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Comments: As a native Vermonter and an avid lover of the outdoors, I'm writing in support of the Vermont Huts Association's application for a special use permit in the proposed action for the Telephone Gap Integrated Resource Project to construct, operate, and maintain a four-season hut within the footprint of the former lodge that was destroyed by fire near South Pond.

A hut in this location takes advantage of existing infrastructure and is ideally situated to host users of the trails mentioned below, creating a new point of access to the outdoors for trail users of all ages and abilities.

Additionally, I support the USDA Forest Service's proposal to create 34.9 miles of trail through new construction, relocation, and designation for mountain biking, hiking, and cross-country skiing will greatly enhance the ability of the public to enjoy this incredible public resource that is the Green Mountain National Forest.

These projects will provide critical trail connectivity for both the Velomont Trail and Catamount Trail and service numerous user groups.

I also support the addition of 3.1 miles of existing Long Trail to the National Forest Trail System as part of the pending South Pond acquisition.