

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/19/2023 4:00:00 AM

First name: helen

Last name: steele

Organization: steele farm

Title: owner 66 to 23

Comments: I am sending a comment in response to your proposal to cut timber in Ferncroft and in Sandwich.

I grew up in these forests and feel they belong to all, as I, who need this precious recreational opportunity.

I am an inorganic chemist and have focused on soil science in the last five years. Soil is the undervalued ecosystem and I have not seen a description of the impact of this cut on soil, erosion, or carbon uptake. Who is your soil scientist. Do you plan to include soil impact in your plan?

Old growth forest captures much more carbon than new and certainly undisturbed soil produces more carbon uptake and flood control than disturbed.

Has the presidential executive order for protecting forests impacted your decisions.