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Comments: The Catamount Trail Association (CTA) would like to again comment in support of the proposed recreational activities as part of the Telegraph Gap Integrated Resource Project. We want to specifically write in support of the proposed South Pond to Old Turpike Connector Trail, which would support the Catamount, VAST, and Velomont Trails. This Connector would serve as a crucial link for a major Catamount Trail reroute that would improve the ski experience and make the trail more climate resilient by moving it to higher elevation, as well as further the CTA's trail protection goals by moving the trail off of several unprotected private parcels. This reroute would also bring the trail through the South Pond area, which we think would quickly become a highlight of the trail for skiers and snowshoers.

We appreciate the Forest Service's work to balance exciting new recreational opportunities, including this potential reroute for the Catamount Trail, with other important priorities on the forest through this IRP process.