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Comments: I strongly oppose the proposed harvest of mature forest in Telephone Gap. Given the rarity of old-growth forest in New England and Vermont in particular, these trees should be given every opportunity to continue growth. Mature forest in general and Telephone Gap in particular provides a rare set of habitat in the region.

Additionally, the old trees in Telephone Gap store far more carbon now than they could at any point in the next hundred years under the proposed harvest. Cutting them would actively release carbon into the atmosphere and continue our climate's warming exactly when we need them most.

I urge you to reconsider and leave these mature trees intact.