Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/12/2023 11:35:46 AM

First name: Nicole Last name: Carter Organization:

Title:

Comments: I moved to Vermont for the forest, we are raising a family almost inside the forest, and the forest is the place where everything of consequence happens- we connect with nature which makes us better people.

Also-

The Northern Long-eared Bat is a species that is teetering on the edge of extinction. The US Fish and Wildlife Service listed the bat as "endangered" in November 2022. The Northern Long- eared Bat prefers mature and old-growth forests for roosting and foraging - exactly the sorts of areas that are proposed for logging. Much of the Telephone Gap project area is suitable habitat for this endangered bat.

Headwaters at risk

The Telephone Gap timber sale threatens important headwaters

for Otter Creek, which flows into Lake Champlain, as well as

the White River, a tributary of the Connecticut River. Logging threatens water supply areas like the Chittenden Reservoir, and risks exacerbating flooding in downstream communities. Imperiled brook trout and reintroduced populations of Atlantic salmon depend on cold, clear water flowing from these high mountain streams.