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Title:

Comments: I strongly propose the timber harvest as proposed in the Sandwich Vegetation Management Project environmental assessment. It seems like this project is being pushed through with accelerated speed, without adequate feedback from residents. Reading through the assessment, it seems to me the intended quantity of cutting in regularly utilized areas is overkill. The justifications for this amount of cutting seem to ignore the health of the existing habitat and thriving local wildlife populations. The level of wildlife we've been able to enjoy in the area has been exceptional, especially in the last few years. It is unclear why the forest service thinks we don't have enough or that they can somehow improve the habitat by removing what is already being enjoyed by record numbers of birds and mammals. Looking at the proposed cut in Ferncroft area, for example, there is more than adequate 'open space' in the area already. While I'm not opposed to forest thinning where it makes sense, it seems in this case this project was assessed in an office without proper due diligence on the reality of the habitat in the area. The popularity of these areas should require more public involvement in the decision making progress and evidence that the forest service has done due diligence in its research. The list of environmental impact that were not assessed on page 18 of the document is also too large to ignore. It is especially a mystery for the lack of understanding of the socioeconomic effects of the cutting. The proposed areas for cutting are also popular attractions in an area where there are limited economic opportunities. I would prefer that we all can insure this beloved forest isn't cut simply because there exists a budget looking to burn money.