



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

White Mountain National Forest  
Ammonoosuc/Pemigewasset  
Ranger District

Route 175, RFD #3, Box 15  
Plymouth, NH 03264  
Comm: (603) 536-1315  
TTY: (603) 536-3281

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File Code: 1950

Date: April 28, 2003

Dear Planning Participant:

The White Mountain National Forest is beginning the environmental analysis process for the proposed Sugar House Project that includes: vegetation management and maintenance of the existing road system in the Project Area.

Enclosed for your comment is the following information for this project:

- The project proposal, location and description;
- The reasons for making the proposal at this time;
- What decisions will be made; and
- How you can help with the decision-making process.

This project is located in the towns of Bethlehem and Franconia, Grafton County, New Hampshire. The Project Area consists of approximately 3,000 acres. The information about this proposal is available on our website at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/white/projects/index.html>.

You have received this mailing because of your past interest in this type of project on the White Mountain National Forest. You may also have received it because you own property near the Project Area. I am interested in hearing your comments about our proposal, including any information you have about the Project Area that could help us improve our plans.

Your comments may be provided orally or in writing<sup>1</sup> (phone, letter, FAX, or e-mail) and must be received by June 8, 2004. Indicate in your response that your comments are in reference to the proposed Sugar House Project. Comments should be addressed to John Serfass, District Ranger in one of the following ways:

**By Mail** – Ammonoosuc-Pemigewasset Ranger Station, 660 Trudeau Road, Bethlehem NH 03574, ATTN: Sugar House Project/Dave Govatski;

**By FAX** – (603) 869-5844, ATTN: Sugar House Project/Dave Govatski;

**By phone** – (603) 869-2626 (voice) or 603- 869-3104 (TTY), ask for Dave Govatski

**By email** – [dgovatski@fs.fed.us](mailto:dgovatski@fs.fed.us)

Please include the following information with your comments:

- Your name, address (include in any email correspondence), and, if possible, telephone number; and



- Site-specific facts or comments concerning the proposed Sugar House Project, along with supporting information that you believe I should consider in reaching a decision.

Your views on this project are important to me. If you need more information on this project, please contact Dave Govatski at (603) 869-2626.

The results of our analysis of the Sugar House Project will be documented in an Environmental Assessment (EA), and a decision is expected during the late summer of 2004. The regulations for notice, comment, and appeal have been revised<sup>ii</sup>. Before a decision is made on this project, you will be given an opportunity to comment (30-Day Comment Period) on that analysis. If you provide comments pertinent to the Sugar House Project during the 30-Day Comment Period, you will also be eligible to file an administrative appeal of the Sugar House Project Decision. You will not be eligible to appeal the decision if you only respond to the Scoping Notice you are now reading.

If you provide comments to the Scoping information now, you will receive the 30-Day Comment Report. If you do not wish to provide comments at this time, but wish to receive the 30-Day Comment Report, please let us know. Anyone who responds to the Scoping information will receive a copy of the Decision Notice when it has been signed.

Thank you for your interest in assisting us to manage the White Mountain National Forest.

Enclosure

Sincerely,

/S/ JOHN J. SERFASS

JOHN J. SERFASS  
District Ranger

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<sup>i</sup> Comments received in response to this solicitation, including the names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered. Additionally, pursuant to 7CFR1.27(d), any person may request that a submission be withheld from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that confidentiality is granted in only very limited circumstances. The Forest Service will inform the requester of its decision regarding a request for confidentiality. Where the request is denied, the submission will be returned, and the requester notified that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address.

<sup>ii</sup>(36CFR 215, published in Federal Register Vol. 68, No. 107, pages 33581-33602). For additional information on the revised appeal regulations, contact Dave Govatski, Project Leader, 603-869-2626.