

From: [Jordan Mcdeerman](#)
To: [FS-comments-southern-chokeee-watauga](#)
Subject: [External Email]Create needed habitat for ruffed grouse and American Woodcock on the Cherokee National Forest
Date: Monday, February 6, 2023 6:18:11 PM

[External Email]

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Keith Kelly or Acting Ranger

I am writing to support the proposed early successional habitat management project on Pond Mountain. Please maximize to 8% ESH in 8.C instead of the proposed 6.2%. Please maximize the amount of ESH in 4.A and 4.F of the area as well..

Also, it should be noted that many stakeholders are supporting the North End of the CNF to follow the forest plan in creating ESH, which would allow for proper management forest wide.. The implementation of Early Successional management is very much needed at all elevations and in all forest types but especially at mid and higher elevations.

Please ensure that the treatments in the Pond Mountain project include groups that are 2-5 acres and larger in size. Less than 2 acres does not provide the needed habitat that is so lacking on the North End of the Cherokee due to the large amount of closed canopy, old growth forest which exists on the North End of the Cherokee today.

It has been and is still recommended that the North End of the CNF follow suit of the South Cherokee and create a programmatic or landscape EA for restoration treatments that address habitat needs for mid to to High elevation birds associated with early seral habitats.

Thank you for allowing me to comment on this and other projects.

Sent from my iPhone