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Comments: I think this logging plan is very unfortunate, and objectionable. Such an effort was made to protect the area in 2000, such a large logging plan flies in the face of that concerted effort. Logging is not the same as development, but it will severely affect the area, which is known for its beauty, quiet, and wildlife. Hikers and vacationers near Lake Tarleton have enjoyed this wild beauty for generations. It will be years, if not decades before the forest returns to a natural beauty. The views from the Appalachian Trail will be degraded, and the whole area will be subject to the noise and disturbances of the logging operation.

Also, recent research shows how important it is to leave trees standing to help fight climate change. Old growth is very important. Once a tree is cut it will be a century or more before it absorbs so much greenhouse gas.

Beech trees are to be targeted, the Valley News article stated. Why would this be, when beech are so important to wildlife, providing large amounts of beech nuts, needed by bears, and turkeys and other wildlife. A Forest Service statement mentions beech trees' competition with other trees, but it seems to me that providing food for wildlife is one of the main functions of a forest, not providing humans with lumber, and firewood.

Please reconsider this plan, and scale it way back, or better yet, cancel it.