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Comments: Thank you for the right steps in doing a site-specific analysis through an EA for the Webster Cliff Trail and by proposing to complete trail work without motorized tools and equipment.

Please now do a complete analysis, including looking at alternatives such as relocating this part of the Webster Cliff Trail within the 1,000-foot wide existing trail corridor in the Wilderness, assuming-as the scoping letter does-that the proposed reroute is outside of the trail corridor.

In addition, the Forest Service should make every effort to relocate trails in Wilderness within established trail corridors and clearly demonstrate why it believes the Webster Cliff Trail must be relocated outside of the trail corridor in this specific area and the maps should also locate where the trail corridor is located as it is possible some or all of the proposed reroute might actually be in the corridor. Currently there is no evidence that this trail section needs major relocation and the proposed relocation seems to be in an equally steep location above Webster Brook. The agency must demonstrate that the trail relocation won't result in the same problem a few decades from now. An overall easier solution is that trail structures such as water bars need repair.

Another alternative is reducing use on the trail. The Forest Service admits that increased use is a major reason for the proposed trail relocation. The relocation would increase the length of the trail in Wilderness, thereby increasing negative impacts on the Wilderness.

The Forest Service must adequately analyze the impacts to Wilderness of increasing the physical scars in Wilderness from the old trail and the new proposed trail segment, the possibility this problem may repeat itself in the new proposed location, and impacts to wildlife from relocating a well-used trail to an area closer to Webster Brook.

Finally, all trail relocation work in Wilderness should be completed using traditional skills and tools, as the scoping letter states, rather than motorized and mechanized equipment.