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Comments: I object! I object to the further development of the Green Mountain Nation Forest. There isn't enough untouched land as it is. I agree with the below statements posted in the Rutland Herald.

"There are no stands of timber that are being designated or fall within the category to be defined as old growth," he said. "There's mature and old trees, for sure, but no designated old growth the way it's defined in our forest plan."

Zack Porter, executive director of Standing Trees, a group that's been critical of the Forest Service logging plans, said Monday that per the definition of old growth that the Forest Service has been using, there's almost none of it in the Green Mountain National Forest. There is, however, old forest that shouldn't be cut for the same reasons.

Porter said the timber harvesting as proposed runs contrary to an executive order President Joe Biden signed last year saying mature forests and old-growth forests need to be conserved.

"The question isn't whether they are logging old-growth forest, but whether they're logging mature forests that are on the verge of becoming the old growth forest of tomorrow," said Porter. He said that the current proposal allows logging on 10,855 acres of forest that's classified as mature or old, which are distinct from old growth. Porter said some of the forests proposed to be logged are about 160 years old.

"That doesn't comport with the president's executive order, and it flies in the face of the Forest Service's own climate adaptation recommendations that they've put out in just the last year," he said.

Stop Harvesting! The run off that has come from my neighbor alone who has an approved forestry plan is enough to tell me the disturbance that occurs in our forests from harvesting. Please let it be! Those of us who are outdoor enthusiasts, have plenty of hiking and snowmobile trails available as it is, my family spends all of it's time outdoors in the forests. This Forest should be protected from development, additional recreational, or financial (harvesting). We are snowmobilers, and I know the trails we use cross habitat as it is, leave it like you found it. I don't think it's environmentally responsible to log 10k acres, or build all these roads in our "protected" forest land. We are wholeheartedly against it.