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Comments:

Overall, I'm supportive of DBNF's efforts to do more management in a way that optimizes T&E species as well as forest/timber diversity.

I can't seem to find a definition of PETS species anywhere in the documents. For the public to understand what the DBNF intends, the USFS need to define acronyms within the Proposed Action.

Priority Hibernacula Comments

Under Setting, it is very confusing to use the terms "Unsuitable for Timber Production" and "timber harvest may occur on an unscheduled basis" in the same paragraph. What does this mean? It's very unclear the intent of this statement.

It's great to dedicate such attention to priority hibernacula, but the protections on maternity sites and for non-volant, young bats seem to be lacking. If young bats are not volant until 21 days after birth (starting late May/early June), I'm concerned about the timber harvest timeline of areas that have not been documented as maternity sites (of which I'm sure there are plenty). Would it be possible to push harvest later in the summer, possibly July/August?

Draft Proposed Action Comments

Routine Maintenance

What precautions will be taken to not spread non-native invasive species during routine maintenance activities as well as timber harvest activities? This is one of the greatest threats to our forest health and should be addressed.

Maternity Habitat

Cutting during June-July 31 within known maternity habitat is concerning since young bats may not yet be able to fly.

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The reference and attention to cliffline community protection is great. What about other rare plant communities? I see no reference to documentation of presence/protection prior to implementing management activities. Is there a system in place to ensure conservation of other plant communities?