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Comments: With respect to the proposed Telephone Gap Integrated Resource Project on the Green Mountain National Forest: please choose alternatives C or D, to reduce or eliminate greenhouse gas emissions associated with this project, and to preserve mature forests.

The August, 2023 ruling by US District Court Judge Donald Molloy stopped the implementation of the Black Ram project on the Kootenai National Forest, partly because the USFS had failed to adequately address the climate harms of logging thousands of acres of forest that currently store carbon. This ruling should be a heads-up that management plans that fail to address potential climate harms will not pass muster with the courts going forward. Alternatives C and D do address these harms to some degree, but the overall plan might still be subject to challenge about climate harms from cutting timber that is NOT in mature stands, as well.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

I am speaking for myself and also for the Climate Economy Action Center of Addison County (CEAC).