

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/2/2023 7:47:36 PM

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Comments: I just received a copy of the Telephone Gap Project. I read through it and the only issue I have with it has to do with an 80 odd acre area on the southern end which may be least to a maple sugar maker. I live in Calais, and a local sugar maker entered into a contractually deal with our town to tap trees in one of the town forests. The fee was very cheap.(I can't remember exactly, but \$100 sticks in my mind) Now that area of town forest has a 500 gallon stainless steel holding tank, and a mile of butt ugly tubing running through it. I would suggest that if this is allowed on GMNF land, you charge a fair, but stout price for this use, and ask that the tubing be removed when not in use. I would also like to see any fee that is charged go right back into the GMNF, not into some catch all slush fund that may or may not even come back to the source that generated it. Other than that caveat the only thing that worries me is that same thing that worries me any time anything like this comes up, carrot crunchin' tree huggers ! I'm sure you have very competent foresters. Please rely on your's, not some second stringer hired by a bunch of fruit cakes ! I'm a big believer in Conservation, not so much in Preservation. A well managed forest is good for all. That's not to say that old growth has no place in a well considered plan, but I recently read in a plan from a preservation group, (Northeast Wilderness Trust) where they are shooting for at least 10% of all conserved forest to be old growth. How many acres of conserved forest are there in Vermont ? How about the 30 in 30 plan ? We are at 26% now. That means another 4% between now and 2030. Now I'm hearing 50 in 50 ? How many 10s of thousands of acres will that be in old growth ? These people won't be happy until we all have trees sprouting from our basements ! Don't let them control what is, a scientifically managed habitat for all.

Sincerely,

Pat Finnie