

# CLEARCUTTING MAINE FOR "GREEN" ENERGY

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Folks,

I thought I would share this with all of you. This past weekend I was on a hunting trip in Maine, Northwest of Moosehead Lake. While driving through some logging roads we came upon a clear cut the likes of which I had not seen in 15 years or so. While I have always been a supporter of sustainable forestry, this old practice of clear cutting was never part of that.

When we found the piles of trees our concerns were confirmed. This clear cut was not for lumber or paper products, it was in fact a Biomass clear cut. (I had my hunting partner stand in front of the pile of trees to give others a reference of the size of it.)

As we traveled down the other side of the mountain there were hundreds of more acres marked off to be cut in this manner. When we talked to some of the locals about it, they actually laughed a bit and said it is amazing what you can get away with when you label something as "green energy". They explained that because now Biomass is called "green energy" they can take everything they can grind up to burn and nobody says a word.

As a sportsman and conservationist I am greatly saddened about what is being done to our natural resources in the haste to become "green". If we do not slow down and be more careful about what is being done in the name of "green", I am certain that future generations will regard us as a foolhardy generation that needlessly sacrificed a century's worth of conservation just so some people can appear to be politically correct, but environmentally wrong.

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