

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/15/2025 10:18:23 PM

First name: Michael

Last name: Kellett

Organization: RESTORE: The North Woods

Title: Executive Director

Comments: John Sinclair, Reviewing Officer

Attn: EPS Objections

Suite 800, USDA Forest Service, Eastern Region

626 East Wisconsin Avenue

Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mr. Sinclair:

I am writing to file an objection to the Draft Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Telephone Gap Integrated Resource Project in the Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF)
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=60192>

I am submitting this objection on behalf of RESTORE: The North Woods, a regional nonprofit organization with members and supporters in Vermont and across New England who regularly visit and enjoy the Green Mountain National Forest. We have reviewed the Decision Notice and FONSI and find them wholly inadequate and unacceptable.

RESTORE filed comments on April 5, 2024, which raised numerous concerns about the flaws in the Telephone Gap project and the Forest Service's grossly deficient study, analysis, and conclusions regarding the project (see attached). In our comments, we urged the Forest Service to: "terminate this ill-conceived, harmful, and unnecessary project; and protect the entire area in management categories that prohibit logging and other intensive management." Nothing has changed.

The Forest Service's response to our comments failed to adequately address any of our concerns. Therefore, for these same reasons we raised in these comments, we vigorously object to the Decision Notice and FONSI for this project. We call on the Forest Service to cancel this destructive and controversial project and permanently protect these critically important forest lands from logging and other harmful resource exploitation, which are unnecessary and ecologically destructive.

Thank you for the opportunity to file an objection to this project.

Sincerely,
Michael Kellett