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First name: Lora

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To:

Jim Innes, Saco Ranger District Ranger, Conway NH

Dear Mr Innes,

I am writing in opposition to Sandwich Vegetation Management Project #57392

Please consider other alternatives to timber harvest in this region. Perhaps there are other options that are not offered to using this existing and outdated EA. I do not oppose all timber harvesting. I know this is important for many reasons. I oppose to cutting THIS particular forest because of the unique characteristics and rarity of this age forest in NH.

I live in Tamworth NH and often visit the proposed project area of the White Mountain National Forest not only for recreation, but also for other reasons.

I am opposed to logging of this scale in this particular area for the reasons I list below.

1.The trade off of cutting for some lumber and pulp is not worth the disturbance to the land IN THIS LOCATION.

2.Recreation interests are not even covered/included in this plan (aside from mention of sharing the trail heads temporarily over 5-10 years) I This whole area is important as a "slightly off the beaten track" destination; trails, peaks and access to the small wilderness areas.

3.This area is unique with some very mature forests and trees. The Liberty Trail section of the plan is also inside the Chocorua Inventoried Roadless Area- The mature forests are needed as refuges not only for wildlife and plants, but also for humans. There are not many of this age in the region.

4.Carbon Sequestration from NOT disturbing the larger trees and more mature forests will have a bigger impact than reforestation and replanting.

Please consider other alternatives to timber harvest in this region. Perhaps there are other options that are not offered to using this existing and outdated Environmental Assessment

Thank you for listening and considering my opposition

Lora Colten

299 Hollow Hill Rd Tamworth NH , 03886

April 1, 2024