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First name: Barbara Last name: King Organization:

Title:

Comments: I urge you to decide against logging the Telephone Gap. I am incredibly concerned about climate change. The idea of logging old growth and other mature trees flies in the face of numerous scientific studies that show that these types of forests store far more carbon than will be possible by succeeding growth until it, too, matures. The Telephone Gap project also flies in the face of the Biden administration's policy to protect old forests for their climate-protecting ability.

I live in Vermont, in the Green Mt. National Forest. I spend time in the forest including the GMNF that surrounds my home. There are no stands of mature trees in this part of the forest and there has been plenty of logging. I feel it's really important to retain old growth and mature forests wherever they still remain on public land. All forests, but especially old growth forests, provide so many ecosystem services that we mostly take for granted. Biodiversity and carbon sequestration are vitally important for our future well-being; the Telephone Gap project should not go forward. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.