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Comments: I strongly oppose the proposed logging and all associated activity in the "Telephone Gap" area. Vermont does not have enough wild lands that will remain forever wild. These kind of areas are critical for carbon sequestration, species diversity, water quality, and habitat. There has been a push to increase the amount of this kind of forever wild land, with amendments to VT's Current Use regulations, and efforts by knowledgeable organizations like the Nature Conservancy, Northeast Wilderness Trust, Vermont Land Trust, VNRC, Conservation Law Foundation...and many others here in Vermont and around the country and world.

Forests will take care of themselves and all the flora and fauna attributes they support, particularly when having reached the stage of maturity...and science has also documented the importance of mature, unmanaged lands for carbon sequestration purposes. The idea that people need to manage mature, old growth forests to improve them is full of hubris and is misguided. Let's manage people not the forests!

I urge you to NOT proceed with your timber harvesting plans and to instead leave this forest alone.

Thank you.

William Roper

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