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I recognize that prescribed burns are a successful and scientifically proven forest management tool. Benefits of a controlled burn can be reducing understory density, increasing stand biodiversity, improving wildlife habitat, enriching soil nutrients for seedling growth, reducing or inhibiting the infestation of forest pests and reducing excessive vegetation and dead material on the forest floor to reduce the possibility of wildfires.

Along with adequate fire lines and fire personnel, any prescribed burn must have consideration of favorable weather conditions including wind speed, wind direction, wind conditions on slopes, air temperature, relative humidity, fuel moisture, and consideration of days since the last rain.

I am confident that the professionals with the Green Mountain National Forest will proceed using their vast knowledge and experience and in support of scientifically backed forest management practices when considering and conducting prescribed burns.