Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/8/2023 5:20:00 PM First name: Kathleen Last name: Feeley Organization:

Title:

Comments: The US Forest Service recently released a proposal for the management of the Telephone Gap region of the Green Mountain National Forest near the town of Chittenden. This proposal includes the logging of 12,000 acres of trees, many of which are up to 160 years old. Mature and old-growth forests excel at removing and storing carbon from the atmosphere. And yet, 92% of the areas proposed for logging in the Telephone Gap timber sale are classified as mature or old by the Green Mountain National Forest, violating President Biden's Executive Order 14072, which directed the Forest Service to protect these forests for the benefit of the climate and biodiversity.

From everything I've read on this management proposal, on both sides I find the US Forest Service's a scary, over-the-top "management" solution and plead that the managers re-read Executive Order 14072 and give it a little further consideration.