



File Code: 1950; 2730
Date: June 7, 2021

Invitation to Comment – Please Reply by July 10, 2021 Appalachian Trail Side & Corridor Crossing Trail Designations Project

Dear Interested Parties:

The USDA Forest Service is initiating an environmental analysis process for the proposed Appalachian Trail Side & Corridor Crossing Trail Designations under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). I am writing to seek your comments for the project proposal consisting of the designation of three side trails that cross or enter the Appalachian Trail Corridor (AT) in Norwich, VT. All trails would be authorized for pedestrian use with one trail authorized for bicycle travel.

This project would also authorize the rehabilitation of multiple user-created, unauthorized trails currently crossing the AT in Norwich.

Refer to the attached project information document for details regarding the proposed action.

This proposed action potentially falls in a category of actions excluded from analysis in an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement, as proposals of this type individually and cumulatively do not have a significant effect on the environment. This proposal appears to fall under categories:

36 CFR 220.6 (e)(1) Construction and reconstruction of trails; and

36 CFR 220.6 (e)(20) Activities that restore, rehabilitate, or stabilize lands occupied by roads and trails, including unauthorized roads and trails and National Forest System roads and National Forest System trails, to a more natural condition that may include removing, replacing, or modifying drainage structures and ditches, reestablishing vegetation, reshaping natural contours and slopes, reestablishing drainage-ways, or other activities that would restore site productivity and reduce environmental impacts.

I am interested to hear any concerns, issues, or suggestions you may have regarding the proposed action. Please provide your comments to us by July 10, 2021.

In your comments, please include the following information:

1. Your name, address and telephone number or email address.
2. The project you are commenting on: Appalachian Trail Side & Corridor Crossing Trail Designations



3. Site-specific comments about the proposal along with supporting information and rationale you believe will help identify issues that need to be addressed.
4. Concerns about environmental effects associated with the proposal.

Submit your written comments in c/o Seth Coffey using any of the following methods:

- ✓ Mail
USDA Forest Service – Rochester Ranger District Office
99 Ranger Road
Rochester, VT 05767
- ✓ Email
comments-eastern-green-mt-finger-lakes-rochester@usda.gov
- ✓ Phone
(802)-767-4261 ext. 5532
- ✓ Facsimile
(802) 767-4777

Comments received in response to this invitation, including name and address of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record for this project and will be available for public review.

Additional information regarding the proposal can be obtained from: Seth Coffey, Rochester Ranger District, 99 Ranger Road, Rochester, VT 05767 or email at seth.coffey@usda.gov.

Thank you for your interest in the Green Mountain National Forest. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER MATTRICK
District Ranger