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First name: derek

Last name: smyth

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Sir/Madam

I am deeply concerned by the USFS plans that will destroy the natural beauty of the Sandwich Forest, destroy jobs, and undermine our successful efforts to bring tourism and economic development to the area where we live.

The logging trucks and other equipment will for FIVE YEARS enter and leave the forest through the Ferncroft Parking lot, an access to the White Mts that draws hundreds of people for summer and winter sports, bringing much-needed income to our region.

For those of us who have lived here for a long time, the ugly visual effects of major cutting during the 1970s lasted for decades.

Your plan to cut without buffer zones around the hiking trails is an abomination, wrecking access for families. The current plan will seriously damage hiking and skiing trails by road construction and truck traffic, as well as skidder paths.

We also have serious safety concerns with logging equipment operating over and across skiing and hiking trails, and through the very busy Ferncroft parking lot. Tourists will be deterred by the noise,

the safety issues, the pollution.

In sum, your plan will kill jobs and undermine family life in our area to enrich outsiders at our expense. This is no way for the US Government to behave.

Finally, why is the effect of cutting on climate change brushed over in the draft EA?

The Forest Service is relying on a 2005 Forest Plan that prioritizes timber products, but does not even mention "carbon" or "climate change".

Climate change is causing extreme weather all over America, and with the heavy rains such as we are seeing in Sandwich this summer, serious erosion and flooding is likely to occur if your plans are unchanged.

I look forward to answers and remedies in plain language, because as a taxpayer and citizen, I will be sharing this correspondence with our elected representatives as our concerns expressed to date have been ignored by the FS.

Sincerely, Derek Smyth