Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/7/2024 4:00:00 AM First name: Steve Last name: Snider Organization: Title: Comments: Telephone Gap Integrated Resource Project #60192

The U.S. Forest Service, and the Green Mountain National Forest has a responsibility of ensuring the National Forest in Vermont is a vigorous and healthy forest. Managing the forest, which can include timber harvesting, guarantees a sustainably managed forest which is more resilient to the impacts of climate change. Wood products can replace the use of more carbon intensive products like steel and concrete. As a result, sustainably managed forests fight climate change while they are growing and after they are harvested. Sustainably managed forests also reduce the likelihood of wildfires and can reduce the spread of damaging invasive species.

In addition, let us remember that the Green Mountain National Forest is made up of educated and trained professionals who manage our public land and provide technical assistance to state, private and other forestry agencies and organizations. The Green Mountain National Forest also contributes to forest research nationally. Through proven science and experience, these professionals work to maintain a national forest that is sustainable, diverse, healthy, and productive that meets the needs of today and future generations. The National Forest is tasked to manage the use and benefits of sustainable yields of renewable resources including wood, water, wildlife, and recreation.