Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/8/2024 11:22:48 PM First name: Daniel Last name: Batten Organization: Title:

Comments: It's time for the US Forest Service to look beyond money when proposing projects such as Telephone Gap. Any economic value that this project brings is negligible, seeing that it employs few people and enriches even fewer.

Anyone who has paid attention to the history of the USFS is aware that the Forest Service has chummed along with industrial logging interests for decades, profiting from your back-room partnership while weakening the country's biodiversity and surging Earth's climate toward irreversible tipping points. Your shared language of "sustainable forestry" and "healthy forest management" are reminiscent of the euphemisms of Big Tobacco - but considering the ecocidal impact, it may be even more criminal.

My understanding is that there are good people in the US Forest Service who truly do care for the long-term health of forests and the positive knock-on effects they have for future generations of earthlings, human and otherwise. If there are any of those good people assigned to the Telephone Gap project, I encourage them to make a courageous stand against this potential gift to the logging industry. Only by stopping such projects can the Forest Service be seen as an honest partner in the restoration of forests and our planet.