Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/17/2025 7:50:36 PM First name: Patrick Last name: St John Organization: Title:

Comments: I am writing to strongly object to the proposed logging in the Telephone Gap area. This plan poses a serious threat to the endangered Canada Lynx, a species already struggling to survive. The Canada Lynx depends on the old-growth forests in this area for shelter and prey. Logging these critical habitats could push this iconic species closer to extinction. We have a responsibility to protect endangered wildlife, not destroy the ecosystems they depend on.

The proposal to log over 800 acres of old-growth forest is also deeply concerning. These forests represent centuries of ecological stability and are irreplaceable in our lifetimes. Cutting them down would devastate local biodiversity and disrupt the natural balance of the region. Once lost, the unique benefits these ancient forests provide cannot be restored. Logging them would erase a vital part of our natural heritage and harm countless plant and animal species that rely on these habitats.

Finally, the climate impacts of this proposal cannot be ignored. Old-growth forests are essential carbon sinks, absorbing and storing significant amounts of carbon dioxide. Logging them would release this stored carbon, further exacerbating the climate crisis. At a time when urgent action is needed to reduce emissions, such a proposal moves us in the wrong direction. We need to prioritize conservation and restoration over destruction.

I urge you to reconsider this plan and prioritize protecting the Telephone Gap area for the sake of wildlife, forests, and the climate.