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Comments: I have not had time (in the amount given) to go through the report line by line but will speak here to the areas that specifically impact Lumpkin County. It seems that Lumpkin County is under assault from the Forest Service as it continues to chip away at our National Forest Recreation sites. The campground and picnic area at Turner's Corner was dismantled some years ago. Now Dockery Lake and Boggs Creek are on the chopping block. While sadly camping was eliminated from Boggs Creek several years ago, it now also appears that the Forest Service wants to 'close' this area to the hiking and picnicking that is a favorite activity there now. Forest service workers should cruise that area on almost any weekend and they will see that virtually all of the picnic tables are being utilized, that people fishing fill the creek, and others are hiking on the roads and side trails. Thanks to shallow pools in the creek children wading and hunting crawdads are a common sight as well. Unfortunately, removal of the vault toilets have caused issues, and they should be restored.

Dockery Lake is another area that is heavily used by citizens of Lumpkin County, and again, camp sites are usually full on the weekends, kayaks and canoes are in the lake, and people are fishing, hiking and picnicking. Fortunately a new toilet was built there a few years ago and therefore one is not subjected to the issues that are a result of the toilets being removed from Boggs. With baby boomers retiring by the thousands every day and many of them buying campers and recreational vehicles, why are campgrounds being closed? Campsites have become almost unobtainable on weekends without reservations being made far in advance. Case in point: Blue Ridge Campground on Lake Blueridge. Morganton Point, the only other campground remaining on Lake Blue Ridge is at capacity virtually the entire season. Across the lake, the former Blue Ridge Campground is "open for walking and picnicking" even though all picnic tables have been removed as well as toilets. There is literally nothing there except deteriorating pavement. I know for a fact that the Cradle of Forestry has approached the Forest Service about reopening this campground and has so far been rebuffed. Why? And why does the Forest Service persist in decommissioning popular areas when this only contributes to their further deterioration and makes that still exist used to exhaustion and degradation.