

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/29/2023 11:53:18 PM

First name: Bob

Last name: Streeter

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a farmer that has been harvesting hay for many years from the hayfield adjacent to the Ferncroft parking lot. Throughout these years I have watched the parking lot go from empty or mostly empty to mostly full with many people parking along Ferncroft road and the edge of the hayfield, often to my annoyance while making hay. But all of these people are here for simply one reason, to immerse themselves in the wild beauty of the White Mountains which they can't find back home. Like it or not, recreation has become the dominant use of the National Forest around Sandwich, Tamworth, and Ferncroft road in particular. You cannot ignore the bursting parking lots along with the infusion of tourist dollars into the local economy. Your project is in direct opposition to all of this, which is why I am opposed to your plans. This is public land, and the public is clearly showing us that they long for wild, quiet spaces that are quickly disappearing as humanity expands. As a farmer I am not opposed to harvesting many things, and that includes timber. But not on a portion of public land with such a long history of human recreation.