

Appendix H: Summary of Input Regarding Dogs at Catamount

We received over 100 emails regarding the integration of dogs at Catamount. The emails came in response to two opposing solicitation efforts, one from a Williston citizen and the other from the COFC, and thus the input received is not representative of the overall sentiments. Nevertheless, the table below captures the recurrent themes that were heard in the emails. This corroborates what has already been heard at Committee meetings and outreach events.

Concerns	Hopes	Potential solutions
Dog poop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health hazard • Ecological hazard • Yuck factor 	Off leash area	Spatial separation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North/south divide • Designated loop
People don't follow rules <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leash • Staying on designated trails • Picking up poop 	On leash only	Temporal segregation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certain days • Certain hours (like National Seashore) • Not on race days • Not during camps
How would rules be enforced?	Exercising with canine friends	Pass system*
Safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crashes/collisions • Dog and people injuries • Bites • Vaccinations* • Jumping, especially on kids • Density of users 	Inclusive town forest	Dog walkers come together as a user group to propose solutions
Fear of dogs, aversion to dogs	Mountain biking with dogs	Dog walkers police each other
Religious restrictions on contact with dogs*	Skijoring with dogs	Screening dogs
Financial impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some people won't go if dogs area allowed • Some people would go if dogs are allowed 	One dog free park in Williston	Trial basis – method of enforcement
Impacts to Nordic trails		Williston has 6 other country parks where dogs are allowed
Dogs impact to wildlife		Dog park at Catamount or another place in town
Dogs impact to trails – digging, erosion		Mountain bikers ring bells in low visible areas
Allergies		
Some people don't feel safe running/walking without dog		
Including dogs would ruin the charm and specialness of Catamount		
My taxpayer \$\$ going toward a place I can't use		
Dog barking/dog fights		
Dogs are unpredictable		
Adaptive Users* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some users are more vulnerable • Some users need service dogs 		

* Proposed by Melinda or Kim, not part of public input received