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First name: Tom

Last name: Ward

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear U.S. Forest Service,

I write to object to the Forest Service's plan to log nearly 11,000 acres of public forest in the area known as Telephone Gap. I have lived in Vermont for years, and have enjoyed hiking and camping in our mountains and forests.

Cutting this mature and old-growth forest in this time of dramatic climate change is irresponsible. Vermont has seen a dramatic increase in flooding. And as I write, Los Angeles continues to burn. Old-growth trees are an incredibly effective CO2 sink. This project would cut 40% of the old-growth acreage in the Green Mountain National Forest, of which only .5% is old-growth. Cutting the Telephone Gap stand will release over a quarter of a million tons of CO2e, the equivalent of 60,000 passenger vehicles for a year, about a quarter of the passenger vehicles in Vermont.

Other available sources of timber do not require the destruction of irreplaceable old-growth trees. I implore the Forest Service to reconsider the plan to destroy this valuable tree stand.

Respectfully,

Tom Ward