News From The WHITE MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST

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White Mountain National Forest Hosting Field Tour

The public is invited to a tour of the Four Ponds Project Area in Albany and Mason Townships, Oxford County Maine on May 16, 2009. The field tour of the forestry, wildlife, recreation and fisheries management projects will begin at 9:00 am at Crocker Pond campground, located in Albany Township. Forest Service employees will be available to provide information and answer questions about the project proposals.

The project area includes National Forest land in the Patte Brook area, southwest of Bethel in the vicinity of Albany Mountain and Crocker Pond Campground. Project proposals include timber harvest, watershed and wildlife habitat improvements, prescribed fire, replacing the Broken Bridge Pond dam, changes to dispersed and developed campsites, gravel sources, hiking and snowmobile trail relocations, road work, and changes to access on the Patte Brook Road. As part of the overall management of the area, some of the activities such as timber harvest will be incorporated into the Patte Brook Auto Tour, which provides conservation education at 11 stops in the project area. All activities are intended to implement the White Mountain National Forest's 2005 Land and Resource Management Plan.

Forest Service specialists will be available to provide details and answer questions about project proposals as well as gather comments and concerns.

If you are planning to attend please contact Gail Wigler at the Androscoggin Ranger District in Gorham, NH at (603) 466-2713, ext. 230, or via email at gwigler@fs.fed.us. We would also welcome suggestions about specific project areas you would like to visit.

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