

From: [TN Whitetail Freak](#)
To: [FS-comments-southern-chokeee-watauga](#)
Subject: [External Email]Pound Mountain Project Comments
Date: Thursday, February 16, 2023 11:51:40 AM

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Mr. Kelley,

To start, my name is David Terry and I am a Tennessee resident along the Mississippi River. I am reaching out to provide comments on the proposed project. I kind of know the project is going to allow the cutting, harvest, and sale of timber. Logging throughout the nation is seen as destruction based on what the ground looks like afterwards, or is associated with the expansion of cities and placed next to deforestation/housing development. However, as an avid whitetail and turkey hunter in the state, I've seen the flourishing of wildlife game and nongame species after "Resetting" nature. Jason Maxedon and TWRA have finally begun a similar attitude at local WMA Ernest Rice which is decades overdue. The forest floor had been bare for a while. Hunters should not be able to see 200 yards through the timber and if they can that is an unhealthy forest and needs to be reset. I am glad they are logging because it was overdue. The increased benefits to wildlife there is going to be phenomenal.

With that, I know the same will happen in the Pond Mountain Project, however there needs to be oversight to ensure the "habitat improvements" are not taken too far and decisions are made based on habitat improvement vs the potential bottom line in a profit and loss statement. I say that because during my initial research on the project I found the description that follows: "Fuel treatments (non-activity fuels); Forest vegetation improvements; Species habitat improvements" In my opinion, these are too vague. The public needs transparency and these descriptors can be subjective and do not offer much transparency on what they specifically mean. To end, I do support the project because I know it is beneficial to the overall goal of the USDA and it so happens the byproduct of the plan allows some form of income to be recouped. The main plan and goals need to remain first priority, even at the expense of losing money.

Thanks,

David Terry
Dyersburg, TN