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Comments: I am a recent UVM graduate and have lived in Vermont, recreating in its forests, my entire life: this landscape was the reason I went on to study ecology, and am now beginning a PhD in ecology in the fall. Although forestry and ecology are often in synergy, this is not always the case. We have an obligation to allow forests in VT to naturally regenerate from an aggressive history of timber harvest, and to allow these nearly vanished old-growth habitats to restore. It is necessary for the climate, for the health and resilience of our ecosystems, and for the restoration of the Indigenous lifeways of the Abenaki people. To tackle these pressing issues, we must manage our public lands with these goals in mind first and foremost, starting here in Vermont, by not going forward with the Telephone Gap project.