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First name: Heather Last name: Hughes Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my opposition to the Lake Tarleton Integrated Resource Project as proposed in the April 2022 updated Environmental Assessment.

My main reason for opposing this project is that logging and development pose significant threats to wildlife. The removal of a habitat is often the foundation for the extinction of a species. When forests are cut down, it is not only the trees that are lost, but also countless wild animals, including mammals, birds, insects, and amphibians for whom the forest is home. With nowhere else to go, wildlife will either perish or be driven into areas that are not suitable habitat for them.

This includes New Hampshire's northern long-eared bat, a species that is federally threatened and endangered in New Hampshire. Because of their strong association with large blocks of older forests, the logging proposed at Tarleton Forest would be a major threat to their survival. We should be doing everything we can to save this bat species, not destroying their habitat.

I urge you to NOT approve the Lake Tarleton Integrated Resource Project. Thank you for your attention to this matter.