Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/20/2022 4:39:40 PM
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Comments: The Wayne National Forest is a treasure of biological diversity that must be preserved and supported by our environmental laws with a goal of mitigating the climate crisis that is causing a 6th mass extinction on this planet. The Wayne National Forest is home to threatened and endangered species. It is an economic attraction to empower and support the most oppressed region of the state and nation. Southeast Ohio has been known for camping, fishing, hiking, biking and educating people in Ohio for centuries. The people,the EPA and all the organizations and businesses of organic farming and dining, renewable energy production and distribution, clean water and healthy forests managers and teachers have worked for decades to transform this region after it was minded and robbed of health and safety by the fossil fuel and timber companies. It has been an expensive investment, millions of dollars, and multiple decades to restore some of the natural ecology grown by the forests, rivers, and land in Southeast Ohio. There is still a lot of work to be done, the Ohio River has been the most polluted river in the nation for a decade and the Wayne National Forest helps to filter and mitigate some of the pollution entering that mighty river.

By law there must be an environmental impact analysis and statement on the cost and benefits of any development in the Wayne National Forest. All gas and oil wells must be capped, the release of the highly potent Methane greenhouse gas must be mitigated and stopped in these critical twenty years of the climate crisis. Older trees store more carbon than younger trees, therefore we must plant more trees and work to preserve the ones that are already growing. The Wayne National Forest is a part of a success story that we all need in these dangerous and challenging times. I stand with the community of environmentalists that are honoring the wisdom that has been cultivated and practiced to ensure that the Wayne National Forest continues to be a thriving ecosystem that is loved and cherished.