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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am submitting my comment in opposition to the Telephone Gap Integrated Resource Project Proposal. Tonight I encourage the Forest Service to select Alternative A, No Action.

We need these trees to stand. It's unbelievable that this project is on the table given the context of today's immense problems in regards to climate change and loss of biodiversity worldwide. This maturing forest is a boon to our state of Vermont and I join the voices of those Vermonters that want to keep these wild places in tact as they are. We have to listen to the science and protect old forests that are sequestering so much of our problematic carbon footprint from the atmosphere. This forest and those like it are essential to keep protected if we want a chance at a future for our kids and grandchildren. Please leave Telephone Gap wilderness alone and consider ecologically sensitive and climate friendly approaches of harvesting your timber.

Alternatives C and D fall drastically short in honoring the intent of President Biden's Executive Order on conserving mature and old-growth forests. Please protect ALL MATURE STANDS over the age of 80 in the Telephone Gap landscape and across the entire Green Mountain National Forest, which will have the added benefit of helping to protect important endangered species.

I also want to voice my vote for an end to logging in all Inventoried Roadless Areas, including the 16,000-acre Pittenden Inventoried Roadless Area in the Telephone Gap project area, to protect un-fragmented wildlife habitat and clean water, and defend downstream communities from flooding.

Stop this project until you can demonstrate compliance with President Biden's 2022 Executive Order to protect mature and old forests.