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Comments: I have spent 17 years documenting the values and threats to watersheds and their headwaters in North America, Africa and India for my project - [www.nowater-no life.org](http://www.nowater-no life.org). Now I find I am facing some of those worst threats in my own backyard, where I regularly visit a beautiful old oak probably significantly older than 160 years. It is a remnant here (outside of Middlebury).

The thought of huge swaths of such ancient trees in the green mountains being removed is spiritually horrifying - and the downstream impacts existentially horrifying. Otter Creek, multitudes of dairy farms, the ski industry, and innumerable Vermont cities and towns depend on the waters gathered, held and slowly released by our Green Mountain forests.

You know all the arguments against this proposal. I don't need to repeat them. I merely ask you to reconsider and reject the proposed actions. Thank you. Alison Jones