



2002 Freeride Proposal

Background

- The Michigan freeride community is active and growing
- There is ever-greater demand for freeride or technical riding opportunities
- The lack of freeride/technical riding opportunities within the state frustrates many riders
- Legal, responsible, and sustainable freeriding is compatible with the MMBA mission statement
- Many freeriders look upon prior MMBA freeride statements very negatively and are hesitant to become involved with the organization
- There is concern that joining the MMBA will lead to diluted freeride interests within the organization. Having a unique identity is important.
- The MMBA is pursuing freeride trail aspects but lacks focus and direction at the state level
- The opportunity exists for a mutually beneficial partnership between the MMBA and the freeride community

IMBA Statement

*"In a nutshell, IMBA's outlook on freeriding is this: Our sport needs to embrace and support all riders, particularly young ones. **We need to create ways to provide the types of riding that people want.** At the same time, we've always got to protect the environment and respect the experiences of all outdoor recreationists. Through innovative trail management, energetic volunteer work and a conscious effort to be inclusive and imaginative, we can achieve all of these goals."*

MMBA Freeride Mission Statement

To create an open and identifiable environment for freeride member interests within the MMBA; to direct MMBA resources in helping propose, develop, maintain, and promote freeride trail aspects throughout the state of Michigan in accordance with IMBA guidelines.

Goals

- Create a MMBA freeride director position and committee to decide how the organization can best implement the freeride mission statement
- Create a web area devoted to freeride interests on the MMBA web site
- Create a freeride forum on the MMBA bulletin board **for link to theArmSite talkboard?**
- Create a regular freeride column within the Bent Rim Bugle newsletter
- Create a freeride special interest group (SIG) in the MMBA membership database
- Allow members to set their freeride SIG setting on the MMBA web site
- Create a virtual MMBA freeride listserv using the freeride SIG
- Arrange an IMBA Trail Care Crew training event in Michigan for building freeride trails

Michigan Mountain Biking Association, Inc.

5119 Highland Road, Box 268

Waterford, Michigan 48327

www.MMBA.org

info@mmba.org