

18:20:53 From Susan Smiley to Dan Cushing(direct message) : Hi Dan - can only see Paul on the screen - map is tiny - any way to reverse?

18:21:07 From Susan Smiley to Dan Cushing(direct message) : Would be good to have a better visual on the slides he is discussing

18:21:52 From Dan Cushing to Susan Smiley(direct message) : At the top right there might be a 'view' button which can give you some options such as gallery, standard. You may also be able to see a slider in-between the camera and the presentation

18:22:12 From Dan Cushing to Susan Smiley(direct message) : Which lets you resize the camera/presentation

18:22:14 From Susan Smiley to Dan Cushing(direct message) : Got it = thanx

18:24:10 From Dan Cushing : What Facilities attract you to this park?

2. What Natural Features attract you to this park?

3. What Activities do you enjoy participating in?

4. What, if anything, prevents you from fully enjoying your visit to this park?

5. What activities, facilities, or services would make you feel more welcome or more satisfied with your experience in this park?

6. What is the biggest challenge facing this park?

7. What makes this park special to you?

8. Any other information about this park that you think is important for us to know.

18:29:36 From Janet Sinclair to Dan Cushing(direct message) : Hello Dan, I missed the part about the timeline for this round of comments. Will that be in the follow-up email you are sending?

18:29:47 From Sam Haupt : Regarding Peru/Middlefield State Forest - how can the Town of Peru advocate for improved access including parking, signage, understanding restrictions and adding amenities such as picnic areas? Thanks

18:30:41 From Dan Cushing to Janet Sinclair(direct message) : Correct, it will be until March 27th, thanks for joining Janet

18:31:29 From Kate Conlin : Thank you to DCR forest management staff who are conducting critical work on the landscape related to forest health, ecosystem integrity, biodiversity, and resilience.

18:31:47 From Miriam And Mike Kurland : I agree with everything Kate said

18:33:30 From Kate O'Connor : · Continuous blocks of unmanaged forests do a better job of removing carbon, creating rainfall, reducing heat and providing habitat. Thinning and logging releases carbon gas emissions, contributes to forest fires, degrades forests soils and soil networks, degrades wetlands & watersheds, and allows more invasive species, insects and diseases to invade and harm forests. Very little of forests original stored carbon is retained in wood products.

· It takes 465 new trees to match the existing benefits provided by one mature tree. New trees take decades of growth to achieve all the climate benefits of existing mature un-degraded trees and forests.

· In Massachusetts, about 64% of the state's forests are private. These forests can provide some of our state's wood products, and additional wood products for Massachusetts needs can be sourced from southern state's tree plantations which are already degraded and have longer productive growing seasons than northeast forests.

18:34:53 From Eric Fox : There needs to be parking diagrams at the Pittsfield State Forest OHV parking lot by Potter Mtn Rd. It gets congested easily if people don't park properly. Also having signage in Spanish would be a benefit.

Eric Fox Vice President of Patriots All Terrain Club.

18:36:05 From Miriam And Mike Kurland : I agree with Glen, as well

18:38:35 From Marjorie Nelson : Why did Balance Rock parking lot get paved and then exclude ORV parking. It is a perfect location for ORV trucks and trailers. Prior to paving done it was open to ORV parking. Potter Mountain location parking is not easy to park Truck and trailers.

18:40:35 From Janet Sinclair : I think Peru State Forest should become a reserve and keep Middlefield a reserve as well.

18:40:55 From Sam Haupt to Dan Cushing(direct message) : Who can I reach out to directly?

18:40:57 From Seth Jenkins : Lots of people seem to be using the Balance rock parking lot for ORV parking.

18:41:31 From Dave Galt : Replying to "I think Peru State F..."

Agree

18:41:35 From Marjorie Nelson : What does a "reserve" do to the property?
18:46:03 From Chip Jones : I am Government Affairs Director of Snowmobile Association of Massachusetts and my hand is raised. Thank you
18:47:15 From Janet Sinclair : A reserve is a DCR designation that means to leave a forest pretty much alone for nature, Instead of logging it.
18:49:13 From Janet Sinclair : We only have 1 or 2 % of our land is protected like a national park, or like the Adirondack park. So why not have more land protected like this on our state lands?
18:49:25 From Kate Conlin : I urge DCR to resist the broad classification of wilderness, which is a cultural concept of the natural world that is rooted in colonial legacies of Indigenous erasure and disregards the modern-day wide-reaching effects of climate change as well as the lasting effects of globalization and the built environment. Passive management, informed by conditions on the ground, is positive – political designations of 'wilderness' are not.
18:53:45 From Janet Sinclair : I don't think anyone here is erasing indigenous communities.
18:53:47 From Marjorie Nelson : We need to get people into the woods and recreation. We have brought friends from eastern MA to see the "woods" of western MA. I belong to the Patriots ALL terrain club we would love to collaborate with DCR to maintain trails.
18:53:59 From Karl Dziura : Clarification: Wildlands are roughly equal to DCR Reserves in that passive management prevails in both.
18:54:21 From Marjorie Nelson : Replying to "Clarification: Wildl..."

thanks!

18:58:38 From Glen Ayers : Wilderness is passive management, by definition. Follow the excellent model of the Adirondacks where all state-owned lands are either Wild Forests or Wilderness Areas. There is unlimited opportunity for passive non-consumptive recreation in wilderness. Wild forests allow a wider range of opportunities including human made facilities. Our forests should be predominantly self-willed where natural processes are allowed to rewild these previously abused lands.
18:59:14 From Kate Conlin : It's important to communicate that DCR management of state lands is inherently different than what is most often possible on private lands -- in scope, timeframe, intention, and feasibility. Especially now with the uncertainty of federal funding to conduct this important work on private lands through USDA NRCS and other cost share programs, it is incredibly important that the public understand just how valuable this work is.
18:59:21 From Gay Rinker : Replying to "Wilderness is passiv..."
I agree!
19:00:46 From Janet Sinclair : With the feds thinking about trashing our National parks, all the more reason to create that kind of protection here in Massachusetts.
19:01:19 From Gay Rinker : Replying to "With the feds thinki..."
Indeed!
19:01:45 From Kate O'Connor : Replying to "With the feds thinki..."

Agree!

19:04:31 From Janet Sinclair : National Parks and Monuments are good for tourisms and the local economies
19:05:43 From Lynne Man : I need to leave this meeting for another one, so I will put my comments in the chat. I am active with the MA Sierra Club, Climate Action Now, RF3 and Trees as a Public good.I love all DCR properties and use them often for hiking and spiritual renewal. What distresses me the most is seeing the wreckage that ensues after a logging project. I don't need to repeat what others have said: I agree with everything said by Kate O'Connor, Glen Ayers, Miriam, Don Ogden, Karl Dzuria and others. There is no scientific evidence that supports cutting forests for forest health, and certainly not for climate benefits, yet there is much evidence to the contrary. I urge you to designate the vast majority of state forests as PERMANENT reserves. This is especially important given what's going on at the national level: opening up national forests to logging. I also love comments on developing accessible trails so that everyone can take advantage of them.
19:06:06 From Don Ogden : Thanks everyone. I have to go now.
19:06:19 From Gay Rinker : Keep designated wilderness wild in MA as our federal lands may be facing challenges and degradation!
19:06:28 From Janet Sinclair : If we have more "reserves (wildlands) here, they would be great tourist draws. People love Mohawk Trail State Forest. People visit from all over there, and they appreciate that

nature prevails there.

19:06:53 From Chip Jones : Any others, my contacts are 978-857-5254 and chip.jones@sledmass.com. Eric and Mark especially

19:09:00 From Seth Jenkins : Parks, Trails & Outdoor Recreation in Berkshire County, MA | Berkshires Outside

19:09:51 From iPad : Hi rob Gubala here President of Patriots ATV we love enjoying ATV Riding in Western MA .we would like to see UTVS have access to state forest as well. ATVs allow people with limited mobility to recreate and enjoy nature many of us hike and Hunt as well as ride, thank you for listening sorry I can't speak I have Covid

19:10:35 From Gay Rinker : There is not that much LAND in MA to absorb impact of heavy motorized use.

19:13:04 From Sam Haupt : Shared recreational trail opportunities are important to those of us who live full time in these communities.

19:13:51 From Janet Sinclair : I agree with Susan Masino. "Do no harm." Like how medicine is supposed to be practiced.

19:15:23 From Eric Fox : Thanks chip

19:16:26 From Gay Rinker : Designate as reserved!! I agree., Keep Intact large areas, otherwise, MA will look like overpopulated overused Long Island

19:19:13 From Miriam And Mike Kurland : Agree with Susan Masino

19:19:26 From iPad : Mr Rinker I beg to differ Massachusetts has a place for all users weather there mountain Bike Hiker or snowmobile and and ATV AS long as there maintained and safe

19:19:58 From Janet Sinclair : Hopefully we can all comment soon on the Landscapes Designation process. That is a place to ask for more of what people want.

19:23:57 From Miriam And Mike Kurland : Agree again with Glen

19:24:47 From Gay Rinker : Agree with Glen regarding ReWilding.

19:25:34 From Randal Toth : DCR needs a Greater focus on Recreation for all users

19:25:48 From Susan Masino : Thank you for so many great comments and a well run meeting.

We all need nature. We need to fit our needs around that lifeline for everyone. Where can we let nature breath, manage as needed, let people fall in love and be inspired by nature. Proforestation is not for every forest, it is not against anything - it is essential, and for everyone.

19:26:24 From Miriam And Mike Kurland : I would like funding and emphasis focusing on education of the public about caring for our wild lands as so important for our lives

19:29:06 From Miriam And Mike Kurland : Thank you

19:29:10 From Gay Rinker : Thank you Paul!

19:29:15 From Seth Jenkins : Thank you.

19:29:23 From Eric Fox : Thank you all

19:29:25 From iPad : Thank you

19:29:28 From Kate O'Connor : Thanks for this well run meeting.

19:29:30 From Janet Sinclair : Thank you