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Organization:
Title:
Comments: I am writing in response to the proposed activity relating to cutting of timber in Telephone Gap area of the Green Mountain National Forest. I have a number of concerns.

How will this cut improve vegetation?

Why is "recreation" being "dispersed" into this otherwise quite pristine area? Why not expand and improve recreation in already-developed areas of the National Forests of Vermont?

Why are roads being improved at all, except for purposes of timber harvests?

How exactly are the watersheds going to be improved with the addition of roads and the removal of timber?

Has there been an assessment done on the impact of vulnerable and endangered species? How are Lefferts Pond and the Chittenden Reservoir going to be protected?

And most importantly, what is the net impact of fossil-fuel powered removal of mature trees from Vermont's forest systems? Is this not an egregious and avoidable contribution to CO 2 levels and thus, climate change? How does this possibly fit into USFS and USDA goals for reducing CO2? Aren't we requiring more mature trees, not less, to help stave off the tumultuous effects of previous fossil fuel emissions?

How is it that climate appears to be left out of the purpose activity for the management of Telephone Gap?

This is unconscionable! Until climate impact is included in the purpose activity, I oppose this proposed harvest of timber in my state's National Forest.

Thank you for your dedication to this extremely valuable and important natural resource. I hope you and your organization can expand its scope so that climate impact is included in all your decision making.

p.s. Do I understand correctly that large, mature established trees store more carbon than younger, released trees?