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Comments: I applaud the GMNF staff for reviewing the public comments and coming forth with alternatives to what as originally proposed. I urge GMNF to adopt Alternative A. The science on forest management, the important role of old growth and undisturbed forests, and how carbon capture is enhanced or diminished through harvesting and/or leaving the forest alone has evolved dramatically since 2006. In addition, decisions on this tract of land should be made within the overall context of the nationwide forest plan amendment, initiated by President Biden's Executive Order. To implement piecemeal actions before a national strategic plan is in place is tantamount to "ready, fire, aim!"

Your plan also runs counter to the spirit of Vermont's 30% by 2030 and 50% by 2050 legislation. It also runs counter to the well-accepted ecological effort to ensure at least 10% of Vermont's forest remain as undisturbed, unmanaged wilderness.

I understand Alternative A means starting over and that can be hard and demoralizing, but the change in science and public knowledge is significant and should be fully taken into account. The health of our forests and the flora and fauna that they support are far more important than checking the box for completion of this plan. I urge you to adopt Alternative A. Thank you.