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Title:

Comments: Dear Sir/Madame: The logging plan for the Green Mountain National Forest's Telephone Gap Integrated Resource Project blatantly ignores President Biden's Executive Order demanding protections for these mature and old forests.

The Telephone Gap logging project targets 11,800-acres of mostly mature and old trees northeast of Rutland, VT, an area larger in size than the City of Burlington. This massive timber sale would endanger the water quality of Chittenden Reservoir, introduce invasive species, release vast amounts of carbon to the atmosphere, and destroy habitat needed by threatened and endangered species like the Northern Long-eared Bat. Adding insult to injury, the project also proposes more than 2,500-acres of logging in one of Vermont's largest unprotected wildlands, a 16,000-acre "inventoried roadless area" that straddles the Long Trail and the crest of the Green Mountains south of Brandon Gap.

If the Forest Service's proposal moves forward, this project would bring the total amount of land recently approved for logging on the Green Mountain National Forest to over 50,000-acres, an exponential increase over the past few decades.

Please act to block this action, which is so clearly a threat to managing climate change and our biodiversity crisis.

Thank for your kind attention.