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First name: Tracy

Last name: Beers

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern:

I'm writing in support of the U.S. Forest Services' proposal to provide sustainable recreation opportunities within the Telephone Gap IRP area. In particular, I support the 34.9 miles of trail construction, relocation, and designation managed for mountain biking, hiking, and cross-country skiing, projects that will provide critical trail connectivity for various user groups, including those on the Velomont Trail and Catamount Trail. I also support the addition of 3.1 miles of existing Long Trail to the National Forest Trail System at the pending South Pond acquisition.

Additionally, I support the Vermont Huts Association's application for a special use permit to construct, operate, and maintain a four-season hut within the footprint of the former lodge that was destroyed by a 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 above, creating a new point of access to the outdoors for trail users of all ages and abilities.

As an avid mountain biker and back country skier I appreciate the forest service working with organizations like ROC, VAST, AMC, CTA, etc. to improve/create recreational opportunities. I think it is projects like these that strengthen our communities and make them places where people want to live. So while I understand these are not projects related to local economics, I think that they do contribute to the economic stability of our region and for that I thank you.

Sincerely,

Tracy Beers