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Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a resident of Rochester, Vermont, living right next to the Telephone Gap Forest, I feel deeply connected to this beautiful and pristine habitat. Every day, I witness the invaluable role this forest plays-not only as a sanctuary for wildlife but as a vital asset in combating climate change. These old and maturing trees are some of the most effective tools we have for sequestering carbon, providing a natural solution to reduce greenhouse gases and mitigate the worsening impacts of climate change.

Destroying this forest through logging would be a tragic loss. It would disrupt the delicate ecosystems that so many species depend on and eliminate a critical carbon sink that benefits all of us. Forests like this are irreplaceable; they take centuries to develop and provide a unique balance that supports biodiversity, cleans our air, and stabilizes our climate.

I urge the Forest Service to prioritize conservation over destruction. This forest is a treasure for our community and a vital resource for future generations. We must protect it to ensure Vermont continues to be a leader in environmental stewardship and climate resilience.