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Comments: Thank you to everyone who has contributed to and provided the information available for this project.

I am the Kentucky Association Manager for Summits on the Air (SOTA), a global group of amateur radio operators who enjoy portable radio operation from mountain summits. Two such summits, Stephens Knob and Ryans Creek Mountain, are within the area of the planned Jellico Project Area.

I'm writing this comment to provide information about a recreational activity that occurs in this region of which you may not yet be aware. SOTA promotes operating portable radios in such a way as to not harm the environment, and mandates certain restrictions on land access. Public lands such as the Daniel Boone National Forest provide recreational entry in mountainous areas in Kentucky, most of which is otherwise owned by private mining companies that restrict access. SOTA activity brings Kentuckians and out of state travelers into these regions and their surrounding communities. Hiking to these summits with portable radios allows us to safely access in these mountains as well as foster international goodwill. (I have made radio contacts with Canada, Spain, and France from these Jellico mountaintops.)

Logging activity in this area would restrict access to these summits as well as make a lasting change to the environment. This portion of Daniel Boone National Forest hosts no official hiking trails, which make it an ideal place to practice backcountry navigation and enjoy Kentucky's natural landscape.