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I am in support of KEEPING THE TRACK IN PLACE on the former Maine Central Mountain Division for the following reasons:

1. Conway Scenic Railroad has proposed using the line for the restoration of freight service. Once the track is removed, any restoration of freight service becomes practically impossible.
2. Unused rail corridors that still have track in place have recently been restored throughout New England. Several examples are:
 - A: Vermont Railway reopening the freight line to Whitefield, NH
 - B: Abandoned freight rail reconnected in Fall River, MA
 - C: Vermont Railway reopening freight service to Barre, VT
3. Rail trails can co-exist with working railroads. There is a cost increase for establishing a rail trail along side existing tracks, but the future benefits of keeping rail in place outweigh the additional costs. If existing funding does not exist to build a rail trail and keep the railroad in place then the rail trail should be postponed until the needed funding is available.