From: Abby Evankow

To: <u>DNCR: Mt Washington Comments</u>

Subject: comments re: Mt. Washington Master Plan Draft 4

Date: Monday, August 22, 2022 10:03:28 PM

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To the Members of the Mt Washington Commission,

I agree with the members of this Commission and the public who have already spoken of the crucial need for an environmental and climate assessment of Mt. Washington. To "minimize harm" is far too low a bar.

The Master Plan must elevate the flora & fauna to full "Summit Partner" status or else the "scientific attraction" of the summit will be its ecological decline instead of its flourishing.

I urge the commission to hire a facilitator as recommended by the Harvard Negotiation and Mediation Clinical Program and use this facilitator in the process of incorporating the environmental and climate assessment into the Master Plan. To ignore this recommendation after all the months of study and work suggests that the Master Plan will be similarly discarded.

Protect and Preserve are the first 2 priorities in the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources' mission - which is "to protect, preserve, promote and manage the State's natural and cultural resources." I urge this Commission to honor this mission by re-writing this draft plan to truly prioritize the protection and preservation of the fragile alpine ecology of Mt Washington State Park.

Thank you for your time.

-Abby Evankow Gorham