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First name: Daniel

Last name: Towler

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to oppose timber sales in the Telephone Gap area of Green Mountain National Forest. I have been a frequent visitor to Vermont since 1972 and a full-time resident since 2018. I am an avid hiker and outdoors person, and have hiked portions of the Long Trail both north and south of the subject area. I understand that the world needs lumber and pulpwood for paper, but I personally place far greater value on protection of old-growth forests, leaving wilderness and roadless areas as they are for passive recreation, protection of endangered species and biodiversity, protection of wildlife habitat, the health of rivers and watersheds and fisheries. We are faced with an existential crisis of global warming, and our existing forests need to be preserved to combat this threat, in addition to all the other above-named reasons. In addition, Vermont's economy is more and more dependent on preservation of open space for recreation, and less and less dependent on resource extraction from our dwindling and ailing forest ecosystem.