

CWCS

*Preserving access to and multiple-use of
public lands & waters*

Conservationists
with Common
Sense



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U. S. Forest Service
LaCroix Ranger District
320 North Highway 53
Cook, MN 55723

Project: Final EIS on Echo Trail Area Forest Management Project

Conservationists with Common Sense (CWCS), for the most part, agrees with the final EIS on the Echo Trail Area Forest Management Plan. Your efforts to address issues of concern to loggers, recreational users and environmentalists are admirable. We hope your common sense measures will lead to an effectively managed forest that will satisfy all users.

Having visited several of the project areas gave CWCS a better understanding of the Forest Service's plans. It was very helpful to hear different perspectives from other user groups and that of the Forest Products Industry. Creating a forest management plan that tries to balance all users' desires was a difficult task. The final decision seems to have achieved this.

Management that deals with sustaining a healthy forest was the foundation of the creation of the Forest Service and we believe the USFS is putting this principle first.

Like all parties, we all are not 100% happy with the final plan. One of CWCS's concerns was the designated semi-primitive non-motorized areas along the Echo Trail, but we hope that recreational groups will be able to work with the Forest Service to make the proposed Wellstone/Tamarack Snowmobile Trail from Ely to Buyck a reality.

Thank you for the Forest Services hard work in trying to appease all parties.

Sincerely,

Nancy McReady
CWCS President
www.cwcs.org

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