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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Mr. Innes, Mr. Hall, and to whom it may concern at the U.S. Forest Service,

Thanks for accepting comments on Webster Cliff Trail Relocation and Project-Specific Forest Plan Amendment #67593.

I am encouraged that the White Mountains Nat'l Forest chose to do an Environmental Assessment which involves some site-specific analysis, and am glad that any work done to relocate that trail would not involve vehicles or chainsaws. I am also pleased that there are not plans to log trees more than three inches in diameter as a part of this project, and I imagine those trees will either be sawed or grabbed rather than logged with a chainsaw that violates the letter and spirit of the Wilderness Act.

My first reminder is to simply obey the law and simply do not relocate the trail outside of the current trail's general corridor, and so that it is not closer to a watercourse or lake whose species could be impacted.

I'm concerned that there has been a rush to conclude - with no pictorial proof provided - that the "only feasible option" is to relocate the Webster Cliff Trail to its proposed location further into designated wilderness. You should have offered alternatives and then evaluated comments before concluding what may or may not be feasible. Please evaluate a variety of options including refurbishing the current trail while also considering which alternative would most impact species inhabiting the White Mountains Nat'l Forest including the Canada Lynx. Please offer and rank alternatives in regards to how much silt would be delivered to various water bodies from each alternative. Detail how species in the greater Webster Brook area would be impacted by the proposed trail. Also, do not be shy about limiting numbers of homo sapiens accessing certain areas if they are causing too much damage.

Increasing the length of an often-used trail within a designated wilderness necessarily has a greater impact on that wilderness unless we see site-specific assertions with evidence that the chosen alternative would clearly be superior for various species of the WMNF.

Thanks for consideration of these comments and please proceed in balance but do not bring about the deterioration of habitat and "cover" for some listed and other rare species.

Sincerely yours, Bruce Campbell