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Comments: Dear Public Servants of US Forest Service;

I write in strong opposition to Telephone Gap Integrated Resource Project (60192). It's time we stop thinking about property whether State, Federal or local as a place where we, as humans, can destroy whatever we want. In this climate crisis every tree counts. Our trees must be supported and nourished to do what they do best, sequester carbon, maintain the soil, keep the waters clear from runoff, provide habitat to wildlife, and offer respite and beauty to a dying world.

Why would anyone in their right mind even consider devastating roughly 12,000 acres of maturing forest. This is ludicrous and unsustainable. We desperately need our trees and forests more than ever, besides what an intact forest does for us, they also support biodiversity, and living quarters for so many creatures, including the endangered northern long eared bat. Once these precious species are gone so much more will fall in their wake. Whether we want to admit it or not WE ARE interconnected to all living things, in fact we cannot survive without all creatures great and small. Consider on the other hand the creatures can survive well without us humans.

I implore you NOW while the ball is in your court, as our protectors of the forests now and into the future, while you still can STOP this planned ecocide. I offer a resounding NO to logging at Telephone Gap . There is not much we have control over anymore, with wars and threats of more war, BUT in our own backyard we MUST defend the beneficial effects of our undisturbed forests. Trees left alone offer a bit of hope that perhaps we can do the right thing for our own well being and globally. Around the world our forests are in dire straits at the hand of men. We are losing more of the precious rainforest for example and in California between logging and wild fires we can see the devastating effects, landslides for one.

Here in Vermont, my close neighbor, we have a window of opportunity to take pause and listen to the wisdom of science, theologians, local residents, and our very own President Biden's executive order to stop logging mature and older forests. The areas proposed for logging have major concentrations of trees between 80-160 years old, which science shows accumulate and store the most carbon in the fight against climate change compared to young trees. The GMNF has greater carbon density than most forests in the Eastern US; we should manage this public land for the benefit of the climate and biodiversity, not cut it down.

Respectfully and urgently submitted;