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Comments: I spent 9 hours on 5/8/22 and 5/10/22 bushwacking thru the forest surrounding Lake Tarleton and Lake Katherine. I observed evidence of extensive logging in the past. Judging from the stumps, maybe 50 years ago. Apparently there was not much effort to control erosion from that logging. It is mostly healed from that. There are some areas on the North shoulder of Piermont Mountain and North of Eastman Brook that would benefit from the management outlined in the Forest Service proposal.

The area to the east of lake Tarleton up to 3/4 of a mile (the area I walked) from the shore shows evidence of extensive past logging the scars of which are mostly healed. That area appears to be entering into the stage of growth where it is adding biomass annually at a rate which is steadily increasing. There appeared to be few trees over 60 years old and younger age classes are well represented. This forest area should be encouraged to attain it's maximum potential biomass which looks like it will not happen for decades. That would return the highest value to the public in terms of standing timber, CO2 sequestration, resiliency to climate change, clean water, and the pure joy in spending time in an intact forest ecosystem recovered from past management practices.

I was struck by the stand diversity in the area east of Lake Tarleton. I would like to see the area managed to maximize the ecosystem services that it is currently providing and that will increase for decades into the future with proper care.

Thank you for considering my views.

Richard Biddle