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Comments: I am concerned that the Forest Service has not struck any kind of balance between the possible benefits from logging and the recreation needs of thousands of hikers who hike the trails through this region each year. The USFS plan apparently encompasses harvesting the trees right around some of the trails, instead of leaving the area through which the trails run and logging an area that does not have trails through it. I have hiked these trails with my sister, who has a home near by. She reports that people walk this area not only in the good weather but at all times of the year, and that the number of hikers (and cars she observes in the parking lot) run into the thousands over the course of a year.

Lumber from this area is no different than lumber from a near-by area with no trails, but the trails cannot easily be replicated, as some of the follow natural routes to the summits.