Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/7/2022 4:00:00 AM
First name: Jonathan
Last name: May
Organization:
Title:
Comments: Dear District Ranger Innes,:

I am writing regarding the Sandwich Vegetation Management project in the White Mountain National Forest. I enjoy recreating on public lands and believe it is important for the public to be able to have access to these lands. I support keeping these areas healthy through proper treatments to avoid closures and to protect important resources for multiple-use.

Throughout the years we have seen an increase in devastating wildfires that have destroyed public lands. Radical conservation groups are working to destroy the lands they claim to protect by blocking land agencies projects. Land agencies should be able to manage the land through proper treatments to avoid these fires and protect our lands and watersheds.

Not only do fires cause temporary closures of roads but often times those lead to permanent closures. I am encouraged to see the USFS acknowledge the important role that roads play in fire treatments and fire prevention by acting as control lines.  Wherever new control lines are constructed and the length of the control line is within required lengths, the USFS should conduct analyses to evaluate keeping them open for wildfire control and multiple-use.  Public land use and recreation has grown tremendously the past few years and will probably continue to do so. There is a desire more than ever to connect with the outdoors and have those experiences. The USFS has an obligation to the public to keep the land healthy through adequate treatments and proper education to ensure access will continue.

I also support the objectives for economic contributions through high quality timber harvest. Not only will this help with the health of the forest but also provide economic opportunities for local communities. As use on public lands grow the Forest Service should facilitate every opportunity to not stifle economic growth whether it be from timber harvest or recreational values.

Sincerely,