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First name: Laura

Last name: Pike

Organization:

Title:

Comments: STRONGLY OPPOSED TO Sandwich Vegetation Management Project #57392

To whom it concerns,

Our family has lived in Tamworth since 1951.

My adult children grew up hiking the Sandwich Range.

The Sandwich Range, and surrounding wilderness area, are a cornerstone of the tourist industry our town thrives on. The range is a destination to many hikers and climbers during all four seasons.

\*\*\* Alongside the Chocorua Lake Conservation Commission, the Pike family STRONGLY oppose this vegetation plan\*\*\*

The plan creates a negative impact to local economy, quality of live, environmental stewardship, and tourism.

We are particularly concerned about the potential negative impacts of this planned harvest on hiking trails on Mt. Chocorua, Mt. Paugus, and in the Sandwich Range and two popular trailhead parking lots. Popular trails would be closed to hikers who in turn spend time - and money - in Tamworth.

As we understand, one planned harvest area is immediately adjacent to the Liberty and Brook Trails on Mt Chocorua and includes a large prescribed fire area. The plan does not appear to include any forest buffer between the designated harvest area and the hiking trails. Heavy machinery and skid trails would cross hiking trails. The Liberty and Brook Trailhead parking lot and Ferncroft parking lot would each be partially closed for months during logging operations.

Our family would ask you to reconsider, and HALT, this plan.

Thank you - Harold S Pike III, Laura Pike, Heather Pike, Harold S Pike IV