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First name: Cheryl Joy

Last name: Lipton

Organization:

Title:

Comments: This letter is regarding the treatments laid out for the Lost River Integrated Resource Project #63401. There should be no management at this time because of the desperate situation we are in regarding the climate and biodiversity crises. It is urgent to stop all unnecessary carbon emissions. The logging will create emissions that can be avoided by no logging. The treatments described will impact soil carbon as well as above ground carbon and the logged areas will emit CO<sub>2</sub>, in other words, become a source of carbon, going into the atmosphere for about 20 years or more. The carbon that had been stored will not be replaced until the stands reach the age they are now, There will be emissions from the wood removed from the forest which can be avoided by not logging the trees nor removing the wood. There should be no reduction of carbon storage anywhere right now during this climate emergency, which will happen if there is logging here. There should only be an increase in carbon storage which is attainable by leaving the forest alone and not managing it. Leaving the trees to continue sequestering will increase the carbon stored in the soil and in the above ground biomass, including the coarse woody debris that will naturally fall to the forest floor. Leaving the forest alone will increase the natural forest biodiversity. There is a deficit on intact forest species in all categories in the northeast US, and numerous forest species that are rare, threatened and endangered. The Northern Long-eared Bat is the latest to join that list, and it needs old and mature forest habitat for its lifecycle, example: for raising pups. There is not any need for additional early succession forest. There is too much of it already, and not enough mature forest habitat. This is an excuse being used by the forest service to cut trees. The increase in biodiversity is only an increase in meadow species, in edge species (such as deer, which are grossly overpopulated) and in generalist species, all of which are not underrepresented. Many species that are being managed for in the early successional habitat are those that are historically rare for this northern New England region. Managing for species that were common after the deforestation of the original forest before European contact is a tragic mistake. Our need is to restore true biodiversity, not manage for economically advantageous species that were not here before the devastation of the 1800s. The biggest need today is to allow the old intact interior forest to recover. This happens best, quickest and most effectively by passive management, including no logging. This is the best way to recover carbon as well as biodiversity. Small patches of early succession habitat occur naturally frequently in old forests, sized usually less than an eighth to a quarter acre, and typically no larger. There has been a federal call for increasing old growth and mature forest. The best place for that is in public lands, and most assuredly, in our national forests. It is more than unwise to cut forest at this time, and especially in these public old and mature stands, even more so because of the roadless designation that previously carried more weight than they are being given now. The scientific, ethical and moral responsibility is to let the forests recover from the travesty of constant extraction.