Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/23/2023 3:20:01 PM First name: Noreen Last name: Downs Organization: Title:

Comments: The mission of the Forest Service is to sustain the "health, diversity, and productivity" of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. I have always thought the USFS was a "protection" and "conservation" minded entity. It was established as a progressive agency.

I implore you to stay current with what it happening around the world as it relates to the future plans for the Sandwich Range forest logging operation. Climate change is real and forest management plans need to be updated. We may not be able to help what happens to forests in other parts of the world, but we sure can try our best to offset and mitigate destruction of forests, and especially old growth forests, in our region for the health of our planet.

Please look at your plan and President Biden's executive order.(https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefingroom/presidential-actions/2022/04/22/executive-order-on-strengthening-the-nations-forests-communities-andlocal-economies/). Even if you just look at Section 2, C. III, you can get a sense of the seriousness of this executive order. Here it is.

"iii. develop policies, with robust opportunity for public comment, to institutionalize climate-smart management and conservation strategies that address threats to mature and old-growth forests on Federal lands."

Can you in all consciousness, follow a 20 year old plan, which is out of date with today's national policies? You are better than this, and the nation needs you to do the right thing over making some money on some board feet.

Thanks for listening.