Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/14/2023 6:08:05 PM First name: BROOKS Last name: PAYNE Organization: Title:

Comments: "Of the 11,800 acres proposed for logging, the Telephone Gap timber sale proposes nearly 2,600 acres of logging inside the 16,000-acre Pittenden Inventoried Roadless Area, second largest in the entire Green Mountain National Forest and one of the largest wildlands in Vermont. Straddling an undeveloped and rugged section of the Long Trail from Brandon Gap south towards Chittenden Reservoir, this area is important for wildlife habitat and connectivity as well as quiet recreation."

I've hiked and camped in our New England State Forests beginning with my family when I was a kid back in the 1950s and I'm still loving the great outdoors today at 77! What an incredible feeling of "all's right with the world" when I'm out hiking in the woods and mountains, just like Thoreau, Emerson, and Melville. Our natural resources are our most precious resource along with our youth, preserve and noursih them!