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First name: Van Last name: Purcell Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Mr. Mattrick and the TGIRP team:

I appreciate the dedication of the public servants who have been involved in the TGIRP and recognize the many pressures they are trying to balance.

Clearly, we share a love for the GMNF and want a healthy, vibrant environment now and into the future. Climate change is the crisis of our time, and as noted in the Action Plan, "Forests play an important role in the global carbon cycle..."

The scope of the project is huge. The impact of this much logging given current science just doesn't make sense. In addition, I take issue with some of the carbon accounting in the Action Plan.

The Action Plan states, "Harvested trees continue to store carbon in wood and paper products outside of the forest ecosystem," but this does not recognize the significant carbon expense of extraction or manufacture. It takes decades for the slow decomposition of dead trees in our forest and that process also replenishes the soil. I truly hope you'll reconsider this proposal. Let's focus on what's critically important now - and that's protecting the forest as a carbon sink.