Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/11/2023 2:09:36 PM First name: Catherine Last name: Hamlin Organization: Title:

Comments: Dear USFS,

I am writing to express my concern of the planned logging of old growth forest in the Green Mountain National Forest. I am a frequent visitor to the mountains as an avid hiker. And I am a strong believer in protecting the environment and providing protection for wildlife habitats.

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 historic Executive Order from Earth Day 2022, which directed the US Forest Service to protect these forests for the benefit of the climate and biodiversity. Please reconsider this distressing decision.

Sincerely,

Catherine Hamlin