Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/14/2025 12:30:55 PM
First name: Deb
Last name: Black
Organization:
Title:
Comments: To Whom It May Concern:

Re: "Lost River Integrated Resource Project"

The White Mountain National Forest is now developing the Lost River logging project near Mt. Moosilauke and Franconia Notch, which would include over 200 acres of clearcuts, each larger in size than the cut picture attached.

I am writing to express my opposition to your planned desecration of 1,093 acres in the spectacular Mt Moosilauke region of the White Mountain National Forest.

More than 91% of all proposed logging in the Lost River IRP is within two Inventoried Roadless Areas: one on the slopes of majestic Mt Moosilauke, and one surrounding beautiful Elbow Pond. Logging in roadless areas threatens water quality and floodwater retention, as well as habitat for interior forest species.

No logging should ever occur in Inventoried Roadless Areas, period.

These are among the wildest few places left in New England and should be permanently protected.

The US Forest Service admits that the project is "Likely to Adversely Affect" the endangered Northern Long-eared Bat. This endangered bat can't afford to lose any more of its habitat, especially on public lands where logging is easily avoided.

The Lost River IRP fails to account for negative impacts on carbon and the climate, but claims that logging will benefit both climate mitigation and climate resilience.

The Forest Service should revise its assessment to do an accurate analysis of climate and carbon impacts as required by the National Environmental Policy Act.

I would point out that those forest stands belong to we the people.

In a recent publication, The Society for the Protection of NH Forests (cough) stated "that is why we recognize and support other forest landowners, including the WMNF, who are committed to the long-term stewardship of their forest stands"

Those are OUR forest stands. We the People.

Sincerely,
Deb Black
Smith Brook Hollow, a forest that has been inducted into the Old Growth Forest Society