

To: Robert Claybrook, Redbird District Ranger
91 Peabody Road, Big Creek, Kentucky 40914

From: Kentucky Chapter Sierra Club

P.O. Box 1368, Lexington, KY 40588-1368

Re: South Red Bird Wildlife Enhancement Project

Dear Mr. Claybrook:

The Kentucky Chapter of the Sierra Club, which represents approximately 6,000 members within the Commonwealth and many more supporters of our mission, wishes to express our concern over the proposal to log 3,650 acres within the Redbird District of the Daniel Boone.

Sierra Club does recognize certain forest management practices in order to address invasive species for example, but does not support activities that are more designed to promote commercial logging or activities which leave an unacceptable impact on forest lands. We have a concern that the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) management for this project appear to be similar to what has already occurred in the neighboring shelterwood logging on Lower Jacks Branch, where skid roads and log landings have impacted far more land than we believe is necessary for proper habitat management. We find this kind of excessive impact unnecessary and counter to good management practices.

Most of the Redbird District is critical habitat for the Kentucky Arrow Darter, and this project area is also habitat for the endangered Snuffbox Mussel. Kentucky streams have already shown a significant and dramatic impact to mussel populations in a very recent timeframe, with impacts from climate change expected to increase this impact. Therefore extra care must be taken in this, and future operations to more effectively mitigate this threat.

**We support the detailed comments already submitted by Kentucky Heartwood on this matter.** Please keep us informed of future actions on this matter, sending notices to the names listed below.

Sincerely,

Ms. Lane E. Boldman, Kentucky Sierra Club Forest Chair, lane.boldman@sierraclub.org

Mr. John Harbison, Kentucky Sierra Club Wilderness Chair, johnstephenharbison@gmail.com

Cc: Sarah Reeves, Kentucky Chapter Administrative Assistant, sarah.reeves@ sierraclub.org