Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/21/2021 8:47:55 PM First name: Stephen Last name: Kudro Organization: Title:

Comments: I'm writing to indicate my strong support for the Upper Cheat River EA #58364. As a user of National Forests in several state, I've watched over time as habitats have become more mature and less diversified. As forest types become less diverse, so does the fauna as well as the flora supported by the habitat.

I would also advocate clearcutting as opposed to shelterwood harvesting as indicated in the proposal. The shelterwood method proposed would require two entries into the area, the first leaving a nurse crop of trees, the second removing them. The Southeastern Forest Experiment Station at Asheville has shown the same resulting stand composition with clearcutting that you get with the shelterwood system. In addition to significantly less overall cost, clearcutting results in significantly less soil disturbance with only one entry.

Thsnk you and keep up the good work to maintain a healthy, vibrant forest.