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Comments: The role of the Wayne National Forest in sequestering carbon cannot be overstated. Planning for thousands of acres of future old forest is a sensible way to take in and sequester even more carbon is valuable and wise. All industries and activities that contribute to climate change, including fracking and other fossil fuel extraction and commercial pipelines, should be prohibited in the forest.

I support wilderness designation and future old forests in all three units of the Wayne. As an avid birder and citizen scientist, I know that large tracts of unbroken forest canopy are essential for some bird species. A full palette of biodiversity requires large tracts of unbroken forest. Consider that until 250 years ago, most of Ohio was an old-growth forest with an intact canopy, where wildlife flourished. Today, such historic landscapes are hard to find. I encourage WNF planners to recognize the value of old forests for the sake of wildlife and carbon sequestration, and encourage restoration of Ohio's historic ecosystem.