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Comments: In reading your nearly 15 year old logging plan for the Sandwich section of the White Mountain National Forest I'm struck by many things that need addressing, all of which boil down to one thing: Logging in a protected piece of mature forest is no longer an acceptable practice given what the newest research says about trees and the ways forest systems live and thrive. Trees feel pain, they love and care for their children, they protect and happily cohabitate with myriad other species (be they plant, fungi, bacteria, or animal, they cool things in the summer and create rain and oxygen. The list of the benefits of trees in general is long and extensive. There isn't a piece of land on earth they don't influence. Cutting down swaths of trees to "improve habitat" is simply the easiest justification for mass environmental destruction, and it's no longer acceptable. The large heavy equipment used in logging operations kill and permanently destroy untold numbers of plants, animals and fungi, as well as millennia of soil structure that can never bounce back from this kind of massacre. To log in "modern" ways is negligent, ignorant and disgustingly selfish, all to make a buck, but at what cost? These forests are only now recovering from the ridiculously heavy logging that went on 200 years ago...the forest lives on slower time than we do... and now you want to cut them down in their infancy? Their childhood? Shame on you!

The entire Forest Service needs a re-education, teaching your so-called foresters that the forest as a whole is a living, breathing being made up of millions of smaller beings, all of whom have just as much right to live their lives as we do. Continuing to "manage " forests in this financially centric way has irreparably destroyed and changed the environment in ways we can only now begin to understand, causing untold harms to the lands and waters around the world. Your current ways of "forestry" are obsolete. It's time you realize that there's no action we take that doesn't have far reaching consequences for the climate and planet, so catch up or die out so our forests can once again thrive and regulate natural cycles as they're meant to. Just like coal, oil, and gas, current logging practices are going the way of the dinosaurs, the only question is, Will the Forestry Service adapt and grow, or cling to the past and die out with it? It's up to you.