

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/14/2023 1:52:49 AM

First name: Debbie

Last name: Wing

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am opposed to the proposed logging operation known as Telephone Gap in the Green Mountains. I understand from information provided by [www.savepublicforests.org](http://www.savepublicforests.org), that the proposal relies heavily on a USFS plan which was published in 2006. This is 17 years old. Our climate is changing rapidly. It seems that many of the plans assertions are out of touch with our current climate and ecological crises. Making huge decisions of this sort using old science is not good for our climate, bad for the rich diversity of the forest and bad for future generations of humanity. The Telephone Gap is the second largest Roadless Area and one of the largest wildlands in Vermont. This is a big deal in a tiny state.

Mature and old growth forests are necessary for storing carbon yet a majority of the logging proposed is classified as mature or old growth. On Earth Day 2022 President Biden directed the USFS to protect these forests for the benefit of the climate and biodiversity.

I believe it is time to slow down. Pay attention to current science, be proactive and protect these precious resources now. Its getting late.

I do not like the assumption that "there is a demand for building materials". Let private lumber companies provide lumber from their vast real estate. Leave the National Forest alone. Let's demand a more careful, thoughtful use of our resources. Just say no! Let this forest rest, sequester carbon, feed the ancient circle of biodiversity that thrives there. We need fewer people and fewer "demands" on our precious and declining natural resources. Thank you.