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Comments: I commented about project 57392 last August. Now I am objecting. For one, it appears that heavy trucks and equipment are already rumbling down Mt. Israel Rd. in Sandwich. How can you start a project before it is firmly approved.

Furthermore The President's Executive Order 14072 urges consideration not just of "old growth" forests, but of "mature forests" as well, conserving those areas and protecting them, so that they can become old growth. The plan cites Executive Order 14072, but only as it relates to "old growth" and makes no mention of the very clear and explicit references in the plan to protecting "mature forests."

As of yet, there has been no plan for recreational management. The excuse given, "in the planning process the number of trails we were going to include exceeded the project area boundaries and for simplicity we decided to analyze the trails under a separate analysis." This cannot be acceptable because the separate analysis has NOT been done. Also no consideration has been taken on the impact this logging operation will have on recreational enjoyment of these beautiful woods. Your total disregard for the public's right to enjoy the forest is bad governance.

The Forest Service is charged with considering alternatives to its plan. But it has never undertaken considerations of any alternatives, at all. For this reason, alone, the Plan is fatally flawed.

There is no empirical evidence that the forest will be stronger as a result of the planned logging. It's foolishness. The forest is doing well, providing a lovely habitat for plant and animal life and a precious place where the public can access and enjoy nature.

Lastly, in the Project Carbon Report, the authors give justification for not considering carbon capture in this planning that the effect of the project would be minor because the acreage involved is less than 0.1% of the White Mountain National Forest. This is an erroneous argument.

The WMNF is a large forest, spreading over a good portion of the state of New Hampshire. But the Sandwich Range is not large, and the proposed logging operation would make a significant dent in this, the southern portion of the WMNF. A portion of the Sandwich Range is in fact protected as wilderness and the areas adjacent to the wilderness should therefore be treated with special protective measures to enhance and ultimately expand the wilderness area.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise Taylor