

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/23/2023 11:55:14 AM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Re: proposed logging operations in the Sandwich Range of the WMNF:

Please PAUSE any/all operations until the public is given more information about the timber harvest in the Sandwich Range of the WMNF. Specifically:

1. Please advise the public of the impacts your proposed plan will have on recreational activities in the area. What trails will be closed and for how long? These trails are used year-round, so it is important to know where people can park to access open trails once operations are underway. Also, what about noise from the operation? What will the visual impact of trucks and equipment be on those of us who use these trails to enjoy the natural beauty of the area?

2. Please advise the public as to what trees will be cut for the harvest of "6,000,000 board feet of timber." Presumably the diseased Beech trees will not be used to arrive at this number. The public deserves to know what species of trees, and how many, will be cut beyond the Beech trees.

3. Please advise the public about the impact of these operations on wildlife, especially given the so-called "buffer" of only 33-66 feet between the recreational trails and the tree cutting. It looks like a lot of wild animal habitat will be destroyed, further degrading the pleasure many of us experience when hiking/snowshoeing/x-country skiing on these trails.

Respectfully,
Margaret C. Porter