Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/29/2023 3:54:26 AM First name: Christy Last name: Morris Organization:

Title:

Comments: These spaces attract not only locals but folks from all over. It's is one of the only through trails offered outside of the AT in this area and is commonly used for training for the AT. It's life changing to complete something like the sheltowee trace. Personally I regularly drop substantial amounts of money on local businesses buying gear and upgrading gear. When hiking, I stay at local establishments prior and look forward to a big meal at a local restaurant when my hike is finished. This trail is only beginning to be recognized and the amount of volunteer hours and kindness from landowners is so special. It is widely known that this land is special and the efforts to maintain and expand this train have gained popularity and momentum. We would be so much better off embracing this ecotourism opportunity. I have met so many people, with more money than me and from all over this country, looking for a through hike experience. Protect this land for our people who seek a challenge and refuge and for the businesses they support while doing so.