



Log rolling: Another White Mountains fight

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Yet again, the Sierra Club is suing to stop a logging project in a designated roadless area in the White Mountain National Forest, this one in Stark. Joining the Sierra Club this time is another radical environmental group, the Center for Biological Diversity.

"Roadless areas are islands of beauty, health and peace -- for wildlife and people -- in a world that is rapidly losing such places," Center for Biological Diversity conservation advocate Mollie Matteson told the Rutland Herald last week. "Logging in roadless areas is unacceptable and cannot continue."



Forests are islands of peace? Tell that to the rabbits, birds and mice that wind up as some predator's dinner.

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As locally based conservation groups such as the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests know, well-executed logging is actually good for the forest and its animal inhabitants. The Forest Service notes that such logging creates meadows that help numerous plant and animal species thrive.

But thanks to lawsuits from radical green groups, logging in the national forest in 2008 was only a fraction of what was approved in 2005 under a plan that received no objections. That has harmed the forest and the local economy.

It would be great if the radical greens who refuse to see the forest for the trees would step back, take in the big picture and stop wasting taxpayer money on these frivolous lawsuits. Sadly, you're more likely to see an elusive fisher cat than see the radical greens suddenly become reasonable.