

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/30/2023 4:00:00 AM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I was really shocked to hear about the US Forest Service's logging plans in the Sandwich Mountain Range. I've been a regular visitor to Tamworth for more than 40 years and have so enjoyed looking up at Mount Chocurua from the lake I swim in. It's hard to imagine seeing a swath of that dense, rich forest mowed down in the interests of profit. I understand that logging is part of your agency's job but it should be done with far more sensitivity to the areas you choose and the reasons you choose them. This is primarily a recreational area that people like myself go to to enjoy nature. How is that to happen when the bulldozers come in? What will it be like to hike on the major trails -- or to gaze over the vista of Mt Chocurua and Mt Israel when the forest is cut down across a major portion of the mountainside?

I also think that cutting down forests should be done with utmost caution considering their beneficial impact in absorbing carbon. All the activity you propose will, of course, result in higher carbon emissions, while you clear the very natural resources that absorb it.

I'm also told the forest plan is very dated, and drafted when climate change was not a major consideration.

Think again!

Please.

Yours truly,

Stephanie Cooke