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First name: Sara
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: Hello!
I am a resident of Rochester writing to express my concern about the Telephone Gap Integrated Resource
Project. There are aspects that I want to urge caution around and aspects that I want to support.

I understand that our forests have many important uses, but I hope that we will take every step possible to
protect Vermont's beautiful forests and in particular the old growth trees. We hope to preserve as much as
possible for the health and beauty of these areas and our environment, for recreational enjoyment, and to protect
it for our wildlife.

I urge the Forest Service to keep this in mind as it decides on the usage plan and not to approve or include any
large-scale logging project, clearcutting, or any logging of old growth trees.

While the economic role of our forests is also important, large-scale logging in particular does not even benefit
our local economy, as these projects tend to go to out-of-state companies rather than our local logging
businesses.

I want to express my support for the 34.9 miles of trail construction, relocation, and designation managed for
mountain biking, hiking, and cross-country skiing, projects that will provide critical trail connectivity for various
user groups, including those on the Velomont Trail and Catamount Trail. I also support the addition of 3.1 miles
of existing Long Trail to the National Forest Trail System at the pending South Pond acquisition.

Additionally, I support the Vermont Huts Association's application for a special use permit to construct, operate,
and maintain a four-season hut within the footprint of the former lodge that was destroyed by a fire near South
Pond. A hut in this location takes advantage of existing infrastructure and is ideally situated to host users of the
trails mentioned above, creating a new point of access to the outdoors for trail users of all ages and abilities.

Thank you for your consideration.