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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I have been roaming, hiking, hunting, and fishing in the Jellico Creek valley for 58 years. My grandmother and grandfather, mother and father, and sister and her family have all lived in this valley. My wife and I built three years ago a farmhouse that overlooks the Jellico Creek valley where we can see Liza Mt., Ryans Creek Mt., Fate Lee Mt., Wolf Knob, and into the mountains of Cambell County TN. The entire mountain range is our view which is like a portrait that God has painted for us to admire and thank God for every single day.

The beauty of this range of mountains and valleys is only matched by driving to Cades Cove in the Smokey Mountains or the Shanandoah Valley in Virginia. Jellico Creek area is a place where people drive to from many states to enjoy the outdoor beauty that this unique area holds. An example is the Jeep Jamboree that brings in thousands of dollars to Whitley County. Particularly Williamsburg and neighboring towns in the county.

It's hard for me to even imagine that we the people of this area are even having to fight to preserve this beautiful area from the greed and politics of the Forest Service wanting to clear cut and damage our watersheds from this devastation. The Forest Service and parties wanting to profit from this devastation and trying to convince us that clear cutting and the spraying of Herbicides and Pesticides is going to be good for this region. The run off from this devastation will not only effect this region but the Jellico Creek Watershed is one of the largest streams in Whitley County that runs into the Cumberland River that is above Cumberland Falls.

The Forest Service/Logging affiliate that are going to profit from this must have thought we would sit back silently and that we are stupid. Telling us that this will not hurt the environment and ecosystem in this area. This reminds me of a line from a famous movie, "Outlaw Josie Wells." The line is "Don't piss down my back and try and tell me its raining." Don't try and convince us the citizens concerned of this area and surrounding areas that this is not going to have a very negative effect to this beautiful unqued area. We the citizens of this area have elected to office someone who needs to get involved in this fight to preserve the Jellico Creek area from this devastation. And I am certain he will get involved. For many years, actually since 1981, most of us elected a politician who has ran for his office promising us the people that he would do what is best for us the citizens of his district and protect the environment for which he represents. So, I want to challenge and ask Hal Rogers, our U.S.

Representative for Kentucky's 5th Congregational District that we have helped vote in serving his 20th term since 1981 to join our fight to do what is best for the citizens that voted him in office and stop this devastation that the Forest Service and Logging Company are trying to do in the Jellico Creek mountain area.