

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/9/2025 1:38:37 AM

First name: Alan

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Ranger Matrick,

I strongly object to a South Pond Hut Special Use Permit! This could easily be seen as the beginning of a piecemeal approach to the Velomont Trail and Hut System proposed by the Vermont Huts and Trails (VHT) and Vermont Mountain Bike Association (VMBA). These are private organizations which the public may join. Let them do the work of negotiating their huts on private land not in a public Diverse Backcountry Management Area of the Green Mountain National Forest which does not allow for hut building. A rather fancy hut would spoil the wild character of this beautiful place. Given that the VHT/VMBA plan includes 30 new huts, allowing this special use permit sets a precedent for more applications in Diverse Backcountry Management Areas. I would like to stop this piecemeal approach before it starts and see a more transparent evaluation of cumulative potential benefits and impacts of a hut system across the GMNF. There is a primitive hut roughly a mile from the South Pond location. Let that suffice.

As for transparency, why do the scoping documents not include the Special Use Permit application from VHT?

What other alternative hut locations were considered if any?

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Alan Coulter