

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/5/2023 8:43:53 PM

First name: Carol

Last name: Lewis

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Telephone Gap Integrated Resource Project #60192 --the 11,800-acres of mostly mature and old trees northeast of Rutland, VT, an area larger in size than the City of Burlington, is NOT the place to introduce logging roads and sell of forest. This massive timber sale would endanger the water quality of Chittenden Reservoir, introduce invasive species, release vast amounts of carbon to the atmosphere, and destroy habitat needed by threatened and endangered species like the Northern Long-eared Bat. The project also proposes more than 2,500-acres of logging in one of Vermont's largest unprotected wildlands, a 16,000-acre "inventoried roadless area" that straddles the Long Trail and the crest of the Green Mountains south of Brandon Gap. This is a short sighted and irresponsible project, destroying an important Vermont legacy for the sake of immediate profit. It takes decades to create mature forest and only months to destroy it. Please preserve what has been preserved thus far. Say NO to this project.