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First name: Kenneth
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Comments: I fully support Alternative B and appreciate the good work the Forest Service is doing on the land available to mange. Considerable land area owned by the Forest Service is already devoted to old growth and no more land should be moved into categories devoted to producing old growth timber. Diverse habitat, timber production and abundant opportunities for public use are both important goals that need to be pursued, contrary to the knee-jerk negativity to Standing Trees and their counterparts. Vermont needs a diverse economy and forest products from the National Forest should continue to contribute to that economy.
I believe all the Forest Service land you are currently managing for a variety of outcomes should continue to be managed that way. Your management practices serve as examples to the rest of us and indeed to the world on how to mange for a variety of outcomes. These diverse outcomes, rather than leaving the forest alone, are what produce a resilient forest, habitat for a broad spectrum of flowers and wildlife, timber, pulp and firewood production, and many places available for people to enjoy. We are harvesting only half the timber growth in Vermont and fully meeting any rational climate goals while supporting the economy in a state desperate for housing, much of it made from wood.
Keep up the good work.