Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/4/2023 12:25:08 PM
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Comments: Dear Forest Service- I raise my voice in absolute opposition to this proposal. We are at an inflection point in the climate and biodiversity crises. In turn, our young people especially are in a mental health crisis brought about in large part by the existential dread of knowing that the generation before them, their erstwhile caretakers, is not only squandering their rightful natural heritage, but accelerating its destruction. This especially applies in Vermont. The Forest Service has this unique moment to turn the tide by rejecting this proposal 100%, signaling to all that the future matters; it matters to all Americans, especially we New Englanders. We have a moral obligation not only to all current stakeholders, but to our very own children. We define ourselves with this decision, whether to hold fast to the past, or apply to same reverence to the future. Poets, scientists, and engaged citizens send the same message: we implore the Forest Service to use this crucial opportunity to not only reject the project completely , but to publicize the reasons why.
I share this important and very recent (Oct. 2022) report on New England's forests as a natural climate solution: https://highstead.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Natural-Climate-Solutions_LR-1.pdf The mantle of responsibility for turning towards a brighter, not bleaker, future is now in the hands of the Forest Service. Please don't squander this historic opportunity to honor the future by rejecting this proposal entirely. Everyone, and everything, is counting on you.