

Hancock Local Planning Group Meeting Notes 4-17-03

Land Adjustment Comments

Why is buying next to wilderness and primitive areas a priority? Make wilderness and primitive more effective-have a backcountry emphasis
Buying land next to wilderness will help buffer wilderness-I support this
Important to consolidate habitats and add corridors for wildlife
Agree with uncommon natural qualities-significant streams-White River, Northfield Range
Acquire farm areas that are being abandoned
Acquire farm areas that are being abandoned but actively farm these lands
Should be enabling easements to provide access, timber harvesting, etc. Not restrictive easements
Purchase lands for trailhead purposes
Support acquiring rights-of-way
Any goal that is met should be dropped (for example AT/LT adjacent to wilderness)
Improve verbiage on priority areas
What happens to inholdings that are purchased in wilderness?
Important to purchase inholdings in wilderness
Areas acquired next to wilderness should be multiple use areas-open to wildlife management, timber management, etc.
Historical sites should be priority for protection

Recreation Comments

Bingo Brook-very used, needs attention
Isn't dispersed roadside camping a problem? Seems like it is...
Identify some more sites for camping with facilities-Rob Ford Meadow along brooks, include fire pits, latrines, but primitive
Use John Deere homestead for interpretive, educational site
Agree that we need more access-trailheads for horse riding use
Overuse at shelters on the Long Trail-causes same kind of resource problems-also along trails
Cost share for trails with VAST...why do they have to be multi-use?
Focus on avoiding developed recreation as much as possible-adds costs and problems, forest is now mostly undeveloped and should stay that way
Not everyone wants to camp on the Hill right next to the brook
Ski area impact has greater impact than 1%-no more ski area development on public land, slide on ski area fees should be balanced-there are public costs to ski area development
Most might want to camp on the Hill right next to the brook
Good to look at impact studies in areas where campers are no longer allowed-also restoration to damaged areas
Have highly developed trails and less developed-such as boardwalks versus paths
Andosgocin River Campground run by timber company-presence of company person kept things under control
Sufficient public access-roads for recreation access to public land
More regulation-not allow car camping-leaving the place a mess is a big problem
Nice to see something like Robert Frost-educational areas on the forest
Could use more winter trailheads-also trailheads for other purposes
Trails-how are we categorizing different types of trail use? Need to clarify
Little interpretive services on the forest...kids need more opportunities-evening programs, nature hikes with guides
Concentrated use-a lot of use coming from White Mt.-use the terms they use to be consistent

Developed fishing areas-need more for people with disabilities

If roads weren't there we wouldn't have some of the use problems

How do you change use restrictions without changing the Forest Plan?

Trails needs its own category...elevate as its own issue

Regulations-remember 98% are law-abiding citizens that do no harm-don't regulate every time you see a problem

White Mountains-hike-in tent sites-have host at site in wilderness areas