

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/9/2023 2:13:08 AM

First name: Deborah

Last name: Felmeth

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The proposal to log almost 12,000 acres of mostly mature and old forest at a place called Telephone Gap east and south of Brandon should be stopped. This is in addition to over 40,000 acres already approved for logging elsewhere in our National Forest. The proposal is based on an out-of-date 2006 Forest Plan and does not account for the impact on climate change at all. The proposed project to log mostly old and mature trees to favor younger trees is wrong in the face of the climate emergency and should be stopped.

The project must be stopped until it can demonstrate compliance with President Biden's 2022 Executive Order to protect mature and old forests.

The GMNF staff should work cooperatively with community groups (such as [SavePublicForests.org](https://www.savepublicforests.org)) to develop a "climate-smart" alternative that permanently protects most of the old forests on the public land in carbon reserves (while getting needed timber sustainably harvested from younger trees on private lands). Such climate-smart forestry should become a national model