

From: [Marshall Rowe](#)
To: [DNCR: Mt Washington Comments](#)
Subject: Cog Railway Proposal
Date: Tuesday, August 30, 2022 4:39:13 PM

EXTERNAL: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner,

Our family cherishes New Hampshire, especially the natural environment of the White Mountains. And we are lifelong hikers (dating back to the first climb of Mt. Chocorua in 1959) who saw our youngest son start the 4,000 footers at age 5 and finish them as a ten year old. No natural environment is more important to our state than Mt. Washington, and we strongly urge you to deny the request of the Cog Railway Corporation to place railcars with overnight guests on the side of the mountain.

The Master Plan for the summit places primary responsibility with the NH Division of Parks and Recreation, the Mount Washington Commission, and the Summit Partners to protect the summit's unique flora and other natural resources. With our climate changing and risks to our precious resources increasing, it is more important than ever to diminish the human stress on the fragile mountain ecology. Building infrastructure to accommodate guests on the Cog above the treeline will only add to the risks and degradation of Mt. Washington's unique environment.

The Summit Master Plan states that the NH State Parks along with the Summit Partners "should aspire to minimize harm to the summit environment". Currently, NH residents and visitors have multiple ways to experience the summit, and several hundred thousand do each year. The Master Plan also says "the Auto Road and the Cog Railway should investigate ways to limit their visitors in order to contribute to the long range success of the Mt. Washington experience". Adding overnight railcars to the mountain side is not consistent with the Master Plan recommendations.

We urge you to honor the Master Plan and Mt. Washington's place

in NH history and ecology, and deny the request to place railcars with overnight guests on the side of the mountain.

Respectfully,

Rachel & Marshall Rowe

[REDACTED]

Hopkinton, NH 03229