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Comments: Report: Enhancing Flood Resiliency of VT State Lands, 2015. This report was contracted by the Forest, Parks and Rec to evaluate practices and management plans and make recommendations specific to attenuating flood flows/water quality/downstream floods. The UVM Research recommended that we use State lands to slow, spread and sink floodwaters in forest soils. Logging practices are drivers of water degradation, sedimentation, increase overland flows. Future flooding could cost the state 5.2 billion in property damage over the next century.

Although this refers to State lands, it certainly pertains to the Green Mountain National Forest, in that the Forest holds headwaters, is steep in grade, and prone to excessive run off in severe storms. The grades in Telephone Gap are steep and already prone to erosion. Any further degradation of those lands will directly affect the downstream communities and their ability to survive floods that are projected to occur as the Earth continues to warm. Logging here puts our economies and communities at unnecessary risk. The alternative is to leave it alone.