

Hancock Plan Revision Meeting February 19, 2004: Management Areas

Comments from Management Area mapping exercise

Group A Comments:

Would like to see diverse forest throughout

Would like to see diverse forest use

Diverse use doesn't necessarily require additional wilderness

There should be many different examples of forest types

Need more escarpment MA near Silver Lake (west)

Should have special areas west of Bristol for oak

Would like to see remote motorized along Long Trail

Would like additional special areas northeast of Breadloaf Wilderness for rich northern

Remote backcountry should be set in roadless areas

Inholdings could prohibit outside public access if surrounded or adjacent to parts of

Backcountry motorized for east-west snowmobile connector across Long Trail

Would like remote backcountry west of Breadloaf

Disagree with Forest Service (FS) rules about not reducing wilderness-northeast portion of

Breadloaf should be backcountry motorized

Need remote backcountry west of Breadloaf to protect streams and geology that create

Pine Gap to end of the road on north side of Bingo Basin-need a special area to protect deep
tills on low slopes and valley bottoms

Remote backcountry can accomplish all that an eastern wilderness embodies-yet it can allow
people's needs to be met

Within large brown circles on Map 1, there is a motorized trail plan that is more specific-this
map is a broad brush-not a wholesale let ATVs and snowmobiles go everywhere

Group B Comments:

Consider new National Recreation Areas (NRAs) instead of diverse forest where appropriate
as a potential way to access more federal funding

Need snowmobile trail from Middlebury to valley to connect existing trails (east to west trails)

Better to have large blocks of wilderness than scattered areas of wilderness

Romance Mountain Wilderness

More payment in lieu of taxes to local towns if more wilderness is designated

More land acquisition around Blueberry Lake-contiguous with other MAs

Why not allow dogsleds or horses in wilderness?

Need snowmobile trail from Patterson Brook across Breadloaf Wilderness to access east to

Group C Comments:

Lyme timber lands are suitable for timber harvesting

Bat cave next to Peavine should be a special area

Lyme timber area is roadless so should be wilderness

Special area near Pittsfield based on rare communities

Roadless areas in Granville should be wilderness

Blueberry Lake should be remote backcountry
Concern about Stetson Brook Road being in wilderness
Concern about establishing a minimum road system

General Comments

Comments made at January meetings were not incorporated into the revised MA descriptions-
the FS is forcing new MAs on the public

Realistically, wheelchairs cannot go into wilderness-even if it is allowed

Why are we talking about wheelchairs-if they want to go in wilderness-GO!

In remote backcountry 6.1 desired future conditions-would road closures be permanent?

Would the roads be de-commissioned and the vegetation would grow into the roadbed?

Don't need any more wilderness-country has energy problem and we need to grow trees

Wasn't the original intent of the Forest Service to harvest timber? What has happened to
that? Timber is a crop that needs harvested

Not fair for FS to say we can't reduce certain special area MAs-do you want public opinion, or