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Comments:

As a concerned citizen of West Virginia, I am both pleased and disappointed with the USFS plans for the Upper Cheat River Project Area Plan. I am happy that there is an increased emphasis in Timber Harvesting. However, I am not happy with the scope of the annual harvests (roughly 1% per year). This will fall short of the goal to significantly change the overall stand structure and the harvest methods. The bottom line is that the forest is way behind its management and allowable sale quantity goals and there is a need to increase harvesting aggressively, not in small increments as proposed. Additionally, get rid of the ineffective and very costly helicopter and cable yarding methods in favor of proven ground based conventional harvests which are proven to protect the land and provide valuable jobs of revenue to the local communities.

Thanks for your consideration