Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/23/2023 2:48:05 PM First name: Mary Last name: Graham Organization: Title: Comments: Dear Jim Innes,

I am deeply concerned and vehemently against the proposal to log 650 acres of forest land in the Sandwich Range. This area is a prized landscape for hiking and backcountry recreation, and logging will destroy the quiet beauty and natural environment essential to the the continued survival and diversity of species. I recently moved to this area from southwestern NH to escape the rampant development and forest destruction that is making inroads into the area.

My understanding is that this project has been hastily thrown together, with no reasonable alternatives explored, and no research into the environmental impact of such a major project.

President Biden issued an Executive Order in 2022 directing the Forest Service to conserve mature forests just like those targeted for logging in the Sandwich Vegetation Management Project. Instead of racing headlong to cut these climate-critical forests, the Forest Service should allow them to grow old. Old forests have tremendous value.