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First name: Eliza

Last name: Mabry

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity for public comment on the project proposal for this particularly special part of the National Forest in Vermont. I have only read parts of the voluminous plan and cannot address details that would be useful to you. Alternative C appears to be a third less disruptive to the area than Alternative B. Nonetheless your justification for "treating" 8,205 acres of the 11,772 acres because of stocking structure and composition is not adequate to outweigh the ecological and climate related values of leaving this mature growth forest undisturbed at this time.

The flaw is with using the baseline yardstick of a forest plan dated 2006 that will in a few years be a quarter of a century old, hardly relevant to at least three major issues facing forest management today: the immediate need to address climate change by protecting our dwindling old growth forests, the preservation of wildlife species like the Northern Long-eared Bat and forest dwelling songbirds and their habitat, and the growing awareness of our need for Nature not only for material goods to consume but as a spiritual space to teach and inspire us as human beings.

The proposed environmental assessment based on the outdated Forest Plan of 2006 cannot and does not address these issues of public land use. Please select Alternative A, no action. As conscientious public servants please take this brave step and begin to prepare the necessary Environmental Impact Statement to give us relevant guidance in The Telephone Gap Management Area. Thank you.