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First name: Peter

Last name: Hoag

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Dear Mr. Innis,

I would like to take this moment to express my opposition to the Forest Service's Sandwich Vegetation Management Project.

I am by profession a consulting arborist with over 45 years primarily managing old growth trees in the urban environment. It is pretty clear the urban forest is disappearing in front of our eyes and the amount of wild forest is being cut daily for urban sprawl.

The increase in insect pest has doubled in the last few years. Spongy Moth, Emerald Ash Borer, Hemlock Wooley Adelgid and now the Beech Leaf Disease found in NH. Other invasive insects such as the Spotted Lantern Fly are right around the corner.

I really hope the USFS would review this project before moving ahead. I believe the size of the project, the length of time and the location are not appropriate. Ferncroft and Liberty are two very important recreational areas that will be negatively affected.

I am also not in favor of cutting old growth trees or clear cutting unmarketable trees. There is research that suggests we are not gaining the true benefits of an old growth forest until they are 3-400 plus years old.

Sincerely,

Pete Hoag

Consulting Arborist