

**Subject:** [Fwd: Fw: WV injured teen mountain biker involved in illegal trail/structure building]  
**From:** Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>  
**Date:** Mon, 21 May 2007 19:18:12 -0700  
**To:** Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

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**Subject:** Fw: WV injured teen mountain biker involved in illegal trail/structure building  
**From:** Monica Craver <mecraver@shaw.ca>  
**Date:** Mon, 21 May 2007 18:28:46 -0700  
**To:** fonvca@fonvca.org

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [Monica Craver](#)  
**To:** [dnvcouncil@dnv.org](mailto:dnvcouncil@dnv.org)  
**Cc:** [Susan Rogers@dnv.org](mailto:Susan.Rogers@dnv.org) ; [Barry Potvin@dnv.org](mailto:Barry.Potvin@dnv.org)  
**Sent:** Monday, May 21, 2007 12:09 PM  
**Subject:** Fw: WV injured teen mountain biker involved in illegal trail/structure building

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Dear Mayor and Council:

When I first read this article in the NS News, I was saddened by it. It was only a matter of time before a child or teen was badly injured, *or even killed*, while mountain biking on the slopes of the North Shore Mountains. What was unexpected was my finding this boy's heavy involvement with illegal trail and structure building inside the forest, near his home, in West Vancouver ( named, "Bowsaw"). There is a moratorium on mtb trailbuilding inside DWV.

Several pictures (below links) show these structures, which the father states **will continue to be built on by friends of the boy, who sadly, will never walk again**. Please see the father's comment to a mountain biker website (The thread was started by his son, who posted many pictures of his "secret trail" structures.) **My condolences to him and his entire family**. Nobody should have to face this kind of tragedy.

Though, his father knew his son was building these structures, and should be held accountable in the near future. It is all so sad. What can we do to prevent both this kind of thing in the future? The video (Bowsaw. below) brings a human element to the story of a healthy teen, cut down in his prime. What can we do to prevent more tragedies like this from happening?

--Monica Craver--

(PS. With more and more children and teens riding the extreme slopes of the North Shore Mountains, we will probably begin to see more of these kind of injuries happening, sadly. This is more of a reason to contain and control the mountain biking sport in properly run recreational resorts and bike parks (where no environmental damage can be done)-- not in the wilds of our public forest land. Mountain biking is one of the most dangerous sports around, because it refuses to submit to rules, or be controlled. Let's do it for the children!)

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### **North Shore News**

<http://www.nsnews.com/issues07/w050107/051107/news/051107nn5.html>

### **WV teen hurt in mountain bike accident**

A West Vancouver teen is in hospital with a serious spinal injury after crashing his mountain bike on a popular North Vancouver trail.

The 14-year-old was riding with a friend down the **Boogie Man bike trail on Mount Seymour** at about 4:30 p.m. Sunday when he went over an A-frame ramp and landed badly, colliding head-first with the ground...

published on 05/02/2007

From PinkBike:

<http://vpfree.pinkbike.com/bb/viewtopic.php?t=144157>

On Page 7, the father kicks in and speaks of the crash. Here's what he says:

Quote:

Originally Posted by **over50**

*I'm John's dad. I want to thank everyone for all the comments about his trail. He's been having a great time building it.*

*He was severely injured riding Boogeyman last weekend (April 29th). He'll be in the hospital for quiet a while. **He's alive, and has no brain injury, but he'll be unlikely to ever walk again, never mind ride a bike. We are devastated, but grateful he's alive, and still the great 15 yo kid he is.***

*We were very fortunate that several riders were nearby to help his riding buddy James, and helped save his life. If anyone reading this is one of them, you know how grateful we are.*

*Several of his buddies (each of whom have helped build at different times) have promised him they'll finish the trail. He's gone over it with them enough times that they have a pretty good sense of what he'd planned. He'll never ride it, but I think will be happy to see it done, and for others to ride it.*

*He liked (likes) the idea of this short trail, near home, that could be discovered and enjoyed by those who know where to look.*

*He had started building it before he discovered other stuctures nearby, which have appeared in several riding movies (eg NSX, Roam). He took those as inspiration.*

*He had just recently discovered another trail he'd been looking for, after being given some clues by Cole (I think) and was pretty excited by that.*

*He loved riding, and was so graceful at it. He'll be back to do other great things, I'm sure, but different.*

**[A comment from a mountain biker on nymb.com http://bb.nymb.com/showthread.php?t=96701](http://bb.nymb.com/showthread.php?t=96701)**

See:

<http://media.putfile.com/Bowsaw>

John seems like a very talented, motivated kid who is successful at anything he puts his mind to. I am super impressed by his dedication and pride of work, especially for his age. Nicest trail work by a 14-15 year old kid I have ever seen.

I am sure he will keep his chin up, and not this slow him down.

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