

Hancock Plan Revision Meeting August 21, 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?

Every technique available-diversity in management is important to provide diversity
Perpetuation is the word-perpetuate biological diversity

Manage the areas that we do have for diversity-reopen old farmsteads and apple orchards-don't need to create new areas that will cost money
Conservation and protection= restriction to access to the forest, not what we want to see
Lack of forest management is leading to lack of deer, need more foraging habitat

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

Have reams of literature that show we do not have enough younger age habitats for species-need to increase and enhance this

Need to conserve old trees and old growth type habitats

Use of a management with a "reserve system" would conflict with our potential to conserve and protect

Does a reserve allow management or not?

Don't use buffers around zones-hard to define area where you don't know what to do for management

Don't we have to look at private lands

Need to look at what is happening on private lands-if we do not harvest on Green Mountain National Forest-will drive harvest on private lands

How is it going to help us define alternatives and explain it to the public

Some of the numbers for habitat need are just numbers pulled out of the air with no scientific basis-not appropriate to use on the National Forest

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

Need to have more early successional habitat and do more logging to achieve this

How can you have corridors with all the highways in the state?

Wetlands enhancement: beavers are not moving up into the watershed

Need some clear-cutting to get more successional forest

Do as much as we can on the Green Mountain National Forest to help promote a healthy deer herd

Management Indicator Species don't work and will work less in the future