

NOI/Retrospective Meeting

Rutland, Vermont

May 28, 2002

Attending: 25

1. When will retrospective come out?
2. Motorized usage—question about increases.
3. Did you anticipate the increase in ATV's?
4. FS & Mountain Bike, agreement signed. Is it a goal or a directive?
5. Will there be another retrospective in less than 15 years? Can you change anything during the 15-year period.
6. Do we have to wait 15 years to see changes like has happened this go around?
7. Are there places where people can make comments during the 15 years outside of public meetings?
8. On trends, neotropical songbirds and black bears—what did you mean by that slide?
9. Are there up and down trends in both species?
10. Are the black bear declining—habitat.
11. Once you make a decision to go with a certain program, will it be up for public review?
12. Will our comments have an impact on the final plan?
13. Was there a meeting in Weston? How did it differ from tonight?
14. Management Indicator Species—does that mean species or the way it is managed.
15. Is there a copy of the species you talk about when you say management indicator species.
16. Who makes the determination about viable or desired species?
17. Does it relate to hunting, birdwatching, things like that?
18. When the plan is in place are you going to work the plan or let litigation stop you the way you have for the past 15 years?
19. How much of your funding goes down the tubes each year when you are litigated?
20. What criteria(?) will you use to determine the amount of timber harvesting?
21. Does the Forest Plan look beyond the boundaries of the Forest.
22. When alternatives are developed, who gets to pick the final alternative?
23. Give me some examples of recreation management, would you give me some examples of what is allowed?
24. When you allow one vehicle on and not another, isn't that discriminating?
25. Is there any GMNF lands that you allow motorized traffic on? In the Townsend area?
26. What is the best source you can offer on recreation use and the different types of recreation? #'s of hikers, etc.
27. Was this Forest in the survey?

28. Survey—how do you document illegal use?
29. \$\$\$'s lost in timber harvests. Are there Forest uses where you don't lose \$\$\$'s. Beside ski areas, are there other things. In Vermont, are there other things?
30. What does special use management cover? Are we going to have a range of ski area expansion?
31. Depending on how much timber management you have won't it make a difference about the amount of road building. How will this affect the alternatives?
32. If you have an alternative for watershed protection, won't you then say how much road building will be done? (Didn't catch all of this).
33. Is the GMNF entertaining any idea about how to raise any additional money through the recreation program?
34. Roads that were created by timber harvesting are being used by recreationists and looks like timber industry is being blamed for making roads. Why do you acquire 85,000 additional acres if you can't manage what you have. Timber industry is suffering in Vermont and you aren't doing anything about it.
35. Does litigation expense get charged against the budget you get to run the Forest?
36. Comment about how through our taxes we pay so that everyone benefits—not single out the forest products industries.
37. Pressure to have more area be wilderness. Is this part of the 15 year review? How is that going to be handled? What is the decision that is going to be made by Congress? I heard it is outside of this review. If an area is wilderness I've heard that use goes down. Do you have any figures on whether it goes up or down?
38. # of environmental groups came up with wilderness proposal we began back in 1998 and when the planning process was stopped we kept going.
39. Concern when there is word that the use of wilderness goes down. I feel Forest should be used, sustainably by as many people as want to use it.
40. How will new planning regulations be folded into this effort you are explaining? Aren't you still using 1982 regs?
41. What is the deal with the two sets of regulations?
42. Wildfires—does any of this planning affect timber land and how you manage it with regard to fuel loading? While we don't have much fire in northeast I am interested in how the FS take into account the cost of fighting these fires—how do you offset the cost of losing homes and human life, wildlife. (Not sure what the question was on this).
43. Story about taking ATV's carrying fire fighters and equipment into a fire.
44. Someone commenting on solving problems by starting fires (couldn't hear very well).
45. Are there more of issue meetings?