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Comments: I will start with a note of gratitude. Thank you for decades of enlightened and empowering land use policy, and your commitment to provide access to the Cutler River drainage. This spring marks 31 years in a row that I have skied Tuckerman and all of the other cirque on Mt Washington. These adventures have included countless nights in the Hermit Lake shelters. Well, actually I probably could count them because I have kept every camping permit and have them on my wall and ski tuning bench in my shot. Those experiences have been life changing for both me and my boys. Tux skiers are a community, and the core of that community are those who put in the effort in to spend the night (or 3). The Lean toes are a big part of what makes that happen. Sharing a lean to with strangers doesn't last very long. Those strangers soon turn into lean to buddies. We at least share stories of the adventures, but often team up on plans for the next day. We care for each other. On multiple occasions I have given up a ski day to help on an evacuation of an injured skier (they happen to all have been day trippers, but that is beside the point). Only once in my 31 years of tux visits have I see one of the exiting tent platforms used. They are normally buried deep in snow. That weekend the people in the tent seemed disconnected from the community. I talked to them and asked why they brought a tent. They said - 'yeah, rookie mistake. Next year can we stay in the lean to?" I really don't want to add a tent to my backpack full of ski gear, avalanche gear, homemade food, and supplies. I even more don't want to disconnect from the community by wrapping myself in nylon.

Thank you again for getting my input. Frank Winters