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Comments: Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal agencies are required to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of a major federal action and requires federal agencies to consider a "reasonable range" of alternatives. At a minimum, a detailed "No Action Alternative" that investigates the benefits of leaving the forest as it is should be provided.

Hundreds of acres of proposed logging will occur along major trail corridors accessing the Sandwich Range Wilderness and Mt Chocorua Scenic Area and will be visible from summits and rocky outcrops inside of the Sandwich Range Wilderness. This will impact the many visitors to this area that come for the scenic views.

Outdated commercial logging practices that degrade forest health, jeopardize water quality, and endanger biodiversity all serve to degrade and fragment habitat for rare and imperiled species that prefer old and interior forests, and risk harming downstream communities. The White Mountain National Forest does not intend to survey for the Northern Long-eared Bat which is a federally endangered species that prefers older forests and is assumed to be within the project area.

The scientific consensus on the threat of climate change and its impacts has increased exponentially in the years since the White Mountain National Forest last revised its management plan in 2005. The forests in the Sandwich Range are healthy, mature forests that store vast amounts of carbon, will recover the characteristics of an old-growth forest and promote biodiversity if allowed to grow older.