

## Londonderry Plan Revision Meeting August 13, 2003: Public Comments

### **Provide input on how you think these concepts should be incorporated into the Forest Plan:**

- What sorts of management activities or uses are consistent or inconsistent with conservation and protection?
- What **plant or animal species, or groups of species**, would you like to see protected or enhanced?
- What **natural communities, ecological conditions, or landscape features** would you like to see conserved, maintained or enhanced?

### **Public Comments**

#### **Question 1: What sorts of management activities or uses are consistent or inconsistent with conservation and protection?**

How will plan address areas that currently are not well inventoried?

Some "blank" areas on the current maps may not be empty!

Use common sense in how you use an area-for example, TSI work improves area for the future

In past, "doing nothing" was a way to conserve but now natural succession may crowd out desired species

Very low intervention for 10,000 years-zero intervention has a lot to be said for it-perhaps alternatives will work in the long run but how will you know

What to do when rare species need disturbance? Don't think whole forest needs to be in a reserve

Don't have to provide for species that are naturally rare on forest if provided for off forest

Introduction of species? Be careful of introductions of pine martens...fisher is taking over

#### **Question 2: What plant or animal species, or groups of species, would you like to see protected or enhanced?**

Like to see population of white tail deer increased...in my life it has decreased 75%... Forest harvest near deer winter areas would help...don't agree on management for lynx or wolves

Allow for natural fluctuations between predator and prey-example, rabbits and fisher will flux but balance over time

Look ahead at plant invasive species to not let it get out of hand, be aware of what is vulnerable and monitor

Fisher will attack domestic animals after rabbits are gone-will also attack deer

Bobcat and rabbit cycle very well-fisher was reintroduced

Don't want wolves (red or grey) reintroduced-not enough habitat without taking domestic livestock

USFS maintains a balance of natural communities-I am very concerned about invasive species which are a threat to natural communities

Purple loosestrife is in the area-look at taking the lead to educate the public to be aware-public service announcements would help

Timber practices can affect invasive species because of openings created

Reintroduce disease-resistant tree species (elm, chestnut)

No genetically engineered species

Is the USFS restricting imports from Connecticut (for example, Hemlock)?

Is there an ash blight on the National forest? If unsure-should survey...Answer: he Green Mountain does do aerial surveys and if there us a blight it would be in low levels

**Question 3: What natural communities, ecological conditions, or landscape features would you like to see conserved, maintained or enhanced?**

Would like more demonstration areas showing silvicultural techniques that mimic natural disturbance regimes...USFS still uses conventional logging practices-would prefer new concepts that would be compatible and USFS should take the lead on this

Would like more early successional land-it is not available on private land

USFS doesn't cut Hemlock-ash is in decline and the leaves look small for this year-wood is yellow inside and you can see the bad leaves-should mark in summer to see decline

Would like spine of Green Mountain protected from development

Really like northern forest red spruce