From: <u>Joe</u>

To: <u>FS-comments-southern-cherokee-watauga</u>

Subject: [External Email]Create needed habitat for ruffed grouse and American Woodcock on the Cherokee National

Forest

Date: Wednesday, February 1, 2023 6:13:39 AM

[External Email]

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After reviewing the documents for the Pond Mountain Project it appears that the Forest Service should make this a high priority as a project which would not only improve the ruffed grouse population but all wildlife. Also, another byproduct of this work is it opens the area to new trees and grasses to support long term tree production and short term lower vegetation brings in other native bird and mammal species to make an overall healthy forest.

Thank you for your work on the Pond Mountain Project

Sincerely,

Joel Searfoss