

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/4/2024 2:26:19 PM

First name: John

Last name: Elder

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I have hiked in the woods around Telephone Gap and know them well. Sacrificing the environmental benefits and ecological potential of such mature woods would be a disaster for Vermont. The costs to the government for roads and administration would in effect be a subsidy for the operations trucking out the many resulting logloads of harvested timber--many of which are likely to go to mills in other states or in Canada.

Our family owns a woodlot in Starksboro registered in Current Use. I know well the current difficulty finding capable loggers or getting prices from the mills to cover the cost of basic timber-stand improvement. Subsidizing vast and inappropriate cuts like the one now proposed for 12,000 acres near Telephone Gap diminish any possibility for affordable local management at a family scale.