Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/26/2024 10:59:10 PM

First name: Laura Last name: Simon Organization:

Title:

Comments: Protect Telephone Gap

I disagree with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) latest plans to log nearly 12,000-acres of Vermont's Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF) northeast of Rutland. This plan would devastate an area larger than the City of Burlington.

It endangers the water quality of the White River and Otter Creek, risks introducing invasive species, and destroys habitat needed by threatened and endangered wildlife.

After more than 1,500 comments submitted during the last comment period the USFS has altered its plan slightly. However, these alternatives are for only small sections of the forest.

Of most concern to me is the trees the USFS cuts will no longer be available to store carbon at a time when we need these trees to store carbon to minimize climate crisis.