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Title:
Comments: I am strongly opposed to the Forest Service's proposal to log the Telephone Gap area.

The fragile characteristic of this area should not be stressed with road building machinery, logging trucks, and any other sort of vehicular traffic that supports a logging operation.

I don't see any benefits to this proposal, but I do see a lot of negatives. Here is a list of just what I can think of:

1. Disruption to the natural environment: People don't live in the area to hear heavy machinery going past their homes all day.

2. Displacement of wildlife: We see all sorts of transient wildlife with any new logging operation as their habitat is attacked.

3. Degradation of the hillsides: Cutting down big trees causes excess runoff and will change the hilly landscape for the worse.

4. Physical pollution: Logging company trash ends up everywhere.

5. Fallen trees: Even when loggers leave patches of trees, those trees are more liable to falling down in windstorms than when they are in an intact forest

There will be very little economic impact to the nearby towns, just devastation.

Telephone Gap should remain as is, and not be destroyed to accommodate private industry that will profit from logging and then disappear. You've already logged too much of the national forest, and I think it's time to start recognizing that you are in danger of forever altering this area to the negative.