Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/5/2022 8:24:14 PM First name: James Last name: Wilson Organization:

## Title:

Comments: I am concerned and would like to comment on your proposed "jellico vegetation management project" in Daniel Boone National forest. The public statements released cite forest aging as one reason for the project. Forests do not actually ever get "too old", as evidenced by the fact that they were allowed to grow in north America virtually unmolested by human activity for millennia and did quite well on their own. The statement that aging is a threat to biodiversity is also incorrect. There is opportunity for biodiversity in disrupted areas, areas cleared by fire, and by other activities / events both natural and man made . To suggest that an aging forest is unnatural or that it is a bad thing is ridiculous. As we know, as a forest ages and matures it becomes healthier and stronger as a community and microscopic connections form through fungal and bacterial networks in the soil, etc. the natural biodiversity and the health of the forest improves as the forest ages and any sort of clear cutting activity (by whatever name you call it) can only harm the forest and will also harm its function as a carbon sump and as a land management tool; paving the way for landslides, water pollution, etc. i hope you will consider canceling this large proposed logging project. Thank you , Link wilson