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Organization:

Title:

Comments: My name is Jennifer and my sons have attended camp on Lake Tarleton for the past 5 years. We come every summer from California to enjoy the unique beauty of the White Mountain National Forest. We were very upset to learn of the proposed project. There are so many reasons why this plan should be rejected. To begin with, the climate crisis demands deforestation and the Forest Service use of euphemisms like "forest restoration," "habitat improvement," and "even-age management" to excuse commercial logging practices like clearcutting degrade forest health, jeopardize water quality, and endanger biodiversity. Once these maturing trees are cut down, the opportunity to develop old-growth forests will be irreversibly set back at a time when scientists are making it clear that we have only a short period of time to stabilize the climate. Our older forests are being logged at an alarming rate which directly undermines the Biden administration's efforts to address climate change and protect 30% of lands and waters by 2030. Next, we have learned that this same area was saved 22 years ago and it is very clear what the intent of the New Hampshire Congressional Delegation, the Governor, the NGOs and the 600 individual donors was in 2000 when they came together to purchase 5,300+ acres surrounding Lake Tarleton. Those heroes worked tirelessly for years to save this pristine New Hampshire wilderness. The White Mountain National Forest's "Lake Tarleton Integrated Resource Project" threatens to violate their intent and the public's trust. We thank you for your time and hope you make the right decision.

In keeping with the intent of the original land acquisition, the White Mountain National Forest should be designated a Scenic Area in the landscape surrounding spectacular Lake Tarleton, Lake Katherine, Lake Armington, and stretching along the Appalachian Trail corridor north to Webster Slide, and Wachipauka Pond. This contiguous landscape is among the most scenic in the Granite State. It is in fact why we and countless other tourists and campers come visit New Hampshire every summer. And yet, the White Mountain National Forest has failed to designate any Scenic Areas west of I-93. For the benefit of the local tourism and recreation economy, and for the integrity of this treasured landscape, including Abenaki and early colonial historical resources, it's past time to permanently remove the threat of logging and development by amending the White Mountain National Forest management plan and designating a Scenic Area.