

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/8/2023 2:11:37 PM

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Comments: Returning the forest to more "early successional habitat" is returning it to the type of habitat that was already recovering from the extensive timber harvests of the early settlers, forests largely decimated by the early 1800s, and not its original state of the 1600s or earlier, prior to settlers having harvested much of the existing timber. That is not the yardstick we should be using to measure the health of the forest or the wildlife. And should certainly not be a justification for further timber harvesting.

I'd like the public forest in the Telephone Gap area, along with the entire Green Mountain National Forest, "managed" the way New York's Adirondack Forest Preserve is managed - protected and designated Forever Wild. It's a healthy, thriving forest demonstrating how well a forest can "manage" on its own.

When revising the USFS proposal for Telephone Gap, consider that as an alternative plan - a designation of that public land as protected and Forever Wild. That would be true stewardship.