

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/26/2023 4:00:00 AM

First name: Philip

Last name: Walsh

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Sir or Madam,

I, along with many neighbors and friends of Wonalancet have grave concerns about the USFS proposed project. They are :

- The draft EA ignores President Biden's Executive Order in 2022 directing the Forest Service to conserve mature forests, just like those targeted for logging in the Sandwich Vegetation Management Project.

- NEPA mandates that an EA describe the environmental impacts of both the proposed action and alternatives to the proposed action. It is absurd how little an alternative is discussed, let alone analyzed in the EA.

- There is no consideration of a No Action Alternative. This is the bare minimum alternative analysis an agency should undertake for an EA.

- The NOPA does not address the scenery impacts. There is no reference whatsoever to the Scenery Management System.

- This project will be hugely disruptive to the local community and visitors who come to walk, hike and ski our trail system.

- There is no justification for a "Controlled Burn". The USFS just conceded culpability in starting a major wildfire in the West from such practices.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge that the vast majority of comments in support of this proposed project come from people and organizations with no direct connection to the Wonalancet community and therefore have less understanding of the history and fragility of our wilderness.

Respectfully,

Philip Walsh

136 Ferncroft Road

Wonalancet NH