Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/29/2022 10:46:31 PM
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Comments: I have deep concerns about the Jellico Vegetation Management Project, as follow:
-- Landslide Risks: Keeping trees in the forest is the best way to prevent landslides that can have disastrous impact on local communities. USDA data show that soils in theproposed harvest area are at the POOREST suitability level for using timber harvest equipment. History time and time again has shown the landslide results from clearcutting and even less harmful methods of tree harvesting.
-- Flooding risks: Mature forests help soak up water, helping to prevent flooding disasters.
-- Old Growth: The proposed area has hundreds of Old Growth Trees (over 120 years old). Logging old growth forests will release untold amounts of greenhouse gasses which have heretofore been sequestered.
-- Invasive Plants will certainly take over clearcut land. (Numerous examples in Southeastern Kentucky and throughout the state). There will be significantly negative impacts on much-desired diversity of native flora and fauna, many of which are ENDANGERED in this particular area.

PLEASE CANCEL THIS TERRIBLY-CONCEIVED PROJECT.
THANK YOU.