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Comments: Regarding the current Forest Plan Revision for the Wayne National Forest, it is my opinion that the "process" is an exercise designed to satisfy the public participation requirement and provide the "public" with the sense that their concerns were heard and ultimately incorporated into the planning document. Thus far, this has not been the case. After considerable time and effort expended by numerous individuals and highly informed individuals in their particular areas of expertise, the "plan" displays little, if any, evidence of this effort. That the plan continues to recommend the continued exploitation of the Wayne for fossil fuel (hydraulic fracking) and commercial logging in the midst of a climate emergency, and fails utterly, to address this fact through a preservation-oriented planning process is an outrage; it is emblematic of the widespread disdain with which citizens are viewed by public officials. The former administrator of the Wayne, Anthony Scardina, put it in no uncertain terms at the conclusion of an alleged "collaborative" session on the Wayne held in 2016 at Ohio University, when he indicated that, in spite of all the input from the public regarding the management of the Wayne, HE would ultimately do as he pleased.

With directives coming from Washington to increase commercial logging in National Forests by 25%, and the insane push for expanded fossil fuel exploration, development and usage, the USFS is clearly capable of advocating for a plan that protects the Wayne for its life affirming and supporting functions, especially as a major factor in mitigating the extreme climate upheaval that is anticipated to worsen over time. The area now comprising the Wayne National Forest at one time was devastated by industrial land uses, and then by extensive land clearing for farming. With time, nature, and man, helped it return to become the ecological gem that it is today. To allow this trend to be reversed now in order to profit from the very activities that are literally killing our planet is criminal.

As public officials sworn to protect and perpetuate for the long term a public trust, the Wayne National Forest, how can you even contemplate allowing such a thing to happen? How do you sleep at night. How will you?