

White Mountain National Forest Forest Plan

The long awaited "Forest Plan" was released to the public in May. A comprehensive plan, defining the management of the 775,000 acre White Mountain National Forest during the next ten years, it cannot be summarized here. Several of the most significant changes in management are:

- (1) Uneven-aged management will be used on approximately 30% of the area to be timbered. Even-aged management (clear-cutting) will no longer be the only method of harvest. WODC recommended this change.
- (2) Seventy (70) miles of new roads will be constructed during the ten year period. Most of these roads will be Type II roads (intermittent use roads built to moderately low standards). Fewer roads will be constructed than in previous years, and to a lower standard.
- (3) A new Mt. Chocorua Scenic Area has been created. The area is over 5000 acres and abuts the Sandwich Wilderness Area. The southern slopes of Chocorua are protected from timber cutting except for the forest along the Liberty and Brook Trails. This latter decision is a disappointment to most, if not all, WODC members, though the Scenic Area concept is supported strongly.
- (4) 12,000 acres of Roadless Area in the Caribou-Speckled Mountain Region in Maine has been recommended for Wilderness Study.
- (5) Maximum size of clear-cut areas has been reduced to 30 acres, down from 40 acres.
- (6) Ten areas have been recommended for potential Research Natural Areas, including expansion of the Bowl Natural Area. WODC has recommended the Bowl expansion for more than 10 years.
- (7) Wildlife habitat management is now an essential part of the Plan. No decisions have been made to date relative to the management of Wilderness Areas.
- (8) Most of the visible foreground in the Wonalancet Region has been placed in Management Area 2.1, providing emphasis on protecting and enhancing visual quality. There will be timbering by both even-aged and uneven-aged systems.

Considering the conservative mood of the people in the U.S. and the State, I believe the Final Plan is all that can be expected. Many people, if not the majority, have greater concern with pocketbook issues rather than with resource protection. It is a plan within which WODC can work with the Forest Service.

George Zink

The Executive Committee met at Dave Bowles' on May 24, 1986. Plans were made for the summer activities, as well as discussion on the concerns of the Club at the present time.

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Because of the cost of insurance, it was decided that no one will be hired at this time to work on trails. Presently, the Club has no liability insurance.

Trail clearing continues to be a major problem to WODC. It is a fact that water, wind, time, and hikers make the condition of our trails ever changing. Those who have adopted trails are greatly appreciated. If there is any one who would like to adopt a trail, or help in some other way, please contact Dana Steele, Great Hill Rd., Tamworth, NH 03886. Tel. (603) 323-7287. He would like to hear from you.

A Trail Clearing Work Day has been planned for Aug. 9th (rain date Aug. 10th). We hope all who are able will join the work crew. There will be a specific area on which the group will work. Come armed with clippers, or whatever clearing tools you may have. There will also be other tools provided by the club. The time and place will be announced at a later date. A supper is planned after the day's work provided by those who were unable to go out on the trails...hopefully.

The Chocorua Mountain Club has cleared trails in this manner, very successfully, for years. Many members come to Chocorua just for the trail clearing, and afterwards, for an evening of sociability. Let us follow suit!

Sally Zink, Editor

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Sunday, July 13th - 7 PM at Wonalancet Chapel
Kristine Klein from the NH Fish and Game Dept. will present slides and discussion on the New Hampshire Moose: it's past, present and future.
- Sunday, July 27th - 7 PM at Wonalancet Chapel
President David Bowles will show slides on the construction of the new aerial tramway at Cannon Mountain.
- Saturday, Aug. 9th (rain date Aug. 10th) Trail Clearing Work Day
Time and place of meeting to be announced later.
- Sunday, Aug. 24th - 7 PM Annual Meeting - Wonalancet Chapel

Dues Notice

Since we got the dues notice out late last year (December), it will seem to some of you that you have just paid your dues. However, at the present time dues are payable for the 86-87 year at the time of the annual meeting (August). I am including a reminder as to when you last paid.

Your dues have been paid for the 86-87 year. Thank you!

You last paid dues for the _____ year

Please send dues to:
Nathaniel A. Steele
Wonalancet, NH 03897