

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/30/2023 8:32:32 PM

First name: Cheryl

Last name: Lipton

Organization:

Title:

Comments: In this time of climate and biodiversity crisis, it is most important to stop degrading and destroying nature that used to be so prevalent. There is a miniscule amount of old growth forest compared to the time prior to European colonization of the northeast U.S. There should be restoration of natural old growth ecosystems, not continued extraction and degradation. National forests, public lands, should be left alone to sequester and store carbon and allow biodiversity of all species to recover - best done in ecosystems that are not managed. The lands of the Sandwich Vegetation Management Project #57392 should not be logged, but instead should be allowed to continue to recover from the destruction of the past centuries. There is clear current knowledge that the hope for biodiversity to recover is to preserve ecosystems. Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework attempts to address biodiversity loss, restore ecosystems and protect indigenous rights with a plan that includes concrete measures to halt and reverse nature loss, including putting 30 per cent of the planet and 30 per cent of degraded ecosystems under protection by 2030 because our Earth is experiencing a dangerous decline in nature as a result of human activity - the largest loss of life since the dinosaurs. One million plant and animal species are now threatened with extinction, many within decades, including species here in New England. Stop logging the forests and allow them to recover some of what they have lost, and not yet regained. Allow real biological diversity, not only the species that bring in financial revenue. Stop logging the forests and allow them to keep the carbon they've sequestered, in the aboveground biomass, and also below ground. Allow the forests to continue pulling greenhouse gases out of the atmosphere rather than becoming a contributor to the greenhouse gasses. Please cease logging on public lands. Please allow natural ecosystems to recover.