Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/15/2025 1:28:40 AM
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Comments: I wanted to express some of my concerns about the Lost River Integrated Resource Project.
1)This project is planned to occur on wild roadless land. Damaging such land through logging has a high probability of reducing water quality and flood water retention. In a time where flooding is becoming more rampant and water quality is decreasing, it is critical to protect such land for the health of our residents.
2)This project threatens at lest one important endangered species, the long eared bat. Beyond being an important animal of our New England landscape, these bats help control pest/insect populations. These bats are also an indicator of a beautiful and healthy environment so many visitors travel to New England for.
3)The Lost River IRP claims that logging will benefit climate mitigation and climate resilience but this claim is simply contradictory. I have never seen or heard of a credible study which suggests such logging practices could benefit either climate mitigation or climate resilience. Many studies making such fraudulent claims overlook key concepts such as the impact of compacted soil by heavy machinery, misrepresent data when it comes to key aspects of tree growth with respect to carbon capture and understate the effect of carbon storage by older trees.
I want to urge the Forest Service to revise its assessment and consider a deeper analysis.