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Comments: The proposal to log the Jellico mountains is out of step with 21st century climate change and evolving federal policy.

One function of forests is carbon storage. Logging (particularly clear cutting) ie destruction of forests, releases carbon. Repair and reestablishment of the forest ecosystem after logging is a centuries long process.

USDA Press Release No 0160.22 July 25, 2022 "...Plans for Reforestation, Climate Adaptation...Bipartisan Infrastructure Law" excerpts follow:

"...reforestation backlog of four million acres on national forests"

"...mitigate the impact of climate change...strengthen America's forestlands."

Secretary Visack: "Nurturing their natural regenerating and planning...is critical to mitigating the worst effects of climate change..."

USDA Action Plan for Climate Adaptation and Resilience DR 1070-001 May 26, 2021 p31

5. Forest restoration. "...reduce the impacts of climate change while supporting forest industries that strengthen local economies and conserving natural resources and aesthetic values."

Clearcutting reflects a historical 19th and 20th century resource extraction mentality. Climate change of the 21st century requires preservation of forest ecosystems.