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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Forest Service

I oppose the Dead Laundry project, which will leave nearly six square miles heavily logged, many of this logging in large chunks to fragment wildlife habitat.

The Forest Service proposed experimenting with "old-growth enhancement," which has no basis in science. This proposed experiment would involve logging in 196 acres of old growth under a new action the Forest Service has termed "old-growth enhancement." Some of these old-growth forests are 200 years old or older. The Forest Service has no scientific support for this "enhancement" notion. Logging in old growth often impairs it because it eliminates qualities that wildlife that depend on old-growth habitat need. Please allow natural processes in old growth to function unimpeded by heavy-handed management and drop the logging planned for old growth. Old growth is not a place for the Forest Service to experiment with logging.

In addition to logging in old growth, the Forest Service would enter the Moose Mountain Inventoried Roadless Area to slash and burn, and log in the Hoodoo IRA. To maintain roadless areas with Wilderness character, burning and logging is inappropriate. Please drop all activities in the inventoried roadless areas and let nature govern there.

Wildlife species on this forest has already experienced severe habitat loss in this vicinity, and more habitat will be lost by the timber sale.

Logging eliminates habitat for fisher, marten, gray wolf, moose, northern goshawk, pileated and black-backed woodpeckers, and the Canada lynx.

This project will log on steep mountain slopes. It will not only eliminate large trees that take carbon out of the atmosphere, but the large equipment that burn fossil fuels, including the over 6,500 logging trucks it will take to haul out timber, will not only bleed sediment into streams, but will contribute to global warming.

Please drop this project and let this area of the North Fork continue to be wild.

Sincerely,

Mark Mansfield