Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/14/2023 1:44:09 AM First name: Aroline Last name: Hanson Organization: Title:

Comments: As an avid angler, hiker, and skier, I am strongly opposed to the proposal to open up logging areas in the Telephone Gap area. The areas proposed for logging in the Telephone Gap timber sale have major concentrations of mature 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. Mature and intact forests also are a major part of Vermont's identity and a draw for tourism as well as full-time residents, large sources of income for the state.