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Comments: I only recently learned about the Forest Service's plans to log in three very popular hiking and winter sport areas near my home in North Sandwich. It's unfortunate that even though the Forest Service made several attempts to reach out in the Laconia Daily Sun and the NH Union Leader to the local population and went so far as to conduct an open house in Sandwich in JANUARY 2020 (without doubt one of the coldest months of the year and oh yes a time when the population of the community is at its lowest so it is hardly surprising about the turnout), I only learned about this tree harvest and the reopening of the comment timeline two days ago. That said I haven't had enough time to thoroughly digest the copious amounts of information provided but I did have the opportunity to review the Sandwich Vegetation Management Project document as well as the Scoping Comment Report.

The opening statement in the section on Effect on Public Health and Safety on page 39 of the Sandwich Vegetation Mgmt. Project document states "The Forest Service has implemented this type of project and similar proposed activities many times on National Forest Service lands locally and in the region". Would you be able to provide the locations of at least three timber harvests that occurred locally within the last five years so that concerned citizens could investigate the claim without substantial impacts to public health or safety?

Secondly, aside from impacts to Scenic Values, Forest Carbon and Climate Change, Endangered Species and Water Quality, I believe there is one other Quality of Life that will without doubt be impacted by this project that has not been mentioned and perhaps not even considered and that is the absence of noise in these all too perfect forests in the White Mountains. The QUIET that these spaces provide will be lost not only for us but also to all the other species that call these forest trees home.

Why is it that the Forest Service states that "the purpose of this management area is to provide a sustained yield of high-quality timber products" 6 million board feet of forest products? Why not consider doing NOTHING to maintain the priceless smell and sound of leaves under foot and an opportunity to reconnect with the physical world the world of our forefathers. The forests and their trees provide sanctuary for our spirit. Let's leave them be.