

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/13/2023 7:10:58 PM

First name: Nancy

Last name: Polan

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Stop all plans for the Telephone Gap project. President Biden's executive order to inventory and preserve old growth forests is a mandate to end logging in national forests with extensive old growth forests. Forests are most valuable when left alone to age and grow old. The IPCC identified the need for greater forest preservation as a vital strategy to keep global average temperature increase to 1.5 degrees C. Preservation of 30% of forests by 2030 and 50% x 2050 is critical for preventing biodiversity collapse. A growing body of scientific evidence shows that mature and old forests store the most carbon, are the most biodiverse, most resilient to insect invasions, and most resistant to wildfires. Maintain the Green Mountain National Forest as a wild, intact, unmanaged forest to maximize its climate potential and as a great recreational resource.