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Comments: The US Forest Service's logging nearly 12,000 acres of the Telephone Gap area of the Green Mountain Forest would have devastating consequences. In a world with massive issues surrounding the surplus of carbon dioxide within the atmosphere, these trees are even more vital. Trees are the original carbon capture technology - they provide a vital carbon sink, and logging them will cause the CO<sub>2</sub> within them to be released into an overloaded atmosphere. Logging these trees would also be detrimental to the water quality of our local watershed, as the erosion caused by the lack of trees would cause the waterways to become polluted with sediment. Additionally, the trees in the Green Mountain Forest provide incredibly valuable habitat for the Northern Long-eared Bat, which is already endangered. Countless other organisms rely on the Green Mountain Forests as viable habitat, making it an important part of preserving biodiversity on our planet.

A small economic boost in the short-term in no way makes up for the devastating effects the trees' removal will have in the long-term.