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Comments: I'm sharing this comment as an AMC representative, but only based on my observations of the public while working at the PNVC Front Desk, where Hermit Lake camping permits are sold. In my four years at the Desk, I have observed considerable interest in tent platforms at Hermit Lake. Often, at least in the summer, there appear to be more parties looking to tent than there are platforms currently. I believe adding tent platforms will be popular with the public. However, I believe that the majority of users I talk to in the winter, and a surprising, though smaller, fraction in the summer, express a preference for staying in a four sided shelter. I expect removing the option for four-sided shelters will be very unpopular with many new and especially longtime users. I do not believe adding a Mahoosuc-style shelter will offset the loss of three 4-sided shelters in their view.

Personally, I also am enthusiastic about the proposal to increase ski glade areas and mountain biking trails in our region, given that current levels of use cause some existing areas to feel crowded. Additional excellent ski options that are not in avalanche terrain will always be welcome.

Thank You for considering my comments on the project.