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First name: Carole

Last name: Petrillo

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I have been skiing and hiking in the Chittenden forest for many, many years. This forest is filled with beautiful trees and an abundance of wildlife, all critical to the health of our forest, our air and waterways. WE MUST STOP THE TELEPHONE GAP INTEGRATED RESOURCE PROJECT. The areas proposed for logging have major concentrations of trees between 80-160 years old, which science shows accumulate and store the most carbon in the fight against climate change compared to young trees. The GMNF has greater carbon density than most forests in the Eastern US; we should manage this public land for the benefit of the climate and biodiversity, not cut it down. I object to spending my tax dollars to subsidize cutting old trees! Our children and grandchildren alive today will bear the brunt of the climate catastrophe that is happening all around us. Trees provide oxygen, prevent soil erosion, promote healthy soils, reduce pollution, provide a canopy for wildlife, help retain water in soils, provide necessary food for birds and other wildlife, and absorb CO<sub>2</sub>. Did you know that 1 acre of mature forest absorbs an amount of CO<sub>2</sub> equal to that emitted by a car driving 26,000 miles in a year?! Please adopt the current science for fighting climate catastrophe! WE NEED TO SAVE OUR VERMONT FORESTS! WE NEED TO SAVE OUR FORESTS TO SAVE OUR PLANET FOR OUR FUTURE GENERATIONS!