

From: [John Chandler](#)
To: [FS-comments-southern-chokeee-watauga](#)
Subject: [External Email]Pond Mountain proposal to improve habitat
Date: Thursday, February 9, 2023 10:20:12 AM

[External Email]

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Dear Sir,

I would like to express my agreement and positive response to the restoration plan for Pond Mountain area. I live in Flag Pond, Tennessee and Bristol, Tennessee. I have spent quite a bit of time in Dennis cove area and on and around Pond Mountain on the AT. Over 30 years I have watched the area become a maturing even age forest, sterile of wildlife and with a worrisome increase of excessive fuel on the ground. I have concerns we are headed toward a California fire era, which we need to avoid at all costs. I believe instituting an early succession forest plan for 6-10 % of the area would be very beneficial to the forest and wildlife. The areas outlined are relatively cost effective to get to and with a improved view shed as a result would improve desirability of these areas for mountain and gravel biking opportunities for example. It is important to educate the general public of fire suppression and pushing mature only forest plans we have pursued for the last 100 years is not natural, not sustainable, not healthy for our land. I think the proposed plan is effective, healthy and cost available to result in a healthy direction for our forests.

Thank you for your time and willingness to accept critique.

Thank you,
John Chandler

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