

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/21/2023 2:20:29 AM

First name: Priscilla

Last name: Mattison

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I'm a concerned Pennsylvanian who cares about wildlife and the environment, and I have visited Vermont numerous times. I love the mountains, trees, lakes and scenery there. I oppose the Telephone Gap logging project for numerous reasons, but most of all because I care about biodiversity.

The proposed logging project would have adverse impacts on climate change -- the opposite of what we should be doing. Old-growth forests are disappearing, and we need to preserve them. Much of the project area is suitable habitat for the endangered Northern Long-eared Bat. The Telephone Gap timber sale puts important headwaters at risk, which also risks exacerbating flooding in downstream communities and imperiling brook trout and Atlantic salmon. The timber sale puts on the chopping block an area which is important for wildlife habitat and connectivity as well as quiet recreation.

For all these reasons, I urge you to stop this foolish project.