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Comments: Representatives from 188 governments gathered in Montreal for COP15 in December 2022 and reached a landmark agreement to guide global action through to 2030 on a Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) to address biodiversity loss, restore ecosystems and protect indigenous rights. Since the US stole indigenous people's rights in VT (and forcibly moved them west to reservations), this places the Forest Service with the responsibility of meeting the GBF commitments made by the US to preserve the old forests and protect their biodiversity in Telephone Gap. This must be added to the Forest Service plans as soon as possible, and discussed with the people of Vermont.

The global rate of species extinction is already at least tens to hundreds of times higher than it has averaged over the past 10 million years. Much of this accelerated loss has been caused by the destruction of natural habitats by humanity for commercial uses; coupled to the increase in climate extremes linked to the relentless burning of the fossil fuels by "business as usual."

These issues should be addressed at the public meeting on 9 February 2023 at Barstow.