

Steve Troxler Commissioner

North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

April 28, 2014

Ms. Kristin Bail Forest Supervisor, National Forests in North Carolina U.S. Forest Service 160 Zillicoa Road, Suite A Asheville, NC 28801

Dear Ms. Bail:

As Commissioner of Agriculture in North Carolina, I am submitting the following comments regarding the Notice of Intent, the Preliminary Need for Change and the Proposed Action, published in the Federal Register on March 12, 2014.

While preparing the plan revisions for the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests, I respectfully request that the U.S. Forest Service consider conducting an economic impact study to further examine the impacts the possible revisions would have on the local economies. In addition, I ask that the U.S. Forest Service seriously consider the harvesting of forest products and the management of the forest when preparing changes to the plan.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Steven W. Troxler Commissioner

