

From: [Rick Merrow](#)
To: [FS-comments-southern-chokeee-watauga](#)
Subject: [External Email]Pond Mountain Project on the Cherokee National Forest
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I am writing to encourage the USFS to increase the amount of early successional forest being proposed for the Pond Mountain Project in the Cherokee National Forest's Forest Plan, specifically prescription 8.C. This Project proposes the creation of 6.2% early successional forest, but has the ability to create 8% early successional forest.

Due to the lack of habitat diversity in the Forest, if the Forest is going to realize the early successional habitat objectives in its plan then it's imperative to prioritize treatments that provide forest diversity. Hence the USFS should increase the amount of active forest management for prescription 8.C to 8%.

Regards,

Rick Merrow