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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom It May Concern,

I am a resident of Brandon who also owns land in Salisbury/East Middlebury. I actively hike the Silver Lake, Minnie Baker and Chandler Ridge Trails all summer long with my dog. I LOVE these trails and am against the proposed restoration project. It feels rushed and opaque and without the public's best interests in mind.

The public deserves a more robust and transparent process. The Forest Service needs to conduct an environmental assessment and offer an additional comment period on this project, after the public has a reasonable chance to review all the relevant information and ground-truth the areas targeted for burning, cutting and herbicides.

After collecting the public's comments, the Forest Service will need to consider alternatives. A large-scale burning, cutting, and herbicide project is not the only way to "restore" natural communities on the Green Mountain Escarpment. The Forest Service should consider less-impactful alternatives, including letting natural fires burn and eliminating the use of herbicides which have been banned in Europe due to their dangers to human health. These lands surround a water reservoir. Having glyphosate trickle into our water supply IS A BAD IDEA.

I urge you to please reconsider this plan.

Thank you,

Lindsey