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First name: Erica Last name: Caballero

Organization:

Title:

Comments: We live in Florida and we have traveled to the Jelico mountain TN and the boarder Kentucky forest areas every year for the past 8 years. For us, this region represents a beautiful mountain scenery with unique forest mountain features that we look forward to sharing with our family and friends. We spend days in the forest exploring the variety of tactical hiking and off road 4x4 trails. Our children have grown up enjoying playing and hiking along the streams and truly enjoy viewing a geographical environment that is in such contrast to flat Florida. We have even dedicated time in cleaning litter to ensure the forest is clean for all the animals and humans to enjoy an unspoiled woods. Clearing this land will highly impact tourists, such as ourselves who travel 13+ hours to just trail ride in this scenic and tactically challenging area. There are Jeep and off road events, such as Jeep Jamboree USA that use this land to bring people closer to nature. These events bring hundreds of people as far as Texas, NY, Michigan, Etc. For us as Jeep off road trail enthusiasts, this mountain area filled with rock gardens, creeks, and waterfalls- you are considering to clear is the east coast forest version of Moab, UT. We typically trail ride in the fall with the changing color seasons making this area spectacular. Removing these trees will ultimately lead to a decrease in tourism money that the small town local businesses deeply depend on. Please do it destroy something that is so vital to the community and for future generations to come.