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Comments: 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. It has been undeniably proven that mature trees are the most efficient at sequestering carbon.

The GMNF staff should work cooperatively with community groups 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).

We are at a crucial tipping point. It is time for a new model of forestry that specifically addresses the climate emergency. Such climate-smart forestry should become a national model and Vermont should lead the way.

Thank you.