

Londonderry Plan Revision Meeting May 14, 2003: Public Comments

General Comments

Lot of productive timber parcels -should remain so
Good solid for timber growth should be used for timber
Cut timber where timber grows but keep wetlands as wetlands, mountains as mountains, etc....common sense
Disagree: timber production on some good soils is ok-not all or we won't know what forest is capable of (how dynamic)...preserve some
Slope steepness matters for where you harvest
Define standards that apply to Class A streams
Foresters get too little credit
Newly acquired lands within town watersheds should be sensitive to town water needs
Look at Abernaki resources on 9.2 Lands
Consider purchase of small inholdings and impacts of access to the inholding
No new wilderness on any 9.2s
Newly acquired lands and access-make sure parcels are accessible: example-winter pullovers are not currently
Publish locations of roads, access points to new lands
Improve signage for access opportunities
Glasterbury legends: historical importance should be considered
What is being done to find cultural resources on 9.2 lands? (Answer: usually done at project level)
Glasterbury, IP Lands, and Winhall: No new wilderness, no wilderness expansion; specifically Lye Brook south
Would like to see traditional uses remain the same (logging, hunting, etc)
Glasterbury, IP Lands, and Winhall: protect bears in this area
Fallacy: one use can trump another use for recreation in 9.2 areas (need separate motorized trails)
Timber management should continue: apple tree release, deer yard management, beech maintenance
Public access maintained (VAST and other uses-try to include everyone)
9.2 areas should be looked at individually-should not be broad based ideas such as "no new wilderness
Separate uses: example VAST and cross country ski
9.2 areas need to be looked at in context of what is around them
What is importance of wilderness? Need diversity and productivity
Should consult with state and other stakeholders/neighboring landowners
Need map of wildlife corridors
Consider how wildlife corridors are managed
Put other public lands on the maps-also private lands with conservation easements
All new purchases should have public access (motorized vehicles, hiking, snowmobiles, etc)
Display town roads on the maps
Comply with Vermont Wilderness Associations recommendations for wilderness
Stop illegal ATV use
Unless over 2500 feet or containing particular recreation or scenic -should all be timber land as it has been

Map-Related Comments

Goshen Dam

Ideal water recreation area with needed buffer

Winhall

Winhall River is class A
Road should be reopened to motor vehicles
This road from Kendall Farm to Stratton-Arlington Road should be reopened to motor vehicles
Whatever use is put here should be compatible with Class A watershed-natural conditions (health maintenance of Class A)-important factor for consideration

Stanley Tool Lands

Very well managed for timber
Has been and should remain productive timber harvest area
The Romance Mt. wilderness proposal is a good idea

Chittenden Reservoir

Needs non-timber harvest buffer around reservoir

Dorset Mountain

Minimize for maintenance viewshed on upper elevation

IP Lands

Bear corridor from IP Lands towards Jamaica 9.2 parcel
Keep VAST going
IP Lands should be Lye Brook extension for wilderness
Acquired for bear habitat-missing link to IP Lands/Stratton-try to acquire corridor
Enough wilderness-do not need in IP Lands
Extend Lye Brook wilderness to AT corridor

Bills Acquisition

Wildlife corridor to Dover Hills

Glastenbury

I endorse a Glastenbury wilderness-which I would like to ultimately grow to encompass the Somerset reservoir which would be a wonderful range of elevations and conditions to preserve
Keep VAST going
No new wilderness area
This land belongs to everyone-not just a few...should be managed for timber, wildlife, open snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, trapping, etc. Access road into this area from Somerset Rd. should remain open to motor
Expansion of National Forest in Glastenbury represents a unique opportunity to preserve a tract of significance for wildlife free from motorized use and managed timber harvesting...this is not just for the few but for the many!
Maintain entirety of Glastenbury Wilderness
Timber land area for generations-lumber business for entire state

Dover Hills

Town of Dover revised town plan to maintain a wildlife corridor (principally black bear)
Significant bear corridor between 9.2 lands and rest of forest
VAST trail-question about impact on wildlife
Federal Wetland Area and not-for-profit wildlife refuge near Dover Hills
Should not be maintained or developed due to potential bear habitat
Add hiking trails

Dutch Hill

Watershed land for Readsboro-consider when creating management areas

Howe Pond

Watershed land for Readsboro-consider when creating management areas

Warren Falls

Preserve and protect

Blueberry Lake

Water based recreation

Rutland Municipal Watershed

Be concerned for Rutland's watershed

Maintain bear corridor-work with state to insure protection over Route 4

Other Areas

South of Hancock: purchase inholdings

Rochester Rd area: valley lands that have agriculture potential-should continue to be leased to farmers

Stockbridge parcels: maintain for streambank stabilization

Kent Pond: maintain viewshed for AT/LT outside of the immediate corridor

Rochester Rd area: some low elevation lands should be allowed to develop as minimally disturbed as possible because there has been a mistaken tendency in the past to conserve mostly or solely high elevation areas which

Mt. Snow area: bear habitat

Readsboro/Searsburg: windmills should be in populated areas where people who benefit from power are-not degrade wildlife habitat when wildlife does not benefit

Readsboro: this area is very quiet behind the hills and I would like it to stay that way

Kidder Brook watershed is Class A

Stratton Pond: restore Brook Trout

Lye Brook Wilderness: Long Trail and other forest trails should not be allowed in wilderness areas because they are destructive to the environment

Stratton Pond: snowmobile trail from IP Road to Stratton Pond should be reopened

Searsburg and Readsboro: proposed windmills are ok!

South of Somerset: Purchase PG & E Lands to maintain recreation opportunities along NEPA trail corridor

Manchester RD area: think about interpretive trails for visitors

Southwest of Mount Holly-very critical bear habitat-manage to maintain habitat

North half of Lye Brook Wilderness: purchase inholdings