Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/12/2023 11:54:19 PM First name: Douglas Last name: Levine Organization:

Title:

Comments: The US Forest Service recently released a proposal for the management of the Telephone Gap region of the Green Mountain National Forest near the town of Chittenden. This proposal includes the logging of 12,000 acres of trees, many of which are up to 160 years old. 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 Executive Order 14072, which directed the Forest Service to protect these forests for the benefit of the climate and biodiversity.

Thank you,

**Douglas Levine**