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Comments: Greetings,

I'm happy to comment on several aspects of the proposed Peabody West project(s).

I think it's a wonderful idea to include thinning the woodlands around the "new" HQ building on the Glen Road. It's been a public disservice, in my opinion, to have it be so hidden from the highway. Opening up the view of the building will enhance the visitor experience of finding it and enhance the public's knowledge that the USFS is active on the Forest.

I'm personally and professionally excited to have a long time goal of ours apparently inching forward to fruition - that being the bike/xc ski trail connecting Greens Grant to Gorham and vice versa. This will be a community connecting and building trail by having bike and ski access to and from those areas. I don't see much emphasis on the winter use of these trails for cross country skiing although there is the parenthetical note at the end of the description. I do wonder if it should be publicly noted that the intention is to groom that trail in winter for cross country skiing? Currently that is not noted in the plan description. If that is not the proposed intention for that trail, then I will strongly suggest that grooming become part of the approved plan. With grooming, that trail will be highly used by recreational xc skiers, without grooming there would be a fraction of the use and by back country touring skiers and snowshoers only.

I wonder if the public will oppose the construction of any mountain bike or cross country ski trails feeling that federal tax dollars should not be paying for this activity? Should it be mentioned that the idea is that any construction of the proposed trails would be done with privately raised money, not tax dollars?

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Howie Wemyss