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Organization:

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Comments:

I have a second residence near Waynesville in North Carolina and spend much of the year there. I am a member of the Carolina Mountain Club and hike and participate in trail maintenance with them. I help maintain a section of the AT just south of Max Patch, which is one of my favorite places to visit.

It is a true jewel and one of the most scenic spots on the AT. Unfortunately Max Patch is suffering greatly from overuse and inconsiderate campers, with weekends exceeding 100 tents on top most niche weekends. Human feces, toilet paper, trash, and camping items are leftovers after every weekend. The parking area is unacceptably small, resulting in cars blocking two way road traffic and the inability of emergency vehicles to travel the road. Campers trash the summit and destroy signage and fencing.

I see many projects in NC on this list that rehab or build new toilets and parking on much lesser used sites. If the answer is these projects were previously defined, then there should still be a case to address emerging needs. I've visited Max Patch for years and it is only in the last few years that it has suffered from overuse. But it has become a chronic issue which needs to be addressed NOW. This project is sorely needed and much higher priority than most if not all the other toilet/parking projects on this list.

I ask you to strongly consider adding Max Patch projects to this list.

Thank You.