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Comments: To Whom It May Concern,

The Daniel Boone National Forest is an important part of Kentucky's natural resources and could be an important driver for tourism. I believe that the three subproposals do not do justice to the taxpayers and overall that the Forest Service's Blackwater proposal does not meet the level of transparency and clarity that would meet the criteria of what I would consider acceptable use of our public lands.

Together these projects would approve about 8,000 acres of logging on the Daniel Boone National Forest, namely 1,200 acres per decade, in perpetuaty, on national forest lands on the east side of Cave Run Lake. Without first identifying any specific locations where they will actually sell the timber, build roads, or perform other management, this "condition-based management" system won't provide any site-specific information or analyze site-specific effects. Though the Forest Service says that they will involve the public in identifying areas for logging after their formal decision is made to approve project, this does not seem appropriate. Would a city let a builder apply for construction permits without first asking for blueprints?

I don't technically disagree with the Blackwater proposal's Proposed Actions as they stand. The first Proposed Action, logging "to support wildlife by providing a diversity of forest conditions," sounds like good forestry at first, but nonprofit data from sites previously logged across the Daniel Boone National Forest show that the Forest Service's logging program has resulted in degraded forests - converting them from largely oak and hickory dominated forests to red maple and tulip poplar. The Blackwater proposal includes no management to restore previously logged areas.
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The third Proposed Action to improve "water quality through stream restoration and stream crossing improvements" could likewise be great, but does not go into adequate detail about specific stream lengths, prioritization of sites, etc.

"Condition based management" is not a transparent approach. The Forest Service needs to provide specific proposals as to what they intend to do with our public resources, providing specific management objectives for specific places. If they can't provide this level of detail, then the public cannot make an informed decision to approve and implement the project.