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Comments: The proposed plan was supposed to consider recreation, but for some reason, the USFS declined to make any provision for recreation - saying that would come separately. This is completely irresponsible. The logging plan does not: provide buffers around hiking trails; does not contain specific plans for the safe passage of hikers through areas being logged or for the safe sharing of the limited parking available for hikers with the passage of logging trucks; does not protect trails from criss-crossing logging roads and skids. These precious hiking trails are maintained at no cost to the government by the volunteers in the WODC.

Also, the only way to remove the trees that will be cut if the plan goes forward, is through the Ferncroft parking lot and down Ferncroft Road, a dirt road that passes through Albany and Tamworth townships and is maintained at public expense. The road and the parking lot are heavily used. They are also important access points for search and rescue operations, which happen every year in hiking and skiing season. How will the road be maintained? How will public safety be managed? The plan makes no provision for these important public issues.

Finally, the federal government should be promoting old growth forests, using traditional indigenous means for preserving healthy forests and fighting fire. The current plan does not give any attention to these federally mandated directives. The plan is to cut mature trees.

I urge the Forest Service to listen to my concerns and to take the time to reconsider the current plan. The entire Sandwich range should be protected wilderness.