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First name: Kate

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom it may concern:

As a citizen of Carroll County New Hampshire, I oppose Project #57392. Forest "management" is simply a euphemism for removing whole habitats for hundreds of species. Many others come to this area to hike and enjoy the peace, quiet, and beauty of the area.

I was particularly alarmed by the threatened and endangered species on the list. At a time when we are on the precipice of even more incomprehensible disasters due to climate change, we should be doing everything we can to protect the environment from even more degradation.

This proposal suggests that "over a period of 5 to 10 years, the proposed silvicultural treatments would affect less than 1 percent of the total land acreage of the White Mountain National Forest." This doesn't sound like much when you consider that 79% of New Hampshire is forested, except that ten years ago 89% of New Hampshire was forested and every year we lose 17,500 acres to "management". While the proposal here is not to develop the land we are still losing this valuable resource for many years and, though your proposal states otherwise, this will likely impact vital ecosystems and the wellbeing of many species at a time when we can't afford to be losing pollinators like bats and bees.

Overall, the proposed project seems to be very intrusive and my hope is that you will consider this kind of impact. My primary concern is ecological and the proposed project seems far in excess of anything that needs to happen. My secondary concern is economic as this project will have an impact on our little villages that depend on people who come here for the peace, quiet, and beauty mentioned above.

Respectfully,

Kate Newburger