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Comments: Generally when confronted with a controversy I like to step back and take a look at "the Big Picture". The Big Picture in this scenario is the the ever growing threat of Climate Change. In my mind we should be doing whatever we can to not only to maintain practices that keep the level of Carbon Dioxide in the atmosphere from increasing but introducing any other methods that help reduce the amount of Carbon Dioxide in our air. The US Forest Service plan proposed Telephone Gap Project seems to do neither of these. The 11,800 acre plot will involve burning 900 acres, outright negatively affecting our air quality. The timber on the remaining 10,900 acres are will be put up for sale.

Now it's time for a math quiz:

If 92% of the trees in this proposed sale are classified as mature or old (80-150 years old).

Mature and old trees sequester on average 30% more Carbon Dioxide than younger trees.

Does the sale and removal of these mature and older trees reduce or increase the the Carbon Dioxide in the atmosphere?

The answer seems pretty obvious to me.

Add in the stress on the wildlife in this plot and adjacent forests, the stress on the approaching extinction threat of the Northern Long-eared Bat, the disruption of the 16,000 acre Pittenden Inventoried Roadless Area, the violating of President Biden's Executive Order directing the US Forest Service to protect National Forests for the benefit of the climate and biodiversity and other assorted environmental concerns such as potential flooding and negatively affecting water supplies and it totals up to a definite no go. Like all things in this world the US Forest Service

Planning model needs some updating to effectively address the environmental challenges of the 21st century.