

**Mount Sunapee Resort MDP/EMP 2015-2019  
PUBLIC COMMENTS on COMMISSIONER ROSE'S DRAFT DECISION**

Summary of Petitions. Some comments were sent in as part of a petition effort and were analyzed separately. A petition was a correspondence received by DRED either individually or as part of a collaboratively signed packet/sheet with a sponsor that contained identical or nearly identical text. Some individual responses included in a petition were found to contain substantive comment and were removed from the petition packet and added to the written public comment analysis spreadsheet. A summary analysis on the petitions is provided following this section.

**TALLY OF PETITIONS**

SHEET	TITLE	# Oppose	# Support	
1	Bob Skinners		431	
2	NHSC-FOMS	1584		
3	MS Draft Decision		164	
4	Move Sunapee Forward		24	
5	Worth Protecting	878		
6	Friends of Mt Sunapee (FOMS)	196		
7	MSR postcard		49	
8	Oppose postcard	37		
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2695</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>3363</b>
		80%	20%	

**Tango-Lowy, Torene**

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**From:** Bob Skinnners <skinnners@myfairpoint.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 30, 2015 2:52 PM  
**To:** Wheeler, David; Pappas, Christopher; Sununu, Christopher; VanOstern, Colin; Kenney, Joseph; Tango-Lowy, Torene  
**Subject:** Letters in support of Mount Sunapee's Plan  
**Attachments:** letters in support 5-28-15.pdf

Here are 30 letters in support of the Mount Sunapee West Bowl Plan.

Thank you

Frank MacConnell

Bob Skinnners Ski and Sport  
603.763.2303  
Bobskinners.com

My name is Kathleen M. Ray and I reside in Newport  
and I speak for myself

I have heard many people speak against the expansion of Mount Sunapee and the West Bowl project and it is discouraging.

The expanded services proposed will allow for an increased number of skiers. I have heard people state that there were less lines at the bottom of the chair lifts now, but more at the top. Yes, that would be the reason for the need for additional trails! No lines attract more skiers! More skiers means increased revenue...for everyone, including local inns, hotels, restaurants, and the many entrepreneurial shops that have popped up since the privatization of the mountain.

Not only does the Mountain stimulate our tourist industry, it provides jobs for many, many people, both directly and indirectly. These include both full time, part time and seasonal jobs.

I believe only good can come of this. I fully support the West Bowl expansion.

Kathleen M. Ray 5-22-15  
Name Date

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JUN 04 2015

D.R.E.D.

June 4, 2015

To: Governor Maggie Hassan and Commissioner Jeffrey Rose  
From: NH Sierra Club and Friends of Mount Sunapee

On behalf of NH Sierra Club, Friends of Mount Sunapee and others who are committed to protecting Mount Sunapee State Park, we present comments and letters signed by more than 1900 people in opposition to ski resort expansion at the state park. Signatures were gathered in recent weeks in response to the April 16, 2015, 'draft decision' of the Department of Resources and Economic Development that recommended expansion at Mount Sunapee. As demonstrated at the May 5, 2015, public hearing where people (3:1) spoke in opposition to the proposal, people in growing numbers are speaking out to protect New Hampshire public lands and our most valued of natural resources.

Presented here for your consideration:

1) A traditional, paper petition circulated by volunteers in the Lake Sunapee region and beyond, friend to friend and neighbor to neighbor, and at local convenience stores and meetings, is signed by 708 citizens. It states:

"Mount Sunapee State Park: A Park By the People. A Park For the People.  
The Honorable Governor Hassan, Commissioner Rose and Executive Council Members,  
We, the undersigned, oppose the proposed expansion plan at Mount Sunapee."

2) Friends of Mount Sunapee on-line, petition letter signed by 755 citizens who "believe the proposed development of a 'West Bowl' for resort and ski area expansion is not in the public interest." It asks the decision makers "to protect NH's public lands and the natural environment and deny resort expansion at Mount Sunapee."

3) The NH Sierra Club letter asks Commissioner Rose to deny the proposal and support a state park plan where everyone can enjoy, explore and protect the wonders, diverse and scientifically significant, in Mount Sunapee State Park.

**New Hampshire Sierra Club** has over 10,000 Members and Supporters in the state representing your friends and neighbors who care about our public health, public lands, our future generation and the impacts from climate change. NHSC can be found at #40 North Main Street 2nd Floor, Concord, New Hampshire 03301 TEL: 603-224-8222 FAX: 603-224-4719 [www.sierraclub.org/new-hampshire](http://www.sierraclub.org/new-hampshire)

**Friends of Mount Sunapee** is a local grassroots organization that seeks to preserve and protect Mount Sunapee State Park for its essential public values and preserve the region's quality of life, clean waters and open spaces. FOMS (PO Box 199, Georges Mills, NH 03751, phone 603-863-0045, email: [Info@FriendsofMountSunapee.org](mailto:Info@FriendsofMountSunapee.org)) can be found on the web at [www.friendsofmountrysunapee.org](http://www.friendsofmountrysunapee.org)

**Mount Sunapee State Park  
A Park By the People. A Park For the People.**

The Honorable Governor Hassan, Commissioner Rose and Executive Council Members,  
**We, the undersigned, oppose the proposed expansion plan at Mount Sunapee.**

NAME	DATE	STREET ADDRESS	CITY/TOWN	STATE
Elisa Kaplan Senti	5/27		Dover, N.H.	NH
Nora Fenton	5/27		Portsmouth	NH
SARAH VEDRANI	5/27		ELIOT	NH
Cullen DeBange	5/27		Portsmouth	NH
Cheryl Weinstein	6/3	P.O. Box 826 71.2. NH		
Phyllis Wolford	6/3		NC	NH
Clare J. Bunker	6/3	245 Shaker St., NH		
Monie Shubert	6/3	Box 631 Sunapee		NH
Hal Shukovsky	6/3	" " "		
Sina Lewis	6/3	P.O. Box 2576 New London	N.H.	03257

By May 2<sup>nd</sup> send or fax copies of signed petitions to date to K. Hubert

Fax 603-863-0827 - Email: [kathyhubert@icloud.com](mailto:kathyhubert@icloud.com)

By May 31, 2015, send all originals to Kathy Hubert, 179 Springfield Rd., Newport, NH 03773.

SUMMER 2015



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SOONPI

MAGAZINE



RECEIVED  
JUN 04 2015  
*Received w/ FOMS  
& Sierra Club  
materials*

IN THIS ISSUE:

- SULLIVAN COUNTY GARDEN TOUR PHOTOS
- NH CRAFTSMEN'S FAIR - 3 LOCAL ARTISTS
- HOPKINTON DAM FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT
- ONE MAN'S STONEHENGE, NEWPORT, NH
- LIGHTNING PROTECTION IN SOONPI COUNTRY
- HIKING THE SUMMIT TRAIL TO MT. SUNAPEE
- CHILI FEST AT PAT'S PEAK, HENNIKER, NH
- STONE CHURCH IN CLAREMONT, NH

The Lake Sunapee Region's Favorite Magazine!

15

## Protect Mount Sunapee State Park: Say "No" to Private Resort Expansion

*(Prepared by Friends of Mount Sunapee)*

We believe that the proposed resort expansion at Mount Sunapee State Park is a violation of public trust and represents negligent planning and irresponsible use of our most valued natural resources. We implore the decision makers—NH Governor Hassan, Executive Councilors, and Commissioner Rose of the Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED)—to protect NH's public lands and the natural environment and deny resort expansion at Mount Sunapee.

**Mount Sunapee State Park is an iconic park** located in west central New Hampshire. The park and surrounding wildlands are the focus of a concerted land-protection effort that began more than a century ago. While the park currently hosts a ski area, it also serves as a destination for hikers, backpackers, hunters, nature photographers, birders, botanists and a myriad of outdoor enthusiasts. **Please help us save this invaluable natural resource.**

The concessionaires—CNL Lifestyle Properties, a Florida-registered real estate investment trust, and the private operator of Mount Sunapee Resort (and Okemo in Vermont) plan to significantly enlarge the developer's footprint on the mountain. **We believe the proposed development of a 'West Bowl' for resort and ski area expansion is not in the public interest, as it will:**

- Violate a 100+ year initiative to form a large connected mosaic of conservation lands;
- Cut into the 30,000-acre Pillsbury-Sunapee Highlands—a wild area of statewide importance;
- Carve ski infrastructure through a through an Exemplary Forest that is protected under state law, is extremely rare and is home to trees 200-to-300- years-old;
- Shatter the solitude and destroy the current hiking experience along the Summit Trail that provides free recreational access for hikers, hunters and many others.

The expansion plan expressly enables private resort-real estate development on adjoining privately owned lands, which will forever alter the rural character of surrounding communities while providing low-wage, seasonal employment. This plan will tie a bulk of our region's economy to the ski industry at a time of unknown effects of climate change and shifting markets; long-term viability would require innovative planning and sustainable strategies, none of which have been presented.

**SIGNED BY:** abby krause of Niantic, Connecticut 06357 United States

**DATE:** 5/17/15

**COMMENT:**

*delivered w/  
NH Sierra Club/  
FOM*  
RECEIVED

JUN 04 2015

**Tango-Lowy, Torene**

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**From:** Karen <kmbouzan@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 03, 2015 6:05 PM  
**To:** Tango-Lowy, Torene  
**Subject:** Mount Sunapee Draft Decision

Hello Commissioner Rose,

I urge you to finalize your approval of the Mount Sunapee Master Development Plan as per your draft decision in April. The draft decision balances environmental stewardship while enabling the mountain to grow, and continue to be an economic engine for the region.

Sincerely,

Karen Bouzan  
Sent from my iPhone



**Tango-Lowy, Torene**

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**From:** Chipkirsch <kirschip@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 03, 2015 5:07 PM  
**To:** Tango-Lowy, Torene  
**Subject:** I Support Moving Sunapee Forward

Commissioner Rose, I support DRED's balanced decision regarding the Mount Sunapee Master Development Plan. I believe the plan balances the responsible conservation of Mount Sunapee with continued economic enhancement to the Greater Sunapee Region.

Sent from my iPhone

Mr. David MacVane  
[REDACTED]  
Barrington, NH 03825-3617

May 20, 2015

Commissioner Jeffrey Rose  
Concord, NH 03301

Subject: Mount Sunapee State Park is Worth Protecting

Dear Commissioner Jeffrey Rose,

Mount Sunapee State Park is an icon of New Hampshire's public lands. The park and surrounding wild lands are the product of a concerted land protection effort that began over 100 years ago. The state park currently hosts a ski area, but also serves as a destination for hikers, backpackers, hunters, nature photographers and a myriad of other outdoor enthusiasts.

A proposal, put forward by the concessionaire (CNL Lifestyle Properties, a Florida based real estate investment trust) and currently under review by the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED), would expand the ski infrastructure onto the pristine west slope of the mountain.

This development would monopolize the park for skiing at the expense of other uses. It would fragment the 30,000 acre Pillsbury-Sunapee Highlands wild area, an area designated by the Sierra Club as one of 52 exceptional wild places in the nation. The plan would carve ski runs and a lift line through a state designated exemplary northern hardwood-spruce-fir forest community that is home to 200 to 300 year old trees, and is the only documented example of this forest type in both Merrimack and Sullivan counties.

I oppose the expansion.

The plan would also bisect the popular Summit Hiking trail, a gateway to an extensive network of hiking trails in southwestern New Hampshire, with a lift line and ski runs; forever shattering the solitude of this forest trail.

Lastly, the plan proposes a "Mountain Coaster". This proposal is a better fit as a thrill-ride for an amusement park, like Disneyland, not a state park. Just as a mountain coaster would never suit Yosemite National Park or the Grand Canyon, it is inappropriate for Mt Sunapee.

I urge the Department of Resources and Economic Development to deny the proposal and support a state park plan where everyone can enjoy, explore and protect the wonders, diverse and scientifically significant, in Mount Sunapee State Park.

Sincerely,  
Mr. David MacVane

## Friends of Mount Sunapee



Mount Sunapee from Gunnison Lake, Goshen, N.H.

### Friends of Mount Sunapee

PO Box 199  
Georges Mills, NH 03751  
Ph/Fax (603) 863-0045

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Sunapee (603) 863-0632

Gary Stansfield  
Goshen (603) 863-8737

*Friends of Mount Sunapee  
advocates for protection of  
Mount Sunapee State Park  
and its essential public values;  
conservation of the Sunapee  
highlands and its watersheds;  
and preservation of the unique  
character and natural beauty  
of the rural communities in  
the mountain's shadow.*

July 15, 2015

Commissioner Jeffrey Rose  
Department of Resources and Economic Development  
172 Pembroke Road  
PO Box 1856  
Concord, NH 03302

Dear Commissioner Rose,

On June 4, 2015, the NH Sierra Club, Friends of Mount Sunapee and others who are committed to protecting Mount Sunapee State Park, presented you comments and letters signed by more than 1900 people in opposition to ski resort expansion at the state park. This letter delivers additional signed petitions and comments in opposition to resort expansion into the western bowl of Mount Sunapee State Park. As demonstrated at 2015 public hearing at Mount Sunapee, where people (3:1) spoke in opposition to the proposal, people in growing numbers are speaking out to protect New Hampshire public lands and our most valued of natural resources.

We find the Resort's growth model alarming. While other ski resorts in New England, and across the nation, have recognized the critical need to operate sustainably and effectuate responsible growth, Mount Sunapee Resort has instead adopted a bigger is better attitude. For the real estate minded Resort the exemplary forest on Mount Sunapee is being treated as a barrier to their expansion and not as a treasured resource to be guarded. This rare forest has been identified by the New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau as an "exemplary natural community" and is protected by the Native Plant Protection Act, RSA Chapter 217-A.

Mount Sunapee State Park is a precious resource. We urge you to not grant the Resort deference on decisions that will do irreparable harm to the park and its remarkable natural heritage.

We recognize the awesome responsibility of managing a self-sufficient state park system, however it is critically important to find a balance that also ensures the protection of valuable public resources and the faithful application of law.

Regards,  
Friends of Mount Sunapee  
/s/ Board of Directors

Enc.

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JUL 15 2015

D.R.E.D.

5

## Protect Mount Sunapee State Park: Say "No" to Private Resort Expansion

*(Prepared by Friends of Mount Sunapee)*

We believe that the proposed resort expansion at Mount Sunapee State Park is a violation of public trust and represents negligent planning and irresponsible use of our most valued natural resources. We implore the decision makers—NH Governor Hassan, Executive Councilors, and Commissioner Rose of the Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED)—to protect NH's public lands and the natural environment and deny resort expansion at Mount Sunapee.

**Mount Sunapee State Park is an iconic park** located in west central New Hampshire. The park and surrounding wildlands are the focus of a concerted land-protection effort that began more than a century ago. While the park currently hosts a ski area, it also serves as a destination for hikers, backpackers, hunters, nature photographers, birders, botanists and a myriad of outdoor enthusiasts. **Please help us save this invaluable natural resource.**

The concessionaires—CNL Lifestyle Properties, a Florida-registered real estate investment trust, and the private operator of Mount Sunapee Resort (and Okemo in Vermont) plan to significantly enlarge the developer's footprint on the mountain. **We believe the proposed development of a 'West Bowl' for resort and ski area expansion is not in the public interest, as it will:**

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The expansion plan expressly enables private resort-real estate development on adjoining privately owned lands, which will forever alter the rural character of surrounding communities while providing low-wage, seasonal employment. This plan will tie a bulk of our region's economy to the ski industry at a time of unknown effects of climate change and shifting markets; long-term viability would require innovative planning and sustainable strategies, none of which have been presented.

**SIGNED BY:** Kathleen Shulman of new london, New Hampshire 03257 United States

**DATE:** 6/5/15

**COMMENT:** I oppose this expansion. I support protecting NH's natural resources for our citizens not holding corporations.

Mount Sunapee State Park: A Park By the People. A Park For the People.

The Honorable Governor Hassan, Commissioner Rose and Executive Council Members,  
 We, the undersigned, oppose the proposed expansion plan at Mount Sunapee State Park.

PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS	Date	Email (optional)
Caroun Stiles		Henniker NH		
Karoline Bodner		Barrington NH	6/27	
Doug Bogen		Barrington, NH	6/27	
Sam Blazey		Burlington, VT	6/27	
Mike Denver		Gilford, CT	6/27	
Kathleen R. Allen		<del>Statenborough, MA</del>	6/27/15	
Cynthia Herman		Chester, NH	6/27/15	
Gale Taylor		1/2 Dufau Gould Rd Brookline	6/27	
Tom C. EATR		331 Lake St., Nashua	6/27	

Tango-Lowy, Torene

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*done*

**From:** Friends of Mount Sunapee <[info@friendsofmountsunapee.org](mailto:info@friendsofmountsunapee.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2015 2:18 PM  
**To:** Tango-Lowy, Torene  
**Cc:** FOMS info  
**Subject:** Mount Sunapee Comments  
**Attachments:** Additional Mount Sunapee Comments2015June5.pdf

Please see attached: 19 signed letters for inclusion in Mount Sunapee Comments.

Regards,

Catherine Bushueff, FOMS volunteer

Friends of Mount Sunapee  
PO Box 199  
Georges Mills, NH 03751

Email: [Info@FriendsofMountSunapee.org](mailto:Info@FriendsofMountSunapee.org)  
Phone 603-863-0045

# Protect Mount Sunapee State Park: Say "No" to Private Resort Expansion

*(Prepared by Friends of Mount Sunapee)*

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**SIGNED BY:** Amy Newlove of Lebanon, New Hampshire 03766 United States

**DATE:** 6/3/2015

**COMMENT:**



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MOUNT SUNAPEE JUN 04 2015



02 1P \$ 000.35<sup>0</sup>  
0003208533 JUN 02 2015  
MAILED FROM ZIP CODE 03255

Dear Commissioner Rose, **D.R.E.D.**

I urge you to support the Mount Sunapee Master Development Plan as conditionally approved by DRED. The plan balances environmental stewardship while enabling the mountain to continue to be an economic engine for the region.

Sincerely,

*Rozlyn S. Morgan*



Dracut, MA 01826

[www.EnhanceMountSunapee.com](http://www.EnhanceMountSunapee.com)



Commissioner Jeffery Rose  
Mount Sunapee Comments  
Department of Resources and  
Economic Development  
P.O. Box 1856  
Concord, NH 03302



De Commissioner Rose,  
WHITE RIVER JUNCTION  
I oppose resort expansion at  
Mount Sunapee State Park.

*Mrs. R. H. Webb*  
*the route*

Sincerely:

Address:

Comments due on Draft Response by June 5 (4PM)  
Email to: [MountSunapeeComments@dred.nh.gov](mailto:MountSunapeeComments@dred.nh.gov)



Commissioner Jeffrey Rose  
RE: Mt. Sunapee Draft  
Response

NH Dept. Resources and  
Economic Development  
PO Box 1856  
Concord, NH

