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Organization:

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Comments: Response to:

Proposed Sandwich Vegetation Management Project #57392

Carol Jowdy, N Sandwich, NH

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Project # 57392.

Ecologically speaking, 648 acres is a small amount of land to withstand proposed extraction of 6 million FB, subsequently hauled over 16 miles of roads in an region that should be designated 'Roadless'. SVMP# 57392 is out of date, out of balance and should be reconsidered, ...scrapped!

Destruction from this aggressive 'Vegetation Management' plan will undoubtedly leave this precious and beloved land unrecognizable for generations. Forest and the lands they inhabit know how to care for themselves without 'Management' and 5-10 years of Manipulation. Benefits from the proposed methods of deforestation cannot possibly outweigh the loss of existing natural beauty, pristine waterways, undisturbed soil ecosystems, and the loss of trust from the people all along the path.

The deeply loved and seriously recreated area in proposed plan is backyard to many like myself who came here intentionally to live peaceably with the forest, on the land. We are stewards of this land with respect and reverence for our neighbor, the White Mountain National Forest. Spending 5-10 years stripping an area of such environmental significance with no regard for multitudes of species who inhabit these woods, is an abomination. And an atrocity that the US government cannot see value in this precious resource as 'Standing Trees'. This sacred forest, teeming with life has become our life line; let my voice be their voice...! We need them more than ever in history with regard to climate change and epic, often catastrophic weather events. Trees give far more in their life, than after their death.

Placing ourselves above other living species creates distance, separating 'them' from 'us'. Therefore easily exploiting and destroying, used and abused until they are rendered use-less..! The wisdom and intelligence of nature reaches far beyond human potential to manage, to manipulate, to understand the importance of all life on the planet.

I am passionately opposed to SVMP #57392 clear cutting forest, constructing roads, burning and herbicidal application in this precious and sacred parcel of WMNF. I'm a hiker, a naturalist, a Coverts Cooperator, Ecological Landscape Designer, and I sit on Sandwich Conservation Commission. The long term nature of the project promises to impact quality of life in and around Sandwich, Tamworth, Wonalancet, Albany, Chocorua, Ossipee and further for residents, guest, visitors, hikers, lovers of nature, all species, plant and animal. As proposed, 57392 is destined to change the culture of our lives as we know it, in the now..!