Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/24/2024 5:42:56 PM

First name: Margaret Last name: Stempien

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Since moving from a large city to Indiana, PA in 1985, I have run and hiked thousands of miles in White's Woods. I value the sense of being somewhat removed from civilization for a half-hour to three-hour visit. We have brought to White's Woods family and friends from around the country, as well as students from other countries of the world. All have been amazed at this treasure.

I support management that is the least intrusive, and I think that the public has a vested interest in how White's Woods is managed. White's Woods is extremely valuable in the way that it offers recreational activities, such as running, hiking, bird watching - ones that don't require facilities. Let the woods mature to old growth. Old growth forests are essential for wildlife habitat, carbon storage, and other ecological processes. I strongly support strict limits on the cutting of any trees, as well as seeking advice from appropriate experts. We should commit to the monitoring of animal, bird, and plant species that may be at risk.

We are contributing to environmental protection by allowing these woods to continue to exist. The more that we work to protect WW, the more we are investing in the future.