

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/7/2023 8:52:27 PM

First name: John

Last name: Lepak

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Green Mountains National Forest is a remarkable place and deserves to remain wild. The proposed timber harvest at Telephone Gap is a clear step in the wrong direction. Not only does this proposal compromise some of the most pristine wilderness in the state of Vermont, it represents a threat to global conservation efforts as a whole. Such a project in a time of climate crisis is irresponsible-old growth forest, of which most of this proposes to destroy, are critical in balancing carbon emissions. Moreover, old growth forest is an important habitat for myriad plant and animal species, including those with endangered or threatened designations.

Simply put, the planet needs more forest and less development. The short term profit turned by harvesting timber from Telephone Gap is not worth the long term effect on the Green Mountains -and the world as a whole. Please leave it alone.