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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I have been exploring and documenting the beauty and biodiversity of Kentucky for over ten years. I've visited nearly 100 Kentucky waterfalls, both documented and undocumented. Early this year, I visited Pine Island Falls for the first time. I was absolutely blown away by the beauty that this place had to offer! Such a lush habitat, a healthy, thriving forest... rare plants and old trees, offering a glimpse of a forest that has stood the test of time. I'll never forget the amazement and pure joy I felt that day.

It didn't take long for me to realize this place is special. A rare jewel among ordinary forests. Pine Island Falls is easily the most beautiful waterfall in Kentucky!

I was deeply saddened to hear the news of the logging proposal. It is such an unnecessary shame to tamper with such an amazing and intact environment! This forest deserves the upmost protection and respect. Future generations deserve to witness this place!

I urge you to reconsider the inclusion of the Pine Island watershed in the logging proposal! Please leave this watershed intact and healthy! This special place is worth far more than its timber. Visitors would come from all over the world to visit! Biologists would come to study the rare plants and delicate systems they are part of. Once this place is logged, any chance of tourism or study would diminish, there would be nothing left to see. However, as it currently stands, it is a huge asset to the London district! Whether or not you realize it, what you have is truly special! In my personal, and very experienced perspective... the beauty of this place far exceeds that of popular areas such as Cumberland Falls, Yahoo, etc. It is almost unbelievable, that it is even considered for logging... it is worth so, so much more. Please, learn to love it as so many others have over the last year. Please protect it! Please keep it intact!

Future generations deserve to enjoy this place... to stand under the towering old growth and feel small, in the most wonderful kind of way. They deserve to witness the beauty of the falls, with an intact surrounding forest. Please don't rob them of that. I have explored innumerable valleys and mountains in Kentucky... and I tell you, this place is unlike anything else in the state. It stands in a league of it's own. Something of this magnitude is rare, and deserves protection. Please let us enjoy this spectacular place for years to come, please allow it to continue to thrive! Please remove the Pine Island watershed from the proposal entirely!

Sincerely,

Heather Watson