06:22 AM

Quote:

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Originally Posted by **macaroo** (Post 2894754)

***What would you like it edited to? "Unnecessary permanent modification of natural features that can never be replaced"? It seems my post got hijacked to talk on and on about a rotting wood structure so I didn't really see any need to reply. My post had nothing to do with replaceable structures and I made no mention of this, nor do I care. There are lots of trees and they grow etc etc. I posted because I was concerned that it seems someone is/was taking it upon him/herself to permanently modify something that cannot be undone. I don't need to yell at posters and tell them to 'f-off' because I don't agree with them or tell them they are stupid because they don't agree. I also don't need to PM the person who did the deed... I don't know what that would solve. I already said I like Pete and the work he does (Leppard and 7th are my two favorite trails on Fromme). I had no idea it was him that did the rock damage. Should I have run across him or anyone else doing such a thing then or now I would still stop and ask them why they are doing it and most probably get into an argument about it.***

***People keep saying it is the builder's discretion. I agree with this to a point. I guess that point is when we start making irreversible decisions.***

***Sorry for giving a damn about trying to leave the same experience for the next rider. The rock damage had nothing do with safety, flow or anything else... it was about a bit of water.***

***If you want to debate that everyone (builders, hikers, riders) who goes into the forest has the right to permanently modify or deface the area etc then by all means I am happy to continue the discussion. If you want to complain about a log then perhaps start a different thread?***

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**The issue here is the lens through which you're looking at this. You seem to be set on interpreting Pete's trail work as "damage" or "vandalism" to the rock in question. This is seriously flawed -- applying the same logic would mean that you should characterize any trail work done on the shore as "vandalism." Of course, this is ridiculous -- almost entering Monica-like territory.**

It's too bad that a feature that you clearly valued has been altered. However, perhaps next time you

**should be asking constructive questions and keeping an open mind as to why an experienced (and legendary) trail builder is changing a line rather than labelling it as vandalism.**

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So, what is "vandalism"? if a "legendary trail builder" does it, it isn't vandalism. If anyone else does it -- it is vandalism? This is becoming muddier than mudbogging mountain bikers in pouring rain!

Since I am asking DNV for permission to remove the too many unsightly MTB abusement park structures from our fine woods, I would expect the answer to be more affirmative than that given to rogue mountain bikers, such as the fellow smashing granite rocks because he can get away with it. I expect that my permit would be approved because it damages nothing of value, but would restore our forest habitat to a much better standard than what mountain bikers are inflicting on it.

And because I respect the law, the rules and regulations, I would not do anything, first, without your permission of course --- unlike the fine mountain bikers ripping and shredding up our forests. Your answer will speak volumes about what District of North Vancouver values. It will help the public to better understand the ethics of our local government. It is only a fair and balanced question. What say you?

--Monica Craver--

**(Do I have permission to close/decommission Lower Griffen Switchback Trail and dismantle structures for MTBing, or would that be considered "vandalism", if you say NO? While, mountain bikers riding, building, and silting the frog pond in Mtn View Park is permitted?) We need some common sense answers... Seriously!**

**And, NO, I won't do anything without official permission to do so. *It's a revolutionary idea to ask permission these days, it seems.***

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Tread softly! All the earth is holy ground.

~ Christina Rossetti (Psalm 24),

from "A Later Life: A Double Sonnet of Sonnets"