

### INTRODUCTION

The National Forests System Road Management Rule was finalized in January 2001. This rule ensures that the National Forest road system meets current and future management objectives, provides for safe public access and travel, allows for economical and efficient management, and addresses road maintenance and reconstruction needs.



The Roads Analysis Process (RAP) will examine Forest Service roads that are maintained for safe passenger car travel. The analysis does not examine high clearance and gated roads on the forest. The analysis will produce a road management strategy that will ultimately lead to guidelines for addressing future road management issues. This effort is part of revising the Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF) *Land and Resource Management Plan*.

### THE PROCESS

The Roads Analysis is a six-step process. The steps are designed to be sequential with the understanding that the process may require feedback among steps.

#### **The six steps are:**

1. Setting up the Analysis
2. Describing the Situation
3. Identifying Issues
4. Assessing Benefits, Problems and Risks
5. Describing Opportunities and Setting Priorities
6. Reporting

### PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The Forest has received input from the public regarding existing passenger car roads under Forest Service jurisdiction. Input obtained from the public was used and considered and the GMNF has performed an analysis over the last several months as part of the Forest Plan Revision.



### FINDINGS

- The existing road network (Class 3,4 & 5) is meeting the access needs of the Forest.
- The GMNF is following the intent of the current Forest Plan
- The GMNF is under funded by approximately \$160,000 annually for Maintenance and Construction
- Environmental Impacts from the Roads needs to be prioritized and addressed.
- Some roads are currently misclassified and should be evaluated and re-classified.
- An in-depth (small-scale) analysis is needed to define Roads Management Objectives (RMO) of all roads.
- The forest should continue its cooperative agreements with Vermont towns.
- The GMNF should continue to seek National Forest System (NFS), Capital Improvement and Trail Deposit Funds.
- Assessment of GMNF Road Signs



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The mission of the Green Mountain National Forest is to sustain, protect and enhance the forest ecosystem. Employees, with the aid of the public, understand that their greatest asset is the land, their greatest strength is the work force, and they will strive to gain public understanding, trust, and confidence in all that they do through demonstration and education.

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